



COMMUNITY FORESTRY SEED GRANTS

Sharing experience on direct funding to community-based organizations in Cambodia

By Amanda Bradley, Phuong Pichponreay





COMMUNITY FORESTRY INTERNATIONAL
Supporting Sustainable Management & Restoration of the World's Forests

Community Forestry International (CFI) assists rural communities to regenerate forests by helping policy makers, development agencies, NGOs, and professional foresters develop the legal instruments, human resource capacities, and negotiation processes and methods to support resident resource managers. Community forest management contributes to livelihood security and poverty alleviation that, in turn, leads to sustainable development. CFI enables community forest management strategies to become an integral part of stabilizing forest management worldwide. CFI strategies are implemented through four interrelated thematic program areas: 1) Regional and National Policy Dialogues, 2) Mediation Processes and Methods for Enhancing Tenure Security, 3) Participatory Research and Field Programs, and 4) Communication. The program components are designed to engage national policy makers, professional practitioners, and communities to facilitate learning, reduce conflicts, and ultimately create management agreements that result in more equitable, sustainable forest management.

Dr. Mark Poffenberger, Executive Director
Dr. Kate Smith-Hanssen, Administrative Director

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Front cover photos: Report photos by seed grant recipient communities

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FOREWORD TO THE COMMUNITY FORESTRY SERIES-CAMBODIA

The major goal of Community Forestry International's (CFI) mission in Cambodia is to support the involvement of civil society in the management of forests. Rural communities have a special role to play as forest stewards, both due to their logistical proximity to natural forests, but also because of their dependency upon these resources for shelter, water, fuel and food. In many parts of the world, forests are important components of the local economy, whether for subsistence goods, non-timber forest products, employment in commercial lumber production, livelihood generation, or involvement in the tourist industry. In Cambodia, rural communities are concerned over the destruction and mismanagement of local forests and are seeking to address problems of rapidly changing landscapes by establishing community forestry committees, mobilizing forest patrols to guard against illegal logging and land grabbing, framing user rules to control access, and securing management tenure.

In much of Asia and other parts of the world, forests are legally considered public land. While some communities may be interested in managing forest lands, they often have little basis under the law to exert authority over management decision-making. In recent years, a growing number of governments have established policies and programs to allow communities to engage in management "partnerships," typically with national forestry agencies. India, Nepal, Cambodia, and the Philippines have passed laws that extend clear use and management rights to specific villages over state forest land.

In Cambodia, there has been a growing trend towards engaging local communities in forest management, both in planning and field activities over the past decade. In part, this transition is driven by recognition that government agencies lack the staff and financial resources to ensure sustainable use. This paradigm shift in devolving management is also being pushed from below by demands of rural, forest-dependent people. There are factors impeding this transition towards a more decentralized, participatory approach involving a wider range of stakeholders.

During the 1990s in Cambodia, commercial timber concessions covered nearly two-thirds of Cambodia's forest area and logging operations were rapidly degrading the nation's once rich forests. In 2002, the Royal Government of Cambodia suspended 4 million hectares of logging concessions, and passed the Community Forestry Sub-Decree in 2003 paving the way for a new approach to forest management.

A 2003 GTZ/RGC report identified 8.4 million hectares of land suitable for community forest management, representing more than 40% of the nation's land area. However, illegal logging remains a problem and forest land clearing for speculation is rampant in many parts of the country. Further, there is economic pressure to convert forests to estate crops. In 2003, CFI initiated a project to support the development of community forestry in Cambodia. The CFI approach has involved building the capacity among Cambodian NGOs and Forestry Administration staff to begin implementing CF projects around the country, while supporting the development of operational guidelines for the National CF Program's implementation. CFI has helped to mobilize financial and technical support from the donor community, as well as provide training in financial and organizational management, conflict resolution, gender awareness, and sustainable natural resource management. CFI also supports the indigenous communities in Ratanakiri where communal land management is under pressure from outside land speculators. The breakdown of communal land management systems, through privatization, is leading to widespread land loss among tribal households, and ultimately to their impoverishment and social marginalization. The pending collapse of communal tenure is opening the path for landscape-level forest clearing and land conversion to commercial estate crops. CFI seeks to help local communities sustainably manage their natural resources and conserve their cultural traditions by supporting local networks and organizations that provide legal resource rights education and promote cultural solidarity.

This series of publications on community forestry and land-use issues is designed to educate and encourage a greater awareness of the challenges facing forest dependent communities, while suggesting possible strategies to stabilize the nation's forests in ways that respond to the needs of Cambodia's forest people. As part of its greater mission, CFI attempts to disseminate information that can stimulate an on-going forest management dialogue among government, donor organizations, NGOs, the international community, and the Cambodian people. It is our hope that by devolving management to communities and building the capacity of government and NGOs, Cambodia's critical ecosystems will be conserved and utilized in ways that benefit the rural poor.

-Mark Poffenberger, Ph.D.
CFI Executive Director

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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This research would not have been possible without the generous support of USAID and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation to whom we are very grateful.

Finally, we would like to express our general appreciation to the many local communities and field staff of the Forestry Administration who have cooperated with CFI in the implementation of this program.

LIST OF ACRONYMS

AEC	Action for Environment and Community
CFAC	Community Forestry Alliance for Cambodia
CFMC	Community Forestry Management Committee
CF	Community Forestry
CPA	Community Protected Area
CFI	Community Forestry International
FA	Forestry Administration
KWRA	Khmer Welfare Rural Association
MCC	Mennonite Central Administration
MoE	Ministry of Environment
SADP	Southeast Asian Development Program
RGC	Royal Government of Cambodia
RPFDP	Rural Poor Family Development
UNHCHR	United Nations High Commission for Human Rights

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Many communities in Cambodia are forest-dependent; their livelihoods depend on the collection of forest products, as well as the environmental services provided by forests bordering their villages and agricultural lands. In many places, communities have developed traditional ways of managing forests, particularly in more remote areas. The concept of community forestry was introduced in Cambodia in the early 1990's by the NGO Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) which organized community-managed plantations in Takeo province. Since that time, the community forestry movement has gathered force, with both NGOs and government agencies facilitating community management of forest areas. Interest in the sector renewed with the passage of the Community Forestry Sub-Decree in December 2003, a critical piece of the legal framework permitting communities to register CF areas under 15-year renewable management agreements. In addition, the Forestry Administration laid out a relatively straightforward 8-step process for establishing community forestry and provided training and guidance to forest officers for cooperation in the process. There are now over 264 CF sites recorded in the Forestry Administration's database¹.

Likewise, in protected areas which cover over 18 percent of the land area in Cambodia, the Ministry of Environment has demonstrated its commitment to collaborate with communities in protection and use of the natural resources. The "community protected area" or CPA² is the primary mechanism which allows communities to establish governance over forest areas in their vicinity. While the CPA legislation is still in draft form, the Ministry of Environment has already informally registered 64 CPA sites throughout the country. In many cases, communities have demonstrated their capacity to work in cooperation with park authorities to control illegal activity, prevent forest fires and boundary encroachment, and harvest non-timber forest products at sustainable levels.



¹ See website: www.forestry.gov.kh/cfweb/cfbyprovince.asp.

² In this report 'community forestry' or 'CF' is used in a general sense to refer also to community protected areas with the understanding that although activities fall under different ministerial jurisdictions, they are similar in the sense that they describe community management of forest areas.

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CFI has an interest in supporting the establishment of community forestry to achieve its organizational mission to improve local livelihoods and conserve natural resources; CFI wanted to learn how direct funding to beneficiary communities might affect community empowerment. CFI hoped that these micro-payments made under the Seed Grants program would match both the community's needs as well as CFI's goals.

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The Seed Grants Program has been designed to compensate for limited capacity and experience of local communities for operating donor-funded projects. First, the program's scope is limited to one of 14 community forestry activities to ensure clear expected outputs at reasonable cost. The amount of any individual seed grant is less than US\$500. The activities covered are directly related to the recognized implementation steps for community forestry. They include capacity-building and technical assistance, materials and equipment, exchange and information-sharing and communications. (See Box 1) While the seed grant application is simplified so that communities can fill it in easily, it is necessary for the community to acquire signatures from all members of the elected CF committee, as well as a member of the commune council, to ensure that a number of key villagers are involved in monitoring the project's progress. The budget is carefully reviewed by CFI staff who have knowledge of reasonable costs for all of the possible activities. Community contributions such as labor or equipment are strongly encouraged. Transparency and accountability are important aspects of the Seed Grant Program. After the project is completed, usually within six months, the community is obligated to fill in a short report and send it to CFI for review. Receipts are included, along with photos of the project activities, since a disposable camera is included with most seed grants. Communities who successfully complete this process are invited to apply for a new seed grant.

- Box 1. Types of Seed Grants**
1. Technical Assistance for CF/CPA process
 2. Participation in CF/CPA workshops
 3. Signs to mark CF/CPA areas
 4. Materials to facilitate patrols
 5. Materials for map-making
 6. Office supplies
 7. Travel to CF/CPA Network meetings
 8. Exposure trips/invitations
 9. CF/CPA anniversary ceremonies
 10. Tree nursery
 11. Tree ordination
 12. CF extension
 13. Telephone for the Community Management Committee
 14. Livelihood improvement activities



Buddhist tree ordination ceremony in Kompong Speu.

Dissemination Strategy

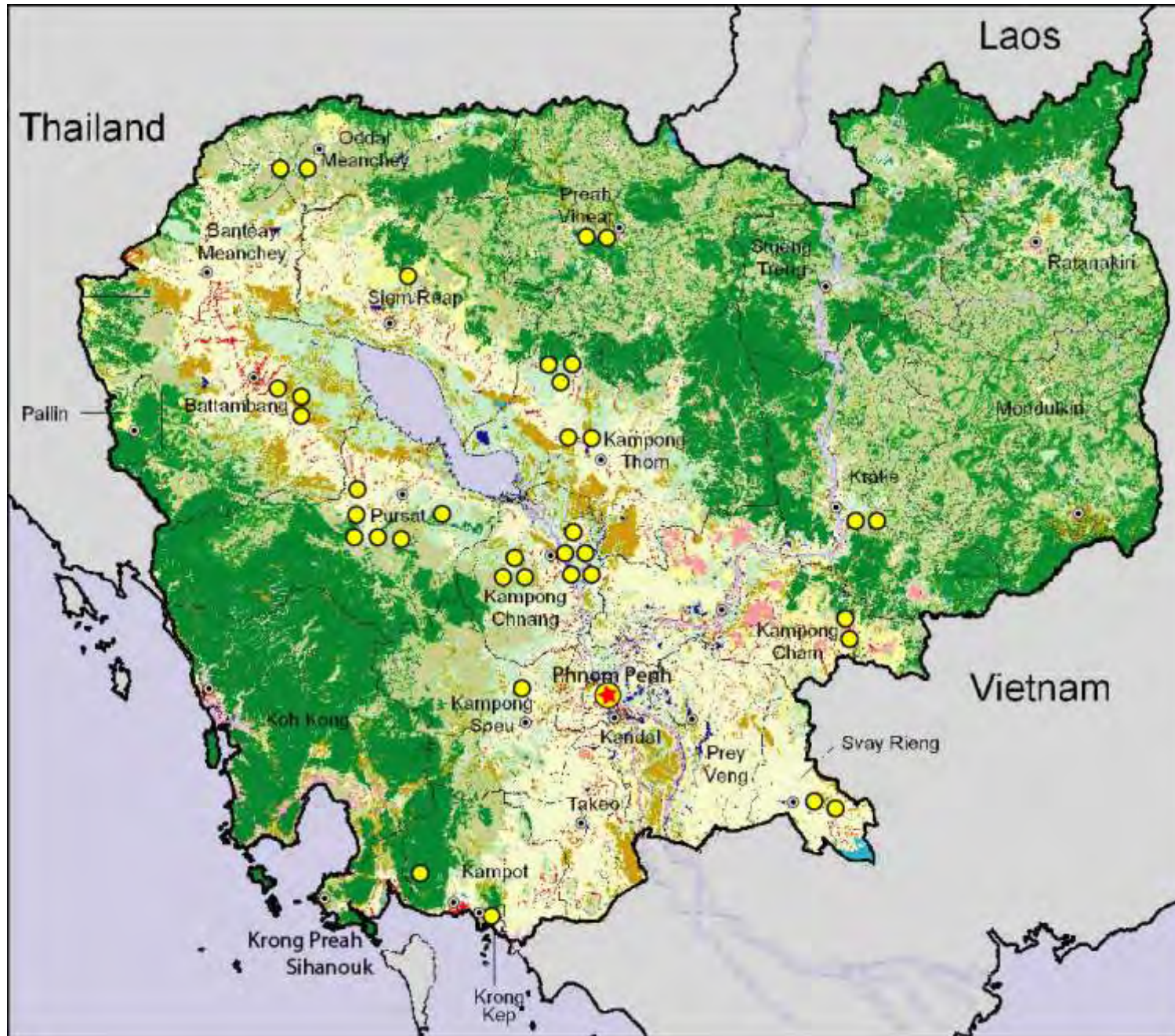
One of the challenges in launching the Seed Grants program was in building awareness about the program. Since many of the target communities are outside the target areas of NGOs, often in remote areas and sometimes without telephone or radio access, CFI had to rely primarily on word-of-mouth. CFI presented the program several times during national and provincial network meetings. T-shirts were also printed to draw attention to CFI's program and disseminated at community meetings. It appears that the word-of-mouth strategy has been successful and many communities are gradually learning about the Seed Grants program. From the beginning of the first seed grant approval in April 2005 until November 2006, 87 applications have been received. The number of applications received per month has been steadily increasing. During 9 months of 2005, 18 applications were received, whereas during the first 9 months of 2006, 60 were received. Eight communities have completed their first grant and report and have applied for a second grant. After more than one year, the program is quite well-known and information about it continues to spread. (See Map).



