

EVALUATION
OF
THE UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTEERS
INTERVENTION
(2007-2009)
TONLE SAP CONSERVATION PROJECT

Final Report

Submitted by

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ACRONYMS

ABE	Association of Buddhists for the Environment
ADB	Asian Development Bank
BABSEA	Bridges Across Borders South East Asia
BTC	Beoung Tonle Chhmar
CBO	Community Based Organization
CC	Commune Council
CDB	Commune Development Plan
CEDAC	Cambodia Center for Study and Development in Agriculture
CFiO	Community Fisheries Organization
CIP	Commune Investment Plan
CMDG	Cambodia's Millennium Development Goals
CMF	Community Mobilization Facilitator
CNMC	Cambodia National Mekong Committee
CRC	Cambodia Red Cross
DPR	Department of Pedagogical Research
EAEOP	Environmental Awareness, Education and Outreach Programme
EE	Environmental Education
EFECS	Energy Fuel Efficient Cooking Stove
FACT	Fisheries Action Coalition Team
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FiA	Fisheries Administration
GEF	Global Environment Facility
HH	Household
IDE	International Development Enterprise
ILO	International Labor Organization
INGO	International Non-government Organization
IUNV	International United Nations Volunteer
JTF	Japan Trust Fund
L&L	Live and Learn Environmental Education
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
MoE	Ministry of Environment
MTR	Midterm Review
NEX	National Execution
NGO	Non-Government Organization
NRM	Natural Resources Management
NSDP	National Strategic Development Plan
NUNV	National United Nations Volunteer
PIU	Project Implementation Unit
PT	Preak Toul
RGC	Royal Government of Cambodia
SHG	Self Help Group
SLA	Sustainable Livelihood Advisor
SLC	Sustainable Livelihood Coordinator
SLS	Sustainable Livelihood Specialist
SS	Steung Sen
SSC	Self-Help Group Steering Committee
ToR	Terms of Reference
ToT	Training of Trainers
TSBA	Tonle Sap Basin Authority
TSBR	Tonle Sap Biosphere Reserve
TSCP	Tonle Sap Conservation Project

TSEMP	Tonle Sap Environmental Management Project
TSSLP	Tonle Sap Sustainable Livelihood Project
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNV	United Nations Volunteers
USD	United States Dollar
WED	World Environment Day
WCS	Wildlife Conservation Society
WPF	Water Purifier Filter

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Niras International A/S Cambodia

Executive Summary

The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme is the UN organization that promotes volunteerism to support human development worldwide. The UNDP and the UNV Office in Cambodia developed a UNV proposal on "*Sustainable Livelihoods through Community Volunteerism in the Tonle Sap Region*" and was funded by the Japanese Trust Fund (JTF) in June 2005 for an amount of \$240,000 USD. The UNV became part of the Tonle Sap Conservation Project (TSCP) component with the objective of promoting, through community volunteerism, alternative "biodiversity-friendly" income-generating activities among communities living around the three Core Areas of the Tonle Sap Biosphere Reserve (TSBR).

The Tonle Sap Conservation Project (TSCP) is a seven-year UNDP-GEF project aiming at developing the management capacity for biodiversity conservation in the TSBR. The TSCP is a component of a broader project, the "Tonle Sap Environmental Management Project (TSEMP)" funded by ADB aiming the sustainable management and conservation of natural resources and biodiversity in the Tonle Sap Basin. TSEMP was the first project launched as part of the larger ADB Tonle Sap Initiative. The TSEMP implementation was completed in December 2008, and it is now followed by Tonle Sap Sustainable Livelihoods Project (TSSLP) and Tonle Sap Lowland Rural Development (TSLRD). The TSCP was an integral part of the third component of the TSEMP and it was executed by the Cambodia National Mekong Committee (CNMC).

The UNV intervention was implemented in 2007 until the end of 2009. The UNV activities were implemented by six NUNV Community Mobilization Facilitators (CMF) staff during the initial year with the technical supervision of the TSCP Sustainable Livelihood Specialists (SLS), guided by the TSCP national manager and with the administrative support of the UNV Office. At the end of the intervention's second year, the number of NUNV CMF was reduced to three since one of them was promoted to NUNV Sustainable Livelihood Coordinator (SLC). The new team was supported with technical supervision of the IUNV Sustainable Livelihood Advisor (SLA) under the guidance of the TSCP project manager and administratively supported by the UNV Office.

The project will end this year and an external evaluation was contracted by the UNDP Office as a requirement of the JTF. This evaluation served as the basis for determining whether to terminate, continue, or scale up the intervention. It is also a source for broader organizational learning. The main objective was to assess the results and contribution that volunteerism brings to the development efforts in the area of environmental conservation and rural poverty alleviation. It also assessed the relevance, effectiveness, impact and sustainability of the UNV component of the TSCP; drew lessons and made recommendations for future projects in similar sectors. Its specific objective was to generate knowledge about best practices of integrating UNV into similar projects and to identify ways to maximize positive impacts of volunteerism in case of replication in other projects, countries or geographical areas.