Criteria and Restrictions

In order to allow CFI to effectively manage the Seed Grant Program and ensure that funds are used appropriately, some criteria and restrictions were put in place. First, the community must have an elected CF Committee which is responsible for management of the CF activities in the community. (In some cases a temporary committee is accepted). The application must be processed through this committee and as mentioned, all of the members must thumbprint on the application. In addition, a member of the commune council is also obligated to sign on the application. This requirement helps to ensure that the community is represented and informed on the decision to apply.

Map of CFI Seed Grant Support 2005-2006



LEGEND

● Seed Grant

- Battambang:** Prey Tra Larg CF (Patrolling Material)
Boueng Ampel CF (Technical Assistance)
- Pursat:** Khom Dang Kam Bet (Patrolling Material)
Kbal Trach (CF Signs)
PO1 CF (Technical Assistance)
PO2 CF (Technical Assistance)
Phum Rolous Kandal CF (Patrolling Material)
Sna Rach CF (Patrolling Material)
Roluoskhang keut CF (CF Signs)
- Kg. Chhnang:** Sam Kros Prey Cher Phum Ang Chanh (CF Signs)
Po Chrok Churok Rithy Sen (Office Supply)
Phnom Teuk Dous Sros Bamprong (Office Supply)
Keo Pich Ponreay (Office Supply)
Kang Rei pho Bag Krasang Teng Kloun (CF Signs)
Da Reangsei Resmey Touk Meas (Exposure Trip)
Phnom Chan Bang (Patrolling Material)
Sre Khlong CF (Patrolling Material)
Krang Serei CF (CF Signs)
- Kg. Speu:** Prey Neata Thmor Trong CF (CF Anniversary)
- Koh Kong:** Dam Neakta thmor Poun CF (CF Livelihood and CF Anniversary)
- Kampot:** Ang Doung Tra Bak (TA for CF Process)
Trail CF (TA for CF Process)
- Svay Rieng:** TokChar CF (CF Signs)
Phum Srebrang CF (Patrolling Material)
Phum Srekok CF (Patrolling Material)
Phum Brolaeus CF (Patrolling Material)
Phum Comboke CF (CF Anniversary)
Phum Trapaeong Preang CF (CF Anniversary)
Phum Srebrang (CF Sign and Tree Nursery)
- Kampong Cham:** Khum Sok Chet CF (Patrolling Material)
Khum Mean Rith CF (Patrolling Material)
Khum Dang Kam Bet CF (Patrolling Material)
Taleak CPA (Technical Assistance)
Chremas CF (CF Extension)
- Kompong Thom:** Beuong Mallia CF (Patrolling Material)
Oddar Meanchay: Kbal Ousa Kork CF (Patrolling Material)
Chouk Meas CF (Patrolling Material)
- Preah Vihear:** Chi ork boeung prey CPA (Patrolling Material)
Crach Tatom Phnomromluos (Patrolling Material)
- Kratie:** Phom Soth CF (Patrolling Material)
Kruom Ptol (Technical Assistance)
CPA Snoul (CF Ceremony)
Phum Cueng (Technical Assistance)

CFI stipulates that the community must have at least a rudimentary knowledge of bookkeeping and a system for keeping track of income and expenditures. To support the development of a bookkeeping system, CFI has developed general guidelines for the community on how to develop a general ledger and on some of the principles of accountability and transparency.



Financial Management Guidelines for CFMCs

Application Procedure and Review Process

The application for the Seed Grant is four pages long and is written in Khmer language. (See Annex English version) It includes requests for information on the location of the CF site, the history and progress of the site development, the management committee make-up, the type of grant requested, the reason for the request, the community contribution, the time frame, and a description of how the funds will be managed. In addition, a brief budget must be submitted with the signatures or thumb prints of the committee members and commune council. While the application is quite simple and short, some communities have found it difficult to complete. In some cases, a strong interest was expressed in the seed grant but the application was not submitted because communities, particularly those with low literacy levels, found it difficult to fill in the application. Also, sometimes only one copy of the application was left with a certain individual

Most importantly, the seed grant is limited to activities related to community forestry and community protected areas “with clear expected outputs and reasonable cost.” CFI will not fund operating costs for managing CF or CPA because CFI aims to encourage sustainability of the activities. For instance, rice or gasoline for regular patrolling teams cannot be supported.

Finally, CFI encourages communities to demonstrate their own contribution to the project, whether in the form of financial or human resources. This criteria aims to build cooperation and partnership rather than reliance on CFI.



Thumb-printed application from community in Kg. Chhnang.

who was not capable to fill it out, but hesitated to ask others for help. In order to overcome these difficulties, CFI prepared an enlargement of the application (A0 size), covered in plastic so that the CFI staff could facilitate with many people to fill in a sample application. Dry erase pens are used so that the demonstration is more active. In addition, several copies of the application were distributed among the committee members so that more than one person could contribute to developing and filling it in.



A CF member in Battambang practices filling out the application.

After the application is completed, the community members generally deliver it directly to the CFI office in Phnom Penh. CFI agrees to cover transportation costs for the applicant, and the meeting in Phnom Penh is an opportunity to meet face-to-face and review the application together. In other cases, a local NGO may deliver the application to CFI, or CFI staff may receive it while they are visiting the provinces or a network meeting.

After the application is received it is reviewed internally by the CFI staff. First it is reviewed by the Seed Grants Program Assistant and then together with the CFI Outreach Officer. Finally, it is

presented with comments and recommendations to the Country Director who makes a final decision to approve or reject the request.

The majority of grant applications are approved. Between April 2005 and November 2006 a total of 87 applications were received. Of these, 57 applications have been approved for a total of 49 communities (some repeat recipients). Some applications were combined because neighboring communities made similar requests for the same activity. Twenty-three applications were rejected and 7 are currently being processed. For more than half of the applications, CFI requested modifications. For instance, in the case of Kompong Leng community in Kompong Chhnang, which applied for a telephone, CFI instead encouraged the community to apply for patrol materials and signs because they observed the problem of illegal activity in the CF area. In another case, when some CF members from Kbal Trach CF in Pursat came to contact CFI for seed grant support, they were not sure which activity they should prioritize for their community and had many ideas. Through the discussion and explanation of CFI staff on the CF process and related activities, the community members could identify a priority for CF signs to make people aware of the CF territory. Some of the reasons for rejecting proposals were because the CF area was too small (under 10 hectares), there was no natural forest, or because the management of the site was unclear.

Usually there is some negotiation over the budget items. Villagers may include operating costs or they may combine two types of seed grants in one application. Sometimes several communities in one area will submit grants for extension activities that can be combined, as did 5 neighboring villages in Kompong Thom which applied for similar extension activities. In such a case CFI requested the 5 villages to jointly conduct this activity in one place. The total budget sometimes equals the maximum grant amount (\$500) exactly, so CFI staff review it carefully to make sure that the cost estimates are accurate.

In the beginning of the program, the internal review of the grant at CFI generally took about 2 months (See Appendix). This is because it was the start of the program and CFI had limited human resources. Since then, CFI recruited an assistant to help run the program. As a result, there has been a significant time reduction and applications are generally reviewed within 10 to 30 days in the second year, 2006. However, CFI still experiences some delays when several applications are submitted at around the same time. Once the grant is approved, the full amount of the grant is transferred to the community either through an NGO partner, during a field visit, or by asking the community to come to Phnom Penh to collect the money (in which case transportation expenses are covered).

The Seed Grants program is demand-driven; communities must identify the type of grant which is relevant and useful for their situation and take the initiative to submit an application to CFI. An analysis of the types of grants requested reveals the current priorities for local communities. An almost equally large number of requests were made for 'awareness raising and learning activities' (33 requests) such as training, study tours, and dissemination as there were for 'protection activities' (38 requests) such as patrolling materials, signs, and maps. Evidently, there is an eagerness to gain knowledge about the CF implementation process. Many people living in rural areas have limited access to education and information, so their knowledge on the procedures for establishing CF is likely to be limited. The 8-Step process for CF development³ is significantly complex and challenging for communities to implement on their own, so it makes sense that communities would prefer to have assistance. Technical assistance provided by the local FA can also help to build relations and support future legal recognition. The demand for grants for 'protection activities' reveals the many challenges that communities face in protecting forest areas, and their desire to take action to confront these problems. Illegal activities such as logging and encroachment are common problems in many potential and existing CF sites.

³The formal process for community forestry establishment includes participatory rural appraisal, elections of the management committee, development of by-laws and rules and regulation, boundary demarcation and mapping, CF agreement submission to the FA, and management planning.

By conducting regular patrols, installing signs, and demarcating the CF area clearly the community can exercise more control over illegal activities. Maps can also be useful tools to negotiate with other stakeholders should conflicting land claims, such as concessions, arise. More 'advanced management activities' such as office supplies, tree nurseries, or livelihood improvement inputs have not been requested (16 requests) as frequently, indicating that most communities are not advanced enough in the more basic requirements for CF establishment and control of illegal activities. In the future, as more communities advance through the 8-step establishment process, CFI would be likely to see more requests in this area.

TYPE OF GRANT	# OF GRANT TYPE REQUESTED	INDICATION
Awareness Raising and Learning Activities : 33		
Technical assistance	25	Many communities are challenged to understand the formal procedures for CF/CPA establishment. Interest in dissemination indicates a recognition among community leaders that the wider community may still not be well-informed.
Anniversary ceremonies	4	
Participation in workshops	0	
Travel to CF/CPA network meetings	0	
CF Extension	2	
Exposure trips	2	
Tree ordination	0	
Protection Activities: 38		
Materials to facilitate patrols	24	Many requests for patrolling, signs, and map making indicate that forests are threatened by illegal activities. Communities are demonstrating a desire to protect the forest areas.
Signs for CF/CPA areas	12	
Materials for map-making	2	
Advanced Management Activities: 16		
Office supplies	7	Fewer communities have reached the stage of forest enrichment, office management, and livelihood improvement.
Tree nursery	8	
Telephone	0	
Livelihood improvement	1	

Monitoring and Evaluation

Because of limited staff resources and the relatively large number of grants, field monitoring of the grant implementation has been limited. Several methods of monitoring and evaluation have been used:

Telephone Call Monitoring

In many communities receiving seed grants, a member of the CFMC or another key individual in the community owns a telephone, making it possible for CFI staff to contact the community much more easily than in previous years, to follow up on the progress of activities. Of the 49 communities supported, 25 communities have telephones and can be contacted directly. For the 24 communities without telephone access, CFI made contact through NGO representatives working with the community. Every month, CFI staff call to follow up directly with communities by asking questions related to the progress of the activities, relations with the FA, and any other challenges or problems faced.

Field Monitoring

In addition, CFI staff conduct field monitoring visits to the target areas, meeting with community people to assess the community solidarity, participation, CF activities, and the involvement and support of local authorities. During these visits, CFI staff make appointments with local authorities including commune chief and council members, village chief, and also with FA officials. Thus far, only 16 field visits have been conducted; other grants were followed up by telephone.

Field Visit Calendar

Date of Visit	CF Community Location	Objective of Visit	Findings
13-Oct-2005	Kg Leng CF, Kg. Chhnang	To revise proposal	The CMFC have difficulty to write the budget
27-Oct-2005	Kg Leng, Kg. Chhnang	To provide the grant to the CFMC and explain how to account for the funds.	The CMFC understood the seed grant program and how to manage the funds.
23-Dec-2005	Krang Serei CF, Kg Speu	To revise the proposal and explain how to complete the Seed Grant application	The CMFC need support for proposal writing and CF process
17-Jan-2006	Sang Krosprey Chher CF, Kg Chhnang and Phnom Pet Pos CF, Battambang	To provide the grant to communities and explain how to manage the funds	The community has completed the old grant and started to implement the new one
14-Mar-2006	Andong Trabak, Tros Sambour and Kasang CF, Svay Rieng	To evaluate the progress in implementation	The area has no natural forest (plantation)
24-Apr-2006	Krephou Dam Mrek CPA, Dammak Krebei, Trapang Pring CF, Kg Thom	To provide the grant and give advice on how to cooperate with FA, as well as funds management.	The local communities have limited experience to organize CF
12-May-2006	Damnak Nakta Thmor Poun CF, Kampot	To provide the grant and monitor the achievements under a previous seed grant.	The local communities are interested in CF implementation
07-Jun-2006	Toul Char and Ou Bakrang CF, Pursat	To revise the proposal and provide coaching on 8 steps for CF.	Local communities are not clear how to write a budget
07-Aug-2006	Phnom Pet Pos CF, Battambang	To provide the grant and coaching on 8 steps for CF.	The local communities have limited experience to organize CF
28-Sep-2006	Kompong Leng district (5 CF) Kompong Chhnang	To provide the grant and give advice on how to cooperate with FA, as well as funds management.	FA, commune council and other stakeholders cooperate actively
29-Sep-2006	Kbal Trach CF, Pursat	To revise the seed grant application	The community lacks communication with stakeholders and participation of CF members is limited
04/06-Oct-2006	Dong Kambet CF, Kg Thom	To evaluate the process in implementation of seed grant	CFMC lacks cohesion
17-19-Oct-2006	Boeung Ampil CF, Battambang	To revise the seed grant	CF has participation and support from commune and FA
24/27-Oct-2006	Domnak Neakta Thmor Poun, Kampot	Study tour on CF organizing	Participant have gained experience in CF Management plan
14-Nov-2006	Boueng Ampil CF, Battambang	To evaluate the process in implementation of seed grant	CF have participation and support from commune and FA
15-Nov-2006	Kbal Trach CF, Pursat	To evaluate the process in implementation of seed grant	The community is brave. CFMC work together well. Some boundary posts have been vandalized.

Meetings in CFI Phnom Penh Office

When the grant period is complete (with a maximum time of up to 6 months), CFI staff work together with the community contact person to review the grant documents including payment receipt, photos, and grant report to make sure that the funds have been spent appropriately.

Reporting

The reporting on the seed grant is straightforward. First, the community is asked to describe their experience in using the grant. They should include a description of any difficulties they encountered. Next, the community is asked to explain how the grant was or was not effective in supporting its community forestry activities. Finally, an expense report should be attached with original receipts. With most grant types a disposable camera is provided so that the community can document their activities. The developed photos or the used camera should also be turned in with the report.

Most communities can produce a report which describes their experience in using the seed money including the importance of the grant to their communities, and the commitment from the community people. Communities described the effectiveness of the seed money to help their communities to keep activities moving, to increase community solidarity, and to protect their community forest. Reports included the following statements: "Posts along the CF border decreased illegal activity", "Forest clearing has decreased", "Good extension materials are now in use", "The community has strengthened its financial system", and "The community has improved its relations with authorities". In general, communities are very satisfied with the grant and carefully carried out the proposed activities. Most of the reports have been sent to CFI on or before the due date with receipts, photos, and sometimes with minutes from CFMC meetings where community members discussed the use of the grant money. Nevertheless, some of the communities faced difficulties in filling in the report despite the simple format, and the reports did not provide much useful data for CFI. Communities were reluctant to describe any challenges in



implementation or provide details on their experience. Sometimes communities did not provide clear information on the outputs such as the exact number of CF signs produced. Often photos were more informative than the written reports. Some photos of meetings, for example, revealed that participation of women was very limited⁴.

Community report photos revealed that women's participation was limited.

⁴As a result, CFI has added a question to the application and report related to women's participation.

In addition, some communities forgot to collect and keep receipts for their expenses even though it is requested in the agreement. CFI recently decided that providing an initial orientation to communities on the seed grant implementation and reporting process should be prioritized. Two of the communities funded, Meanrith CF and Sokhchet CF in Kompong Thom, were exceptionally problematic since reports were not submitted despite numerous requests and a field visit. In the case of Meanrith CF, the community requested an extension for submission of the report without any clear explanation. There is no telephone communication possible in the area, so CFI relies on a local NGO, RPF, to pass messages back and forth.



Coaching on CF establishment in Battambang

In the case of Sokchet CF, the community member who accepted the seed grant funds was forced to go into hiding after receiving death threats from loggers. CFI followed up on this report with the UNHCHR and received confirmation of this incident. The individual in question remains in hiding. This case highlights the potential conflicts that can arise when communities are empowered to challenge powerful interests attempting to destroy forests on which communities depend, particularly in high-value forest areas. CFI emphasizes the importance of building relationships with the FA and local authorities as a preliminary step in implementation, and is willing to help communities go about this. In areas of high value forest, particularly areas with suspended or cancelled logging concessions, it remains difficult for communities to negotiate agreements for community forestry.



Coaching on boundary post construction

The incident in Sokchet reflects a broader problem in the Cambodian socio-political context, but it also highlights the need to consider possibilities to reduce risks to the community or active individuals in implementing the Seed Grants program.

Capacity-building Efforts

CFI has provided technical support for the Seed Grants Program, although human resources are limited. Some of the efforts include:

Support for Application Procedure

As described above, CFI staff provided some guidance for filling in the application by explaining the criteria, the types of grant, and the information required. However, some communities still could not fill in the application properly and needed more assistance. For example, CFI staff went to Krang Serey community in Kampong Speu to help community people to fill in the application. Sometimes, nearby local NGO representatives helped the community to fill in the application,

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Villagers in Krang Serey CF installed boundary posts using a seed grant.

- ? CFI staff met with community people in Kampong Thom and Svay Rieng provinces who requested technical assistance on tree nursery preparation, CF/CPA establishment, CFMC elections, and the Forestry Law. The FA and Environment department staff were supported to conduct 3 days of training. CFI staff monitored the training and followed up by telephone afterwards.
- ? CFI staff worked closely with local NGO Mlup Baitong to provide assistance to Chramas CF in Kompong Thom to implement CF extension through drama performance. In May 2006, a grant was approved and a story and script for the performance was developed with assistance from Mlup Baitong and CFI. CFI staff went to see the performance and made recommendations for improving future performances.

Generally speaking, CFI's efforts for capacity building with local communities have been limited in relation to the perceived needs, primarily because of a focus on working with small grants NGO partners. In the future, CFI aims to expand its direct coaching and training support to local communities and to provide a range of useful extension materials.

Reporting Skills

When the grant is completed, the community representatives sometimes bring the report to the CFI office or send it through an NGO representative. In the case where the report is delivered directly to the CFI office, CFI staff have an opportunity to review the report directly with the community member and build their capacity by asking them to explain any points which are unclear related to the implementation process, fund management and payment, documentation, etc. In addition, CFI staff and communities also discuss possible proposed activities for a second grant.

This section provides a series of case studies on seed grant experience. Each case analyzes a certain theme in relation to a particular recipient community.

CASE 1: Building Relations with Authorities

Beoung Ampil community forestry is situated in Boeung Ampil village, Sdao commune, Rattanak Mondol district, Battambang province. Community forestry was initiated in 2000 following the suggestion of a Department of Fisheries and Wildlife staff in Battambang who organized a meeting to discuss the problem of forest loss. At that time, many villagers were dependent on timber extraction for charcoal and firewood for brickmaking factories. As a result, the forests in the vicinity of the village were rapidly being depleted.

In the beginning of the CF process, only 43 of the 338 families in the village decided to join the CF initiative as members, but gradually more families were convinced of the importance of protecting the forest for future generations. According to the management committee, today almost all families in the village are members, although official family registration documents have not yet been processed and there is no collection of dues even though called for in the community's own by-laws.

Since 2000, the community has taken many of the steps towards CF establishment on their own and also with the limited support of Seila which has now ceased its support; a Community Forestry Management Committee with 7 members has been elected, and this Committee has developed By-Laws and CF Rules and Regulations. It has also mapped the CF area of 103 hectares and installed 20 posts and 4 signs to mark the boundary. This CF forest area is located next to the village on a hill called "Phnom Sluk" with a pagoda of the same name at the base of the hill. While the forest was originally dense semi-evergreen forest it had been unsustainably logged since 1973 and in 2000 when CF activities started villagers said "the bare rocks were visible" and there were no large trees left. Now the forest has significantly regenerated with some trees reaching over 7 meters. There is no problem with forest fires, thus rapid growth is further promoted. Villagers regularly collect a leaf vegetable called "sluk prik" which they sell by the kilo to middlemen for export to Thailand. They also collect several types of valuable mushrooms, although these are scattered more widely throughout the district, not only in forest areas. Firewood for household consumption is another important product from the forest. Forests also provide important fodder for grazing cattle. Throughout the CF development process, the community explained that they have faced a number of challenges, for example, land encroachment and illegal cutting by outsiders and soldiers. The community believes that their success in defending the CF area against these threats is due to their solidarity as well as backstopping support from the local FA office. Tigers, deer, and monkeys are among the important wildlife sighted recently in the area as a result of better protection.

On the basis of a proposal from the community, CFI approved a seed grant for Boeung Ampil CFMC on 18th September 2006. The grant request was for technical assistance from the FA to aid the community to better understand new CF laws and policies and also to assist them in updating their By-Laws and Regulations in accordance with the new CF Prakas. The intent of this case study was to try to gauge the effect of the seed grant on developing relations between the community and the FA. In many areas of Cambodia, the relations between these two key stakeholders are strained, in which case there is good scope for improvement. The study trip to Boeung Ampil and interviews with villagers and FA officers revealed that the relationship between the community and the FA was already fairly strong, perhaps because the initial suggestion for CF establishment came from an FA officer in Battambang. Therefore, it is difficult to demonstrate a 'turnaround' in the relationship as a result of the grant.