The evaluation included a document review including the TSCP midterm review and other additional secondary information. The evaluation tools and questionnaire were designed and submitted to UNV for final approval. The team was mobilized in coordination with the UNV focal point and conducted the field survey using the approved tools. Interviews of Self Help Groups (SHG) and key informants, as well as Focus Group Discussion (FGD) with key stakeholders were conducted in the field. Interviews with the UNV and TSCP management and support interviews from the key partners were also conducted. Finally, the collected information was analyzed quantitatively and qualitatively.

Based on the evaluation results, the UNV intervention has successfully implemented the desired activities and achieved the desired output according to the objectives and design of the intervention. The UNV main output is the formation of the SHG and the evolution of the Steering

Committee to oversee and manage the SHG as a whole. There are 15 SHGs organized in the three core areas with a total of about 400 household members. Each core area has a Self-Help Group Steering Committee (SSC) with five members elected from the SHGs present in the core areas. The SHG leaders and the SSC were supported with different training sessions and capacity building on financial management and environmental awareness and management, through sub-contracting different partners such as Heifer International, Association of Buddhists for the Environment (ABE) and the International Labor Organization (ILO). The funds of the SHG were accumulated from different livelihood and well-being activities introduced by the TSCP/UNV. Through the Environmental Awareness, Education and Outreach Programme (EAEOP) and other partners, the environmental education (EE) was shared with the SHG, Rangers, Monks, Commune Council and other members of the community.

The result of the field activities in the three core areas showed that the selection of the SHG members mainly involved those members aged 46 years old and above, with less involvement from the youth members ageing 17 years old and below who will be the next generation to use the natural resources. Gender was seen to be addressed well with 73% of the respondents being women including most of the key leaders. The selection of the poor as beneficiaries was determined by their income, house condition, and assets. It can be said that the intervention has had an impact with the SHG members as it helped participants break out of the cycle of poverty.. For example, the extreme poverty data shows that 55% of the poor are now living above \$1 income per day compared to only 18% who are still living with less than a dollar per day. Volunteerism has been internalized among the leaders and members of the SHG and SSC, demonstrated by the fact that 97% of the leaders were committed in providing services to their groups and members without any compensation. The regular loans of the members have helped increase the revolving fund and the extent of their membership showed strong ownership which is considered vital to the sustainability of the activities. The purpose of some members in availing themselves of the loan was to start with alternative livelihood, while in the previous years, their loan was mostly used for buying fishing equipment. The previous purpose of members in getting the loan for fishing equipments has decreased by about 30%. The SHG also assisted the members to accumulate their assets. About 40% of the stakeholders interviewed disclosed that their assets have increased. The habit of saving has also been enhanced and motivated the members to be more active in their groups.

The livelihood activities were piloted in the three core areas with the initiative of TSCP and UNV. The result showed that 69% of the SHG members said that the alternative livelihood project ideas were introduced by the UNV/TSCP. This view seems to contradict the intended sense of ownership of the project ideas by the beneficiaries to ensure its sustainability. This perception resulted a lack of replication of most introduced activities which can be possibly attributed to the following factors such as market access issues, availability of inputs and applicability of piloted livelihoods without subsidies.

Fifty six percent of the SHG members who used their loan for alternative livelihoods are now engaged in livestock raising such as pig and chicken raising and fish culture. About 44% of the SHG respondents have additional earnings of 40 USD – 75 USD per month while 25% of the respondents have added more than 150 USD to their family incomes. Technical support from UNV/TSCP was provided to almost all of the members taking on alternative livelihoods.

The result also shows that the environmental awareness of the communities was high, and 69% of the respondents were aware of the different government policies on conservation of natural resources. Almost all respondents, both at SHG members and key leaders' levels in the villages, knew about the situation and what was happening to their resources. The communities were aware of who was implementing environmental conservation and other activities as well as the roles and responsibilities of each stakeholder in the protection and enhancement of the natural

resources. What was lacking was the actual implementation and internalization of the individual to implement the theory into practice.

The project impact has been felt at the family level. Now, most of the SHG members have their own savings which can be used to finance alternative livelihoods or help their children achieve higher education.

The evaluation team concludes that the UNV intervention has reached its objectives which are relevant for NRM in Cambodia and correspond with the overall targets of the MDG, CMDG, NSDP of Cambodia, UNDP-GEF, and the UNDAF. It is also seen to be highly relevant to the poor and the TSBR community as a whole since both are heavily dependent on natural resources for their survival and well-being. The evaluation team considers that the intervention has been effectively implemented through the immersion of the National United Nations Volunteer (NUNV) in the three core areas, although there has been lack of effective coordination during the implementation of the project, especially regarding the UNV field activity budget and the line of approving the management structure. The intervention would have been more effective if the activities in achieving the outcome had been implemented on time or in the initial year of implementation, which in reality only happened in the latter part of the project. Volunteerism is seen to be an effective intervention method which has been advocated to the direct beneficiaries such as the SHG and SCC leaders, rangers and the Monks. The intervention is also seen as efficient when it comes to budget allocation as demonstrated by the development of SHG and their funds, which remained transparent while the amount was increasing (including the savings of the members).