On the other hand, some interesting insights were gained through interviews and through observing the training provided by the FA officers. First, the CFMC still feels highly dependent on the support of FA. They attribute most of their success in protecting their forest to date to the support of the FA. The CFMC Vice-Chief, Mr. Him Chanthorn, said “If there is no support from above (lit. no parent) then there is no way we can do CF because it would be impossible to control the illegal activities”. Further questioning revealed, however, that the control of illegal activities was a joint effort between the community's effective monitoring system and, on occasion, the FA support in enforcement. The CFMC leaders claimed that they had a strong system for quickly identifying problems in the CF area. If children, many who take cows for grazing in the CF area, provide authentic reports of violations they are rewarded with 1000 riel (US\$0.25). Villagers receive 1 liter of rice wine for similar reports. At present, these rewards come from the CFMC Vice Chief's own personal resources. In response to a military officer's claim to the CF land which is still in dispute, one CFMC member claimed, “We will go to Phnom Penh and sleep outside the National Assembly to protest if he takes our CF land”. They demonstrate a strong commitment, but also lack confidence in their own ability, particularly in understanding CF laws and regulations. They also expressed some doubts about the commitment of the FA officers who they believe may be reluctant to provide support to the community unless they are paid. They said, “The FA never comes on their own to visit the CF community, but will come if we ask them to come.” Under the seed grant proposal, the community requested \$7.50 per day for two FA Officers to provide a full-day training.



Members of the Boeung Ampil CF Management Committee

FA officials interviewed expressed support for the Boeung Ampil CF community, noting that it was the most successful of three initiatives in the district because of strong community commitment. They criticized earlier NGO CF projects whereby community members were paid to establish CF; when the project ended, CF collapsed. Mr. Moeurn Meng, the Triage Chief said, “The community in Boeung Ampil understand about CF and they know the benefits of protecting the forest, such as mushrooms they can collect. They have good communication with us. This is a well-established community. In the other villages people are new migrants so it is harder; they only think about themselves.” He also noted that both his superiors and subordinates were supportive of CF in the district which made implementation easier. In describing his way of communicating and relating effectively with the community, he said, “We can’t order the community to establish CF; they need to start by themselves and then we come in afterwards to help facilitate. We have to use a soft way of speaking and accept all answers as correct.”



A forestry official reads excerpts of the Forestry Law to community people during a training in Boeung Ampil CF, Battambang province

The training session in the village was arranged on 15 November, 2006. The Committee claimed that they made several requests to the FA since the grant was received in September, but FA officials were too busy to conduct the training sooner. Mr. Moeurn Meng and Mr. Y Cheang Meng conducted an initial introduction to the Forestry Law and read a new regulation on control of chainsaws. Mr. Lang Sokun, FA Division Chief, later joined the meeting to provide more information specifically on community forestry.

During the session, it became clear that two of the more junior FA officers were poorly prepared for the training session. About 50 adult villagers and 15 small children attended the meeting, including many women. The introduction to the Forestry Law was conveyed in lecture style. Villagers said they understood about 40% of what was said, but they were able to recount very little of the explanation. On the other hand, CF members (not committee) claimed that it was their first opportunity to come into contact with FA officers. Also, while the FA officers had agreed to assist the community to revise their by-laws during the appointment, in the end they said they would only be able to do some general dissemination and would have to delay the by-laws revision until a later date. There were also problems in locating the final version of the CF Prakas; officials were not well-versed in the 8-step process.

It may be concluded that the seed grant in Boeung Ampil was instrumental in further developing the relationship between the Forestry Administration and the community at large. In terms of logistical capabilities and extension strategies, there is scope for both the community and the FA officers to improve their skills; however, it was clear that there were a number of lessons learned and that as a first step, the opportunity for communities and the FA to interact directly was valuable in itself.

CASE 2: Boundary Demarcation

Khum Kbal Trach CF is located in Krakor District, Pursat province. The community in this area started to establish community forestry in 2001 when the company Pheapimex made a claim for a land concession in the same forest area where the community traditionally collected many forest products such as resin, fruits, and vines. In effect, from the outset, community forestry was a response to a threat to forest tenure security. The Pheapimex company was granted the concession without consultation with local communities. The company and a number of its subcontractors, many of whom were armed, began clearing the forest on which the villagers were dependent. A number of protests were organized with surrounding villages, one during which eight people were injured by a grenade attack.

The community made slow progress in implementing CF because of the intensity of the land conflict with the company. Forestry officials in the province were unwilling to negotiate on behalf of the villagers (at least openly). Today, however, the situation has changed as a result of strong advocacy by NGOs, lobbying by UN human rights agencies, and media attention. The community now has been given some indication that CF may be allowed in some area of the concession.



Community people put CF signs in Khum Kbal Trach CF in Pursat

As a result, the community have moved ahead and demarcated a forest area of 5,843 hectares to be managed cooperatively between 11 villages. Eventually, the community would like to demarcate separate areas within the forest area for each village in order to divide protection responsibility more clearly.

Villagers attribute their success in opening the door for CF to their solidarity. The community network leader Mr. Kuch Veng said, "We tried so hard because we have so many benefits from the forest." Nevertheless, while the situation is now calm, one woman member, Ms. Chung Korn said, "We don't see any threats, but now we are always aware."

The community was interested in applying for a seed grant to further its CF activities. They heard about the program through AEC, a local NGO, and they applied in March 2005 for a grant to install CF boundary poles along the CF border, with the objective of demarcating it more clearly in order to prevent encroachment. Besides the threat of the company and its subcontractors, the community also claims that Cham people from neighboring Kg. Chhnang province come to cut the forest as well.

CFI approved a grant of \$500 on 8 April 2005 for the project request, and 20 boundary posts were subsequently installed, which the villagers made and painted by themselves. CFMC member Mr. Ji Vith said, "The posts are useful. When outsiders see the posts, they're afraid, especially people from Kg. Chhnang." On the other hand, they also noted that some of the boundary posts had been destroyed by vandals, most likely outsiders coming to log. The villagers conduct daily patrols of the forest area which is 7km from their village. They go on foot. Women said they also participate and appreciate joining patrols because they can collect forest foods for their families at the same time.

The seed grant from CFI may be most significant in that it is a measure of support for this community which has faced strong opposition to its CF initiative. The fact that some of the boundary posts have been destroyed is a concern for the sustainability of the project outputs. CFI should consider the cost effectiveness and durability of different methods of demarcating boundaries. Problems with vandals may only be solved through negotiation with various stakeholders and better enforcement of existing laws. While informal protection measures of a dedicated community are probably the most effective way to protect the forest resources, formal



recognition of the CF area is necessary to provide the basis for legal enforcement and prevention of illegal activities. CFI should consider playing a role in supporting local communities located in conflict areas to negotiate relationships with key stakeholders.

Mr. Kuch Veng is a dedicated leader for CF initiatives in Kbal Trach CF, Pursat



Members of the Community Drama Team from Preah Sophea CF, Kompong Thom

CASE 3: CF Drama: Awareness Raising

Preah Sophea CF is located in Chramas village, Chhouk commune, Prasath Sambo district, Kompong Thom province. The CF site covers an area of 325 hectares and is surrounded by villages which have not yet established CF. This community faced some problems such as illegal cutting, forest land encroachment, and forest land clearance for plantations, primarily caused by neighboring villagers. There were often conflicts over the right to utilize and manage the forest resources. With this concern, one proposed solution was to increase the awareness of those villagers in the surrounding area and stimulate their interest in establishing their own CF areas. Serendipitously, a local community drama team was interested in taking on this challenge and proposed to perform a story about community forestry to draw attention to the problems of cooperation among communities. The group had already been trained and hired by World Vision and GTZ for education extension in the area on AIDS/HIV, so they had some experience already. As a result, a grant request to CFI for a seed grant for CF Extension was submitted along with a request for technical support. On 19 May, 2006, CFI approved a grant of \$392 to cover the preparation and two performances in neighboring villages. After the funds were received, intense preparations started. The script was drafted in a few days by Mr. Mao Sovandy, Deputy Chief of the Provincial Department of Culture and Fine Arts with technical input from CFI, local NGO Mlup Baitong, the FA and Preah Sophea's CFMC. The script focuses on participatory community protection of community forestry areas as a means to protect the forest from destruction. The team spent 15 days for rehearsal. The play lasted about three hours and was performed at night starting at 8 o'clock. At this convenient time, more than 400 villagers attended from seven surrounding villages, excited to see this very popular form of entertainment and education. Most of the viewers stayed till the end of the play.



To do an evaluation, a short quiz game was arranged at the end of the play during which facilitators confirmed that people understood the meaning of the play through questions and answers. The replies from the audience clearly indicated that viewers understood the message of the play. CFI staff also conducted interviews before and after the play, and found that villagers gained new knowledge. Villagers who were interviewed said that the play made them aware of the consequences of destroying the forest: forest spirits would be offended, the climate would become warmer, and the next generation would have no opportunity to benefit from forests. They also understood that only CF members who participated in forest protection would reap future benefits such as timber for building their houses. If they caught illegal loggers in the CF area, villagers understood that they should be turned over to Forestry officials. When asked about the challenges of land grabbers or other pressures on the forest, community members said that the CF land can not be sold “because it is for the common good and should be protected for future generations” and that if anyone tried to take the land away, they would protest. In addition to the important messages and information conveyed, villagers said that the play was also very funny and entertaining.

SOAPOAN BAITONG

The drama, entitled, “Soapoan Baitong” (lit. *Green Beauty*) describes the abundance of natural resources including the beauty of the forest and the richness of wildlife which attract deities to come down to the earth. Later, when the forest is destroyed, wildlife suffers and the weather becomes very hot.

Villagers come into the previously forested area looking for fuel wood, but are disappointed because of the scarcity. Anarchic illegal loggers, finding no more timber to steal from this forest, try to harvest timber from the Preah Sophear CF area, but this area is well-protected by the community. The loggers become angry. They try to convince the CF Chief to collaborate with them in cutting the forest by offering her a bribe, but she refuses. Next, a giant lizard posing as a ghost threatens the loggers. They become frightened and remorseful. After the community catches the loggers, the CFMC and FA officers educate them to cease their illegal activities.

At the end, the Community Forestry Management Committee and the local FA officers give thanks to the CF community members for their cooperation in CF protection. They admire the solidarity of the community which makes the Preah Sophear CF stronger and able to protect the forest. Everyone agrees to sustainably protect their forest and wildlife for the sake of the beauty of the forest.

CASE 4: Forest Protection

The community in Dong Kombut, Sandan District, Kompong Thom, is highly dependent on forest resources. When Mr. In Nam, the head of the CF initiative, visited CFI in Phnom Penh to apply for a seed grant in March 2005 he provided a long list of forest products which villagers collect, including resin, rattan, mushrooms, fruits, and medicines. Dong Kombut has two community forestry areas with a total area of approximately 6,000 ha. More than 200 families live in 3 villages in the area and many depend heavily on forest products, particularly the collection of resin. Some families own more than 900 resin trees. Though the proposed CF area is not yet officially recognized by FA, it would be one of the largest CF areas if approved.

CFI approved a seed grant of \$472.10 in April 2005 to build two patrol stations in the community forestry area. Mr. In Nam and other CF members had already marked the boundary of the CF area by putting up simple signs and clearing pathways. Some 10-15 villagers conduct regular patrols of the CF area. Mr. In Nam says that there is very little problem with illegal activity because the community is managing the area very carefully. He has also communicated with other villages in the surrounding area to make sure there is no conflict.

Mr. In Nam was very appreciative for the CFI funds which allowed the villagers to build the two patrol stations. Funds were used to buy materials, and villagers contributed their own labor for construction. The patrol stations are located 6 and 8 km from the village, so it was a significant effort to build them. Mr. In Nam made a special trip to Phnom Penh to the CFI office in order to hand-deliver the final report on the grant along with the photos which were taken by him using a disposable digital camera supplied with the grant to document their activities.



Villagers in Dong Kombut CF construct a patrol post.

In this case study, the degree of community empowerment is somewhat difficult to gauge. A site visit to Dong Kombut in October, 2006 revealed a slightly more complicated situation than originally anticipated. Interviews with villagers and local authorities (in the absence of Mr. In Nam) revealed that the community forestry activities are largely the initiative of a single individual, Mr. In Nam. He is personally motivated to establish community forestry to protect his family's resin trees which number more than 900 trees. While the seed grant has certainly helped Mr. In Nam and the community to protect the potential CF area, it is unclear how much Mr. In Nam, has been able to build the interest and enthusiasm of other community members. During interviews, a few community members, including one commune council member, expressed some distrust of Mr. In Nam and his motivation for being involved in the forest protection activities.

Nevertheless, informal but regular patrols of the community forest areas are taking place and the forest appears to be well-protected. In one sense the seed grant allows an activist in the community to move forward in implementation, but on the other hand, such an individual may not necessarily have the full participation and backing of the village in the initiative.

As a result of the study in these villages, CFI recognized the importance of ensuring that the seed grant not only supports communities or a community activist to meet their objectives, but also of finding ways to support awareness raising and wide participation and support for the initiative. In the case of Dong Kombut, the community is fortunate that the FA official in the nearby Sandan district triage is very enthusiastic to assist the community to establish CF. A local NGO, RPF, is also offering support for facilitation, although their visits to the area are limited (quarterly). CFI needs to find ways to support the community not only with financial and technical support, but also to act as a catalyst for bringing stakeholders together to support a CF process which is both participatory and active.



Forest visit during field work. Dong Kombut CF, Kompong Thom. Mr. In Nam is third from the left.

This section presents a review of the program. It should be noted that this is an internal review for the purpose of sharing experience. A neutral external evaluation of the program should be planned in the future. In addition, a self-evaluation or joint reflection workshop by seed grant recipient communities could also provide useful feedback.

Accessibility

The accessibility of the program to local communities does not appear to present a problem because of better roads and telephone service. Many key community activists have already been identified by other NGOs and are invited periodically to network meetings and workshops in Phnom Penh. A bigger challenge may be a rapidly growing demand for seed grant support compared to the human and financial resources available at CFI. Information on the program appears not to have reached several areas, such as Mondulkiri, Banteay Meanchey, Stung Treng, and Koh Kong, all of which are rich in forest resources. Protection of higher value forests by communities are likely to have more impact on poverty alleviation and biodiversity protection. If more resources are available to administer and monitor the program, there is good scope to expand the program to other provinces such as these.

Transparent Use of Funds

There are some limitations in the transparent and accountable use of seed grant funds. Most communities have only rudimentary financial management systems at best. CFI needs to allocate more resources to developing these systems and structures within communities. While almost all communities provided clear financial reports and receipts as well as photos of activities, the internal dynamics within communities are complex, as are their relationships with other stakeholders. CFI is aware of the possibility that individuals with power could take advantage of their relationships with communities to benefit personally from the funds. On the other hand, this risk is limited by the relatively small amount of money provided and the requirement for reporting before further funds are granted. CFI has already developed and tested a short training program on basic financial management systems for community-based organizations. In the future, the completion of this training and certification of a functioning basic financial system should be a prerequisite for receiving seed grant funding.

Program Management

The Seed Grant program was not included in CFI's original workplan when the program started, but was developed to address issues which were recognized during implementation of a Small Grant program for local NGOs. The ability of CFI to start a Seed Grant program demonstrates the flexibility of the organization to address needs which arise despite prior formal planning. The Seed Grant program was initiated primarily as a pilot program to test the effectiveness of direct financial support to communities implementing community forestry and community protected areas. Because human resources were limited, a full-time volunteer was asked to assist the CFI Outreach Officer to administer the program. While the Outreach Officer holds overall responsibility for implementation, the volunteer assists with the day-to-day work. The volunteer's tasks include contacting communities and introducing the program, initial review of applications, monitoring activities, and compiling data. The program was limited in some respects by human and financial resources which caused delays in processing applications and fewer field visits than would have been preferred. On the other hand, the experience gained by the CFI staff and volunteers in the first year of implementation was useful for future improvements in the program, to be integrated in overall budget and work planning.

Effectiveness

The CFI Seed Grant program is a unique funding mechanism in Cambodia because it provides direct funding to communities for the community forestry implementation process. The program was started as a pilot activity to test the feasibility of funding communities directly and attempt to see what effect this support would have on communities. As a result of the experience to date, there are both successes and areas for caution for future implementation. The administration of grant-making was somewhat weak in the beginning of the program, but a number of lessons have been learned and staff and volunteers have significantly improved their capacity. The application and reporting forms have been updated, matrixes have been created to collect site data, and an effective filing system is in place.

Much of the appreciation expressed for the grants is anecdotal, but the overall impression is that communities find the grants useful for achieving their objectives. Whereas local NGOs might normally spend more time in field work and developing relations with community members, CFI's understanding of internal community dynamics is limited. In some cases, decisions to fund a particular community are based on recommendations from trusted individuals, such as NGO leaders which CFI staff are regularly in contact with. It appears that the forest protection initiatives may be led by activists within the community, by outsiders including forestry officials, or by broader community consensus. Ideally, the seed grant should be used as a mechanism to strengthen support for CF and CPA initiatives among the general community and encourage broad participation. CFI needs to provide sufficient orientation, training, and monitoring to ensure that the grants are meeting these objectives. A memo to local authorities to inform them of the grant and encourage their participation is one effective way for strengthening communication. CFI staff can also play a useful role in arranging planning meetings between government officials and local communities. The aim of the program is to be a catalyst for developing relations and participation in CF activities at the grassroots level.

It is important for CFI to continue to coordinate the seed grant program in the context of the broader forestry and environment sector. As the legal framework for community management of forests comes into effect there are more and more NGOs and institutions interested to work in this sector. In order to avoid overlapping activities, CFI needs to coordinate closely with other groups to ensure that the program compliments existing initiatives. Despite some encouraging case studies and anecdotes from communities, it is difficult to make firm conclusions about the effect of the program regarding the strengthening (or weakening) of communities. A longer experience with the program and more in-depth external evaluation could provide more insight. There is myriad diversity among communities, of dynamics and internal complexities. CFI will need to decide how much of this complexity is necessary to understand in order to manage a nationwide program. A balance must be sought between the need and desire to support a broad range of communities with the need for close monitoring and support. Currently, the program is demand-driven: communities that are most active in initiating activities and seeking support are most likely to receive a grant. Over time, this demand-driven approach is likely to reinforce the desire for grassroots community activism for forest protection.

The Seed Grant program holds good potential to accelerate the community forestry strategy in Cambodia, particularly given the completed legal framework. The Forestry Administration has pledged its support for community forestry expansion in Cambodia. It remains to be seen how quickly laws and policies will be implemented at the field level. If FA field staff are supportive of community initiatives under the Seed Grant program and if CFI resources are sufficient, then there is great potential to accelerate the spread of community forestry in Cambodia.

Between April 2005 and December 2006, CFI spent \$17,392 on 57 seed grants to local communities. The average grant was \$232. The recipient communities together protect forest areas totalling 90,927 hectares, demonstrating a cost-effective use of funds.

The cost of monitoring the program has been limited by CFI's staff and financial resources. Based on experience, it would be ideal to visit the recipient community approximately 3 times: first at the beginning of the grant to provide orientation, second for training and extension related to the proposed activities, and lastly to review the implementation. Depending on the remoteness of the community, these visits may end up costing more than the grant itself; however, they may be viewed as an investment in community capacity.

Below is a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) matrix developed by CFI staff and volunteers to analyze the seed grant program to date.

<p>Strengths</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Motivates community people 2. Independent (makes community strong) 3. Can protect forest (patrolling, posts, signs) 4. Helps community to follow CF process 5. Connects remote communities with other resources and information 	<p>Weaknesses</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Difficult for community to write report and do bookkeeping 2. Most decisions by the CFMC 3. Little time for CFI staff to follow up 4. Limited communication with local authorities/FA
<p>Opportunities</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide more training and coaching 2. Expand to other provinces 3. Facilitate relation between authorities 4. Initiate study tours 5. More livelihood enhancement activities 	<p>Threats</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Misuse of funds jeopardizes program 2. Powerful individuals in the community use funds to increase power 3. Political involvement 4. Increased conflict as a result of community activism 5. Overlap with other NGO support

Risks

The conflict which resulted in Sokchet commune in Kompong Thom between the community and powerful individuals highlights the potential for CF activists in the community to be targeted by powerful interests. During the course of the program, CFI initiated a formal memo to the FA cantonment office whenever a new seed grant is passed. This memo requests the cooperation and support of the FA in implementing the seed grant activities. Many seed grants also incorporate support for FA officials to participate in the activities. The FA is an important partner in developing CF, and this relationship should continue to be developed, as should the relationship with Environment officials in the case of CPAs. Nonetheless, caution should be exercised in areas where military or other anarchic forces are exercising control.

The Seed Grant is an entry-point activity in community forestry development which has the potential to catalyze community interest in forest management. In fact, many rural communities already have the desire to manage their local forests and they may have informal mechanisms for forest protection; however, without some form of financial and technical support, it is unlikely that much progress can be made towards legal recognition of these rights. NGOs have limitations in the geographical area that they can cover compared to the growing grassroots demand for community forestry across the country. The Seed Grant program has the potential to meet the demand of a large number of communities, particularly those in more remote areas beyond NGO target areas. By developing the skills involved in planning, submitting, implementing and reporting on a seed grant activity, rural people build confidence. Community Forestry Management Committees make joint decisions on the activities and work together to implement them. Communities feel a sense of ownership for their forest areas which is reinforced by their autonomy in managing the grant. Higher levels of confidence and ownership can be beneficial to communities in dealing with challenges from outside such as negotiations with government officials, illegal loggers, or concession companies. Through experience, communities are better able to identify and express their own needs in regards to forests.

There are a number of caveats and areas for caution in implementing the Seed Grants program such as the need for monitoring and institution building to ensure participatory processes and transparent use of funds. Efforts to meet these objectives contribute to the building of civil society at the grassroots level and should be considered equally as important as the financial support for activities.

Community forestry and community protected areas are legally-recognized frameworks for community management of forest areas and hold great potential for increasing conservation of forest land with inherent benefits for biodiversity and watershed protection. The Seed Grant program has the potential to accelerate the transition to community-based management approaches in the promotion of environment and local livelihoods.

Lessons Learned and Recommendations

During the implementation, the CFI team learned some lessons:

1. Judging by photos submitted, it was clear that women were not actively involved in many of the activities. As a result, CFI added a question to the application form asking applicants to describe how women would be involved in the activity. It is hoped that this question, as well as informal discussions with CFI staff during the application process, will encourage communities to give women a more significant role. Gender training should be integrated at a later stage. Conflict management training should be considered for grantees in sensitive areas.
2. In the case of one recipient community in Kompong Thom, CFI discovered a serious conflict between the community and powerful individuals. The case highlighted the need to consider how the program can reduce risks to community activists.
3. While no major issues of mismanagement of funds have been uncovered, it was clear that many communities lack understanding of basic financial management. CFI should prioritize training and capacity building for financial management as a prerequisite for receiving a seed grant. CFI should conduct spot checking on the use of funds to uncover irregularities. Several individuals in the community should be consulted privately in order to obtain accurate information.
4. Regular telephone calls to community are a cost-effective way to keep in touch on the progress of CF activities, but more frequent field visits are necessary. Initial orientation is also important.

5. Communities generally require a lot of technical support on the CF establishment process since it is quite complicated. The ability of local FA officers to conduct training is limited. CFI should consider co-training with local officials and provision of extension materials to supplement such training and increase its quality.
6. There is good scope to extend the program to other provinces. CFI should seek additional resources to increase its capacity building and monitoring capabilities.



APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Grant Review Period

No.	Name of community	Date Submitted	Date Approved/ Rejected	Duration of Proc- essing
S-01	Sangkros Prey Chher Phom Anchagn CF	N/A	24/05/05	N/A
S-02	Khom Sochet CF	N/A	29/04/05	N/A
S-03	Khom Damg Kambet CF	N/A	29/04/05	N/A
S-04	Khom Meanrith CF	N/A	29/04/05	N/A
S-05	Khom Kbal Trach CF	N/A	08/04/05	N/A
S-06	Damnak Neakta Thmor Poun CF	N/A	05/12/05	N/A
S-07	Phnom Cham Bang Krang Skear Tboundg CF	N/A	06/12/05	N/A
S-08	Keo Pich Ponereay CF	N/A	28/10/05	N/A
S-09	Po Chrok Chumrak CF	N/A	28/20/05	N/A
S-10	Phnom TeukDous Sros Ban Prong CF	N/A	28/10/05	N/A
S-11	DA Resmey Touk Meas CF	N/A	28/10/05	N/A
S-12	Kang Rei Po Bang Krasang Teng Kloun CF	N/A	28/10/05	N/A
S-13	Phom Pet Pos CF	03/01/06	06/01/06	3 days
S-14	Krang Serie CF	02/01/06	17/01/06	15 days
S-15	Damnak Neakta Thmor Poun CF	09/01/06	11/01/06	3 days
S-16	Andong Trabak CF	17/01/06	19/01/06	2 days
S-17	Tros CF	17/01/06	19/01/06	2 days
S-18	Krephou Dam Mrek CF	27/02/06	21/04/06	53 days
S-19	Kosma Roum CF	27/02/06	21/04/06	54 days
S-20	Boueg Milia CF	28/02/06	06/03/06	6 days
S-21	Kbal Ousa Korkle CF	20/03/06	23/03/06	3 days
S-22	Prey Neakta Thmor Trong CPA	19/04/06	24/04/06	5 days
S-23	Damnak Neakta Thmor Poun CF	02/05/06	02/05/06	1 day
S-24	Pres Sophear CF	18/05/06	19/05/06	1 day
S-25	Tropeing Pos CF	10/04/06	19/05/06	40 days
S-26	Dang Kam Bet CF	14/03/06	17/03/06	3days
S-27	SangKros Prey Chher CF	8/11/05	04/01/2006	57 days
S-28	Phnom Pet Pos CF	27/04/06	19/05/06	21 days
S-29	SangKros Prey Chher CF	07/04/2006	19/05/06	42 days
S-30	Samrong Pagoda CF	26/04/06	11/05/06	15 days
S-31	Po1 CF	29/06/06	04/07/06	5 days

S-32	Po2 CF	29/06/06	04/07/06	5 days
S-33	Phum Toul Char CF	29/06/06	05/07/06	6 days
S-34	Phum Ou Ba Krong CF	29/06/06	05/07/06	6 Days
S-35	Chambak CF	N/A	10/12/05	Rejected
S-36	Phun Klang Meung CF	05/11/05	17/01/06	Rejected,72 Days
S-37	Phum Dong CF	05/11/05	17/01/06	Rejected, 72 days
S-38	Phum Sre Reossey CF	05/11/05	17/01/06	Rejected, 72 days
S-39	Kransang CF	08/02/06	10/04/06	Rejected, 62 days
S-40	Sambour CF	08/02/06	10/04/06	Rejected, 62 days
S-41	Kompong Ampel CF	08/02/06	10/04/06	Rejected, 62 days
S-42	Prey Kla CF	08/02/06	10/04/06	Rejected, 62 days
S-43	Tbeing CF	08/02/06	10/04/06	Rejected, 62 days
S-44	Chensar CF	08/02/06	10/04/06	Rejected, 62 days
S-45	Andong Trabak CF	17/02/06	10/04/06	Rejected, 53 days
S-46	Tros CF	17/02/06	10/04/06	Rejected,53 days
S-47	Damnak Krobei	27/02/06	21/04/06	54 days
S-48	Tropang Pring	27/02/06	21/04/06	54 days
S-49	Chivet Prey Chher CPA	22/02/06	10/05/06	Rejected, 78 days
S-50	Tropeing Pos CF	10/04/06		Delay, Wait for the FA guideline
S-51	Talek and Andas CPA	30/05/06	16/10/06	Rejected
S-52	Trabeing Knong CF	30/05/06	16/10/06	Rejected
S-53	Pteik CF	30/05/06	16/10/06	Rejected
S-54	Sramak CF	30/05/06	16/10/06	Rejected
S-55	Sochol CF	30/05/06	16/10/06	Rejected
S-56	Tom Pich CF	09/06/06	10/06/06	Rejected, 1 days
S-57	Khom Dang Kam BetCF	14/07/06	16/10/06	Rejected
S-58	Kralagn CF	19/06/06	04/07/06	Rejected
S-59	Keov Pich Poneray CF	21/06/06	19/09/06	84 days
S-60	Da Reangsei Resmey Touk Meas CF	21/06/06	5/09/06	74 days
S-61	Phnom Teuk Dous Sreos Bam Prong Cf	21/06/06	19/09/06	84 days
S-62	Po Chrok Chumrak Rithysen CF	21/06/06	19/09/06	84 days
S-63	Kangrei Po BAng Krasang Teng Kloun CF	21/06/06	19/09/06	84 days
S-64	Sre Khlong CF	14/07/06	18/09/06	64 days
S-65	Phum Rolous Kandal CF	14/07/06	19/09/06	64 days
S-66	Roluoskhang keut CF	23/08/06	19/09/06	26 days
S-67	Sna Rach CF	23/08/06	19/09/06	26 days
S-68	Phom Sre Reosey CF	29/06/06	16/10/06	Rejected

S-69	Beeng Ampel CF	02/07/06	18/09/06	76 days
S-70	Krang Serei	1/07/06	3/10/06	93 days
S-71	Chiork boeung prey CPA	15/09/06	19/09/06	35 days
S-72	Phom Trpaeong Preang CF	18/09/06	10/11/06	52 days
S-73	Phom Sre kok CF	18/09/06	24/11/06	66 days
S-74	Phom Comboke CF	18/09/06	24/11/06	66 days
S-75	Phom Brlaeue CF	18/09/06	24/11/06	66 days
S-76	Phom Srebrang CF	18/09/06	10/11/06	52 days
S-77	Phom Soth CF	25/09/06	10/11/06	45 days
S-78	Valkonseang CF	09/10/06		Processing
S-79	Kruom Ptol	16/10/06	20/10/06	4 days
S-80	Kyong CF	20/10/06		Processing
S-81	Torsou and Pout traе CF	20/10/06		Processing
S-82	Crach Tatom Phno mromluos	20/10/06	10/11/06	25 days
S-83	Sala Srok Chaysen	20/10/06	30/10/06	Rejected
S-84	Sang CF roukhaVoan	30/10/06	30/10/06	Rejected
S-85	Phom Cueng	13/11/06		Processing
S-86	CPA Snuol	13/11/06		Processing
S-87	Phom Onloungvil	13/11/06		Processing

Appendix 2: Seed Grant Application Form

A. Applicant Information

- a. Name of Community Applying: _____
- b. Name of Contact Person: _____
- c. NGO Associate: _____
- d. Village (s): _____
- e. Commune(s): _____
- f. District: _____
- g. Province: _____

B. Background

- a. When did communities start to manage forests in your area?
- b. How large is the area of community forest/ Community protected area which your community manages? (Approximate area is acceptable)
- c. How many families are there in your community?
- d. Which of the following documents do you have? (Please check appropriate box and attach a copy if available)

For CF

- ? CF Agreement
- ? CF By-Laws
- ? CF Regulations
- ? CF Management Plan

For CPA

- ? CPA Agreement
- ? CPA Regulation
- ? Tentative Boundaries of CPA

d. Please describe your management committee

How many members? Male _____ Female _____

When were they elected? _____

e. Please give general background on your community forest or CPA. (Use reverse side)

C. Project Information

a. Type of Grant (Check one)

- ? TA for CF Process*
- ? Participation CF workshops*
- ? Signs to mark the CF/CPA area*
- ? Materials to facilitate patrols and post*
- ? Materials for map-making*
- ? Office supplies
- ? Travel to CF/CPA Network mtgs
- ? Exposure trips/invitations*
- ? CF/CPA Anniversary*
- ? Tree ordination*
- ? CF Extension*
- ? Telephone for CFMC
- ? Tree Nursery
- ? Livelihood Enhancement Activities

* Items with asterisk require photos with the final report.

b. Why is this funding required? (What problem will it address?)

c. What would be the community's contribution to this request? (labor, funds, running costs, etc.)

d. How will women be involved in the project?

e. When do you plan to complete use of the funds? (6 months limitation)

f. How will these funds be managed? (Explain about your bookkeeping system)

D. Budget

Please fill in the items you need to buy, the cost, and any extra notes. (You do not need to use all the rows, or you may use a separate sheet for longer budgets.)

	ITEM	COST	NOTE
	TOTAL		

E. Signature or Thumbprint of Committee Members and Commune Council Representatives

In order to ensure that the Commune Council and CFMC/ CPAMC are informed and involved in this grant application and take responsibility for the appropriate use of the funds, please ask each individual to write their name and sign or thumbprint below.

COMMUNE COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE	THUMBPRINT OR SIGNATURE
CF COMMITTEE MEMBERS	

Appendix 3: Seed Grants Matrix

N o	Organization and Province		Contact Person	Description	Activities	Timeframe	Amount Requested	Amount approved	Date Decision Memo
1	Samrong Pagoda	Oddar Meanchey	Ven. Bun Saluth (011) 781 710	Monk wishes to establish 14,000 ha community forest in 2 communes (Samrong and Anlong Veng)	Material to facilitate patrolling	May - Oct 2005	\$456.50	\$456.50	11/5/2006 Approved
2	Sangkros Prey Chher Phom Anchagn	Kompong Chhnang	Mr. Chea Phoen (012) 341 756	This community started in Nov 30, 02 on 4000 ha, run by 7 people (4men, 3 women), who were elected on May 7, 03	Sign to mark the CF/CPA area.	May-Oct 2005	\$500	\$500	24/05/05 Approved
3	Khom Sochet	Kompong Thom	C/o Mr. Sar Savuth, Global Witness London-Cambodia	This community started in Nov 30, 02 on 3400 ha, run by 7 people (5 men, 2 women), who were elected on Nov 30, 02	Material to facilitate patrolling	Mar - Aug 2005	\$472.10	\$472.10	29/04/05 Approved
4	Khom Dang Kambet	Kompong Thom	Mr. Sim Dara, Poor Children Saving Organization apca@camshin.com,kh	This community started in November 2002 on 12000 ha, run by 8 CFMCs (1 female) elected on November 2002	Material to facilitate patrolling	Mar – Aug 2005	\$472.10	\$472.10	29/04/05 Approved
5	Khom Mean Rith	Kompong Thom	c/o Mr. Hoy Sun Hok, Global Witness London-Cambodia	This community started in Nov 30, 02 on 4000 ha, run by 7 people (5 men, 2 women), who were elected on Nov 24, 02	Material to facilitate patrolling	Mar – Aug 2005	\$472.10	\$472.10	29/04/05 Approved
6	Khom Kbal Trach	Pursat	Mr. Kuch Veng (012) 480 676	This community started in Jan 19, 04 on 230 ha, run by 7 people (4men, 3 women), who were elected on Oct 5, 04	Sign to mark the CF/CPA area.	Apr - Nov 2005	\$500	\$500	8/4/2005 Approved
7	Damnak Neakta Thmor Puon	Kampot	Mr. Suos Nep (012) 180 3225	This community started in March 2001, run by 15 CFMCs (2 women) elected on March 2001. CF area is 992 ha.	CF Livelihood Improvement	May-Jul 2005	\$500	\$497.50	5/12/2005 Approved
8	Phnom Cham Bang, Krang Skear Tboung village	Kompong Chhnang	Mr. Vong Piseth (012) 1840217 012 977 285	This community started to manage the CF in October, 2004 with 7 CFMCs (a woman) elected on 09/10/2004. The CF area is 552.4 ha.	Material to facilitate patrolling	Dec – May 2006	\$415	\$415	6/12/2005 Approved
9	Chambak Community Forestry	Kompong Speu	Mr. Prak Thearith (012) 293 876	This community started to manage the CF in December 2002 with 9 CFMCs (3 women) elected on 27/04/2005. The CF area is 1,260 ha.	Community Forestry Extension		\$480		10/12/2005 Rejected
10	Keov Pich Pon Na Reay Community Forestry	Kompong Chhnang.	Mr. Khim Earng CFMC Chief through Mr. Lao Sethaphal (012) 827 915	This community started to manage CF on 27 June 2002 with 9 CFMCs (2 women) elected on 07/11/2003.	Office Supplies	Aug -Oct 2005	\$500	\$305	28/10/2005 Approved
11	Po Chrok Chumrak Rithysen Community Forestry	Kompong Chhnang.	Mr. Eur Seng Hong, CFMC chief through Mr. Lao Sethaphal (012) 827 915	This community started to manage CF on 26 November 2005 with 11 CFMCs (1 women) elected on 23/10/2003	Office Supplies	Aug -Oct 2005	\$500	\$305	28/10/2005 Approved
12	Phnom Teuk Dous Sros Bam Prong CF	Kompong Chhnang	Mr. Chea Chon CFMC chief, through Mr. Lao Sethaphal (012) 827 915	This community started to manage CF on 28 November 2002 with 9 CFMCs elected on 27/02/2004.	Office Supplies	Aug -Oct 2005	\$500	\$305	28/10/2005 Approved
13	Da Reangsei Reaksmei Touk Meas CF	Kompong Chhnang	Mr. Um Phon CFMC chief, through Mr. Lao Sethaphal (012) 827 915	This community started to manage CF on 01 December 2002 with 9 CFMCs (1 women) elected on 08/03/2004.	Exposure Trip	Aug-05	\$500	\$310	28/10/2005 Approved

14	Kang Rei Po Bang Krasang Teng Kluon CF	Kompong Chhnang.	Mr. Ou Kim Thy CFMC chief through Mr. Lao Sethaphal (012)827 915	This community started to manage CF on 25 November 2005 with 11 CFMCs (2 women) elected on 21/02/2004	CF signs	Aug -Oct 2005	\$500	\$453	28/10/2005 Approved
15	Dang Kam Bet Community	Kompong Thom	Mr. Enk Nam	This community started in Nov 30,02 on 12000ha run by 8 people (8 men and 1 woman) who were elected on Nov 11,02	Sign to mark the CF/CPA area.	Mar – Aug 2005	\$500	\$249	17-03-2006 Approved
16	Phon Doung	Pursat	Mr.Kuch Vy (012) 480 676	This community started in 2005 run by 5 people (3 men and 2 women) who were elected on June 10, 2005	Material to facilitate patrolling	Nov 2005 - Apr 2006	\$500		17/01/2006 Rejected
17	Phun Klang Meung	Pursat	Mr.Hong Kel	This community started in 2003 run by 5 people (3 men and 2 women) who were elected on December09, 05	Sign to mark the CF/CPA area.	Nov 2005 - Mar 2006	500\$		17/01/2006 Rejected
18	Phom Sre Reosey CF	Pursat	Mr. Tem Sam-hon	This community started in 2002 run by 5 people (4 men and 1 woman) who were elected on April 26,05	Sign to mark the CF/CPA area.	Nov 2005 - Mar 2006	\$500		17/01/2006 Rejected
19	Sangkros Prey Chher	Kompong Chhnang	Chea Phoa (012) 341756	This community started in Nov 30, 02 on 4000 ha, run by 7 people (4men, 3 women), who were elected on May 7, 03	Material to facilitate patrolling	Nov 2005 – Mar	\$500	\$400	4/1/2006 Approved
20	Phom Pet Pos CF	Battambang	KWRA (012) 970 438	This community started in May 26, 2005 on 600ha, run by 15 people who elected on Nov 15,2005	Material to facilitate patrolling	Jan - Jun 2006	\$500	\$456.50	6/1/2006 Approved
21	Krang Serei CF	Kompong Speu	Kong Ang (012) 678 446	This community started on March, 2005 on 125ha, run by 10 people who elected on April, 2005	CF signs	Jan - Jun 2006	\$385	\$385	17/1/2006 Approved
22	Damnak Neakta Thmor Puon	Kampot	Maradi Tel: (012) 897 104	This community started in March 2001, run by 15 CFMCs (2 women) elected on March 2001. CF area is 992 ha.	CF Anniversary	Jan 2006	\$100	\$100	11/1/2006 Approved
23	Andong Tra-bak CF	Svay Rieng	Sitha Tel: 012 314 423	This community started on 21, September, 2003, run by 12 members(1 woman 11 men) elected on September 2003. CF area is 3000 ha.	Technical Assistance	Jan 2006	\$500	\$285	19/01/2006 Approved
24	Tros CF	Svay Rieng	Hou Sreng Tel: 012 455 970	This Community started on 21, september, 2003 run by 13 members(2 women 11men) elected on May 2004. CF area is 3100ha	Technical Assistance	Jan 2006	\$500	\$297	19/01/2006 Approved
25	krasang	Svay Rieng	CFED Tel: 016 720 325	This community started on 2004, run by 12memembers (12 men) elected on June, 2004, 600ha	Technical Assistance	Feb 2006	\$494		10/4/2006 Rejected
26	Sambour CF	Svay Rieng	KADRA	This community started on 2005, run by 7 members (5 men and 2 women) elected on June, 2005, 600ha	Technical Assistance	Feb – June 2006	\$289		10/4/2006 Rejected
27	Kompong Ampel CF	Svay Rieng	CFED Tel: 016 720 325	This community started on 1999 run by 8 members (4 men and 4 women) elected on 1999, 53ha	Tree nursery	Feb – Jun 2006	\$500		10/4/2006 Rejected
28	Prey Kla CF	Svay Rieng	CFED Tel: 016 720 325	This community started on 2000 run by 8 members (4 men and 4 women) elected on 2001. 12 ha	Tree nursery	Feb – Jun 2006	\$477		10/4/2006 Rejected
29	Tbeing CF	Svay Rieng	CFED Tel: 016 720 325	This community started on 2002 run by 8 members (4 men and 4 women) elected on 2003. 10.5 ha	Tree nursery	Feb - Jun 2006	\$460		10/4/2006 Rejected
30	Chensar CF	Svay Rieng	CFED Tel: 016 720 325	This community started on 2000 run by 8 members (4 men and 4 women) elected on 2000. 15.5 ha	Tree nursery	Feb – Jun 2006	\$460		10/4/2006 Rejected
31	Andong Tra-bak CF	Svay Rieng	Sitha Tel: 012 314 423	This community started on 21, September, 2003, run by 12 members(1 woman 11 men) elected on September 2003. CF area is 3000 ha.	Tree nursery	Mar - Jul 2006	\$500		10/4/2006 Rejected
32	Tros CF	Svay Rieng	Hou Sreng Tel: 012 455 970	This community started in March 2001, run by 15 CFMCs (2 women) elected on March 2001. CF area is 992 ha.	Tree nursery	Mar - Jul 2006	\$498		10/4/2006 Rejected
33	Chivet Prey Phnom CPA	Kg Speu	Prom Tomcheat Tel: 016 381 871	This community started in 2005 run by 8 people (6 men and 2 women) who were elected on July 09, 2005. CPA area is 10000ha	Tree nursery	Mar - Sep 2006	\$303		10/5/2006 Rejected
34	Krephou Dam Mrek CPA	Kompong Thom	Eam Bunna Tel: 012 713 014	This community started in 08 February 2002 run by 5 people (1 woman and 4 men) who were elected on August 2004. CPA area is 1800 ha.	Technical Assistance	Mar - Aug 2006	\$245	\$187	21/04/06 Approved

Seed Grants Matrix (Continued)

N o	Organization and Province		Contact Person	Description	Activities	Timeframe	Amount Requested	Amount approved	Date Decision Memo
35	Damnak Krebei CF	Kompong Thom	Eam Bunna Tel: 012 713 014	This community started in 2006 run by 5 people (1 woman and 4 men) who were elected on 2005. CF area is 200ha	Technical Assistance	Mar – Aug 2006	\$251	\$355	21/04/06 Approved
36	Trepang Pring	Kompong Thom	Eam Bunna Tel: 012 713 014	This community started in 2006 run by 5 people (2 women and 3 men) who were elected on 2005. CF area is 180ha.	Technical Assistance	Mar – Aug 2006	\$251		21/04/06 Approved
37	Kosma Roun CF	Kompong Thom	Eam Bunna Tel: 012 713 014	This community started in 2006 run by 5 people (1 woman and 4 men) who were elected on 2005. CF area is 250ha	Technical Assistance	Mar - Aug 2006	\$251		21/04/06 Approved
38	Tbal Chei CF	Kompong Thom	Eam Bunna Tel: 012 713 014	This community started in 2006 run by 5 people (1 woman and 4 men) who were elected on 2005. CF area is 150ha	Technical Assistance	Mar - Aug 2006	\$251		21/04/06 Approved
39	Boueg Milia CF	Siem Reap	HURREDO Tel: 016 331 702	This community started in 22-10-2001 run by 17 people (2 women and 15 men) who were elected on 2001. The CF area is 1514ha.	Material to facilitate patrolling	Mar - Aug 2006	\$477	\$442	06/03/2006 Approved
40	Kbal Ouso KorKI CF	Oddar Meanchay	Ouch Roun Tel:012 1832107	This community started in 10-01-2003run by 7 people(one woman and 6 men) who were elected on 03 -06-2004. On 1200 ha.	Material to facilitate patrolling	Mar - Aug 2006	\$300	\$154	23-03-2006 Approved
41	Phnom Pet pos CF	Battambang	KWRA (012) 970 438	This community started in May 26 2005 run by 15 people who elected on Nov 15-2005. The CF area is 600ha.	CF signs	Jul - Jan 2006	\$327	\$327	19-05-06 Approved
42	Ou Ba Krog CF	Pursat	Mein Thyda Tel: 016 347194 KDP	This community started in 1998 but doesn't have any support from the NGO. But now this community runs by 5 people (2 women and 3 men) who were elected in 16 February 2005. The CF area is 45ha	TA(To organize the By-law)	Apr – Nov 2006	\$363	\$120	5/7/2006 Approved
43	Phum Toul Char CF	Pursat	Mein Thyda Tel: 016 347194 KDP	This community started in 1998 but doesn't have any support from the NGO. But now this community runs by 5 people (1 woman and 4 men) who were elected in 15-02-2005. The CF area is 45 ha.	TA(To organize the By-law)	Apr – Nov 2006	\$363	\$120	5/7/2006 Approved
44	Sangkros Prey Chher	Kompong Chhnang	Chea Phohan (012) 341756	This community started in Nov 30, 02 on 4000 ha, run by 7 people (4men, 3 women), who were elected on May 7, 03	Office Supplies	Apr – Nov 2006	\$500	\$330	19-05-06 Approved
45	Prey Nakthor Trong CPA	Koh Kong	Mr. Kim Sarine Tel: 012 864 045	This community started on 2000 run by 7 people (2 women and 5 men) who were elected on 2001. The CF area is 744 ha	CF Anniversary	Apr – Nov 2006	\$177	\$177	24/04/06 Approved
46	Damnak Neakta Thmor Puon	Kampot	Mr. Kim Sarine Tel: 012 864 045	This community started on March, 2001 on 992ha, run by 15 people who elected on March, 2001	Equipment for CF	2-May-06	\$124	\$124	2/5/2006 Approved
47	Pres Sophear CF	Kg Thom	Ms. Sen Thol	This community started in 2004, run by 5 people that elected on June, 2004. The CF area is 325ha.	CF Extension	May - Oct 2006	\$392	\$392	19-05-06 Approved
48	Tropeing Pos CF	Kg Cham	Mr. Yen La Tel: 012 157 602	This community Started in 2004, run by 21 people that elected on November, 2004. The CF area is 125ha.	CF signs	Apr- Sep 2006	\$457		19-05-06 Delay wait for the guideline
49	Talek and Andas CPA	Kg Thom	Mr. Eam Bunna Tel: 012 713 014	This community started on 08-02-02 run by 11 people(3 women and 8 men) that elected on 05-05-06. The CPA area is 1800ha.	TA for CF Process	Jun – Dec 2006	\$392		16/10/2006 Rejected
50	Trabeing Knong CF	Kg Thom	Mr. Eam Bunna Tel: 012 713 014	This community started on 01-01-06 run by 5 people(2 women and 3 men) that elected on 21-05-06. The CF area is 250ha	TA for CF Process	Jun – Dec 2006	\$270		16/10/2006 Rejected
51	Pteik CF	Kg Thom	Mr. Eam Bunna Tel: 012 713 014	this community started on 01-01-06 run by 7 people(2 women and 5 men) that elected on 21-05-06. The CF area is 250ha	TA for CF Process	Jun - Dec 2006	\$280		16/10/2006 Rejected

52	Sramak CF	Kg Thom	Mr. Eam Bunna Tel: 012 713 014	This community started on 01-01-06 run by 5 people (2 women and 3 men) that elected on 22-05-06. The CF area is 250ha	TA for CF Process	Jun - Dec 2006	\$270		16/10/2006 Rejected
53	Sochol CF	kg Thom	Mr. Eam Bunna Tel: 012 713 014	this community started on 01-01-06 run by 5 people(2 women and 3 men) that elected on 22-05-06. The CF area is 250ha	TA for CF Process	Jun - Dec 2006	\$270		16/10/2006 Rejected
54	TomPich village CF	Kg Thom	BSD(Buddhism for Social Development)	this community started on 24-03-2004 run by 24 people(5 women and 19men). The CF area is 75ha.	TA	Jun - Dec 2006	\$375		16/06/2006 Rejected
55	Kralang vil-lage CF	Pursat	Mr. Kuch Veng (012) 480 676	This community started on 19-01-2002 run by 5 people (2 women and 3 men) that was elected on 05-05-2005. The forest area is 350ha.	Material to facilitate patrolling	Jun - Dec 2006	\$500	\$348	4/7/2006 Approved
56	Keov Pich Pon Na Reay Community Forestry	Kg Chhnang	Mr. Yeim Eang or Mrs. Sok Rathana Tel: 012 528 732	This community started to manage the CF on 27-06-2002 run by 9 CFMCs(2 women and 7 men) elected on 07-11-2003. The CF area is 1412.825ha.	Material to facilitate patrolling	Jun – Dec 2006	\$500	\$345	19/09/2006 Approved
57	Da Reangsei Reaksmeay Touk Meas CF	Kg Chhnang	Mr. Um Phon CFMC chief, through Mr. Lao Sethaphal (012) 827 915	This community started to manage CF on 01 December 2002 with 9 CFMCs (1 women) elected on 08/03/2004.The CF area is 1441.288ha	Office Supplies	Jun - Dec 2006	\$355	\$355	5/9/2006 Approved
58	Phnom Teuk Dous Sros Bam Prong CF	Kg Chhnang	Mr. Chea Chon CFMC chief, through Mr. Lao Sethaphal (012) 827 915	This community started to manage on November 2002 with 9 CFMCs elected on 27-02-2004. The CF area is 1114.976ha	Material to facilitate patrolling	Jun – Dec 2006	\$500	\$345	19/09/2006 Approved
59	Po Chrok Chumrak Rithysen Community Forestry	Kg Chhnang	Mr. Eur Seng Hong, CFMC chief through Mr. Lao Sethaphal (012) 827 915	This community started to manage CF on 26 November 2002 with 11 CFMCs elected on 23-10-2004. The CF area is 1463,13ha	Material to facilitate patrolling	Jun – Dec 2006	\$500	\$345	19/09/2006 Approved
60	Kang Rei Po Bang Krasang Teng Kluon CF	Kg Chhnang	Mr. Ou Kim Thy CFMC chief through Mr. Lao Sethaphal (012)827 915	This community started to manage CF on 25 November 2002 with 11 CFMCs elected on 21-04-2004. The CF area is 1617,178ha	Material to facilitate patrolling	Jun – Dec 2006	\$500	\$345	19/09/2006 Approved
61	PO 2 CF	Pursat	Mein Thyda Tel: 016 347194	This community started to manage CF in 1997 with 5 CFMCs. The CF area is 45ha	TA	Jun - Dec 2006	\$286		4/7/2006 Approved
62	PO1 CF	Pursat	Mr. Sopheavat Tel: 016 347 194 Tel: 012 33 66 57	This community starts to manage in 1997 with5 CFMCs. The CF area is 45ha	TA	Jun - Dec 2006	\$286	\$269	4/7/2006 Approved
63	Boueng Ampel CF	Battambang	Mr.Lan Sokuth	This community started to manage the CF in 11 March 2000 with 7 CFMCs(1 Women). The CF area is 150 ha.	TA	Jul 2006 - Jan 2007	\$300	\$269	18/09/2006 Approved
64	Khom Dang Kam Bet	Kompong Thom	Mr. In Nam	This community started in November 2002 on 12000 ha, run by 8 CFMCs (1 female) elected on November 200	CF office	Jul 2006 - Jan 2007	\$498		16/10/2006 Rejected
65	Phum Rolous Kandal CF	Pursat	Mr. Om Savuth	This community started to manage the CF in December1999 with 7 MCFCs that elected in December 2000. The CF area is 91.5ha	Material to facilitate patrolling	Jul 2006 – Jan 2007	\$506	\$370	19/09/2006 Approved
66	Sre Khlong CF	Kg Chhnang	Mr.Mein Sein Tel : 0121730956	This community started to manage the CF in 22 March 2005 with 7 CFMCs that elected on 11 August 2005. The CF area is 179ha	Material to facilitate patrolling	Jul - Jan 2007	\$410	\$365	18/09/2006 Approved
67	Krang Serei CF	Kompong Speu	Kong Ang (012) 678 446	This community started on March, 2005 on 125ha, run by 10 people who elected on April, 2005	TA for CF Process	Oct 2006 - Mar 2007	\$168	\$158	3/10/2006 Approved
68	Sna Rach CF	Pursat	Mr. Hong Senit	This community started to manage the CF in January 2000 with 9 MCFCs that elected in December 1999. The CF area is 101ha	Material to facilitate patrolling	Dec 2006 to Mar 2007	\$491	\$370	19/09/2006 Approved

Seed Grants Matrix (Continued)

N o	Organization and Province		Contact Person	Description	Activities	Timeframe	Amount Requested	Amount approved	Date Decision Memo
69	Roluoskhang keut CF	Pursat	Mr. Maen Torn	This community started to manage the CF in January 2000.run members elected on 26 April 2005 The CF area is 945ha	Sign to mark the CF/CPA area.	Nov 2006 - Feb 2007	\$502	\$370	19/09/2006 Approved
70	Phom Sre Reosey CF	Pursat	Mr. Kuch Veng (012) 480 676	This community started to manage the CF in 26 April 2005.run members elected on 26 April 2005 The CF area is 340ha	Sign to mark the CF/CPA area.	Nov 2006 – Feb 2007	\$308		16/10/2006 Rejected
71	Chi ork boe-ung prey CPA	Preah Vihear	Mr.Bi Senhleang (012) 931 402	This community started to manage the CF in February 2002 run by 7 CFMCs(2 woman) the elected on 19 December 2002 the CPA area is 1500 ha	Material to facilitate patrolling	Oct 2006 - Mar 2007	\$438.00	\$438	20/10/2006 Approved
72	Phom Trpaeong Preang CF	Kg Cham	Mr.Som chay (012) 298 471	This community started to manage the CF in 2003 run by 11 (2 woman)that elected on26 September 2003 the CF area is 400ha	CF Anniversary	Oct 2006 - Mar2007	\$513	\$313	10/11/2006 Approved
73	Phom Sre kok CF	Kg Cham	Mr.Som chay (012) 298 471	This community started to manage the CF in 2003 run by 11 (2 woman)that elected on30 September 2003 the CF area is 608ha	Material to facilitate patrolling	Oct 2006 – Mar 2007	\$470	\$249	24/11/2006 Approved
74	Phom Brlaeue CF	Kg Cham	Mr. Mean savann (012) 968 605	This community started to manage the CF in 2004 run by 5 (2 woman)that elected on 07 May 2004 the CF area is 234,51 ha	Material to facilitate patrolling	Oct 2006 - Mar 2008	\$470	\$249	24/11/2006 Approved
75	Phom Com-boke CF	Kg Cham	Mr.Som chay (012) 298 471	This community started to manage the CF in 2004 run by 5 that elected on 23 April 2004 the CF area is 223,82 ha	CF/CPA Anniversary	Oct 2006 – Mar 2007	\$450	\$120	10/11/2006 Approved
76	Phom Sre-brang CF	Kg Cham	Mr.Som chay (012) 298 471	This community started to manage the CF in 2004 run by 7 (4 woman) that elected on 30 March 2005 the CF area is 402,34 ha	CF Sign and Tree Nursery	Dec-06	\$489	\$361	20/10/2006 Approved
77	Phom Soth CF	Kratie	Mr.Mol Sanit (012) 384 523	This community	Material to facilitate patrolling		\$507.25	\$213.75	10/11/2006 Approved
78	Valkonseang CF	Kratie	Ms.Huem Sitha (012) 454 275	This community started in July 2001 run by 7 (4woman) the elected on July 2001 . the CF area is 10100ha	Exposure Trip/ invitations	Oct-06	\$334.75		Processing
79	Kruom Ptol	Kratie	Ms. Mom Sakin (012) 187 114 6	This Community started in 2001 run by 5 (2 woman) the elected on 2004.the CF area is 1800 ha	TA for CF Process	Oct - Dec 2006	\$222.00	\$222.00	20/10/2006 Approved
80	Kyong CF	Preah Vihear	Mr, Tit Sitha (092) 602 797	This Community started in 2002 run by 7 (3 woman) the elected on 2003 .the CF area is 4300 ha	TA for CF Process	Nov - Dec 2006	\$133.37		Processing
81	Torsou and Pout traie CF	Preah Vihear	Mr, Tit Sitha (092) 602 797	This Community started in 2000 run by 9 (5 woman) the elected on 2003 .the CF area is 6000 ha	TA for CF Process	Nov - Feb 2007	\$267.75		Processing
82	Crach Tatom Phnomrom-luos CF	Preah Vihear	Mr, Tit Sitha (092) 602 798	This Community started in 2000 run by 7 (2 woman) the elected on 1 January 2006 .the CF area is 6387 ha (6 Province)	Material to facilitate patrolling	Nov - Mar 2007	\$549.50	\$360	10/11/2006 Approved
83	Sala Srok Chaysen CF	Preah Vihear	Mr. Thoung Sa-Kuen		Office Supplies		\$1,000.00		30/10/2006 Rejected
84	Damnak Neakta Thmor Puon CF	Kampot	Mr.Suos Neb (092) 906 214	This community started on March, 2001 on 992ha, run by 15 people who elected on March, 2002	Office CF village	Nov - Apr 2007	\$344		10/11/2006 Rejected
85	Sang CF roukhaVoan	Oddar Meanchey	Ven. Bun Salouth		Material to facilitate patrolling		\$974.00		30/10/2006 Rejected
86	Phom Cueng	Kratie	Mr. Chan Bet / Ms. Mom Sakin (012) 187 114 6	This Community started in April 2001 run by 9 (2 woman) the elected on 2005 .the CF area is 2500 ha	TA for CF Process	Nov - Mar 2007	\$109	\$78.50	14/11/2006 Approved
87	CPA Snuol	Kratie	Mr. Kon Er / Mom Sakin (012) 187 114 7	This Community started in 2001 run by 7 (2 woman) the elected on 2003 .the CPA area is 2459 ha	Material to facilitate patrolling	Nov to Mar 2007	\$465	\$170	14/12/2006 Approved
			TOTAL				\$35,666.42	\$17,392.05	



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