The project impact has been felt at the family level. Now, most of the SHG members have their own savings which can be used to finance alternative livelihoods or help their children achieve higher education. The impact to the skills and capacity of the community, especially those in charge of the SHG, and those promoting and advocating for the conservation of the natural resources, is a successful achievement of the UNV intervention.

Project sustainability is still uncertain especially that the SSC has just been created and the UNV intervention implementation is on its final year. The evaluation did not find any replication of most activities by the direct beneficiaries in the area particularly the alternative livelihood activities. Training of trainers (ToT) has just been started and there is a possibility that the involvement of the Monks in the EE activities will ensure the sustainability of the activities. The linkages of the SSC to the Community Fisheries Organization (CFiO) could be a vehicle to network with other potential partners to sustain the activities and ensure long-term sustainability of the project since they are legally registered and recognized by the local authorities and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF).

In the view of the evaluators, the UNV programme should be extended for at least one year to support the sustainability of the activities of the families, SHG, SCC, CFiO and the local authorities as well as to target further the provincial and national authorities to involve them in the protection and conservation of the natural resources in the TSBR. The SSC and the SHG should closely collaborate with the different activities of the TSCP management group for the remaining two years of the TSCP project to ensure the incorporation of their plans and sustainability of their activities. The SSC needs to be firmly linked with the CFiO through membership and should function as a committee to have the chance to receive support from the government and other NGOs operating in the same sector. The CFiO should oversee the functions of the SSC, and the Rangers should cooperate in achieving their goals on the development of the community and the TSBR as a whole. The Commune Council (CC) should invite and assist the CFiO to be included in

the planning of the Commune Development Plan (CDB) and Commune Investment Plan (CIP). The CC should also support linking the CFiO to provincial and national level authorities and to the different institutions providing assistance such as the TSSLP. Leadership should be rotated among the SHG members in order to increase their capacity. The SSC should offer assistance to the individual families through the SHG, especially in planning for the future of their families and children.

In case of a decision not to extend the programme, an efficient and proper hand over to the TSCP management team of all the activities and target plans for the SHG, SSC and partnership should be done before phasing out the intervention.

Based on the result of the evaluation the following points are recommended;

- UNV should build on and consolidate successes within the sector, upscaling similar designs and implementation arrangements within or outside the scope of TSCP particularly in the area of environmental conservation and building up of institutional capacity.
- UNV can fulfill its currently planned mandate if the human development core area of intervention is more substantially addressed through continuing training and capacity building activities.
- UNV should look for ways to support the continuing and unfulfilled demand for alternative livelihoods particularly building synergies with NGOs working in the area, identifying needs of the SHGs, and partnering with the NGOs with experience in successful alternative livelihoods trials.
- Community mobilization and the formation of SHGs on the ground should be extended to encourage volunteerism, local understanding, appreciation, and ownership of resources.
- UNV should look to forge partnerships with most local government agencies at a strategic level.
- A livelihoods approach to organize and strengthen the SHGs can still be followed and need not be too diluted if the scope of the supported activities can be kept within the mandate.

1. Introduction

1.1. UNV Programme

The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme is the UN organization that promotes volunteerism to support human development worldwide. Volunteerism is a powerful means of engaging people in tackling development challenges, and it can transform the pace and nature of development. Volunteerism benefits both the society at large and the individual volunteer by strengthening trust, solidarity and reciprocity among citizens, and by purposefully creating opportunities for participation. UNV contributes to volunteerism for peace and development by advocating for volunteerism globally, integrating volunteerism into development planning and mobilizing people, including experienced UNV volunteers, throughout the world. UNV is universal and inclusive, embracing volunteerism in all its diversity as well as the values that sustain it: free will, commitment, engagement and solidarity.¹

1.2. TSCP/UNDP/UNV Project

The Tonle Sap Conservation Project (TSCP) is a seven-year UNDP-GEF project aiming at developing the management capacity for biodiversity conservation in the Tonle Sap Biosphere Reserve (TSBR) through:

- enhancing the capacity for management of biodiversity in the TSBR Core Areas;
- developing systems for monitoring and management of biodiversity; and
- promoting awareness, education and outreach on biodiversity conservation in the TSBR.

The TSCP is a component of a broader project, the "Tonle Sap Environmental Management Project (TSEMP)" co-financed by ADB, GEF, Capacity 21, WCS, and the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC), and aiming at the sustainable management and conservation of natural resources and biodiversity in the Tonle Sap Basin. The program closed down in December 2008 and it had three components:

1. Strengthening natural resources management in the TSBR;
2. Organizing communities for natural resources management; and
3. Building management capacity for biodiversity conservation

The TSCP is an integral part of the third component and was managed in coordination with the other two components, with common management, monitoring and evaluation mechanisms.

The TSCP is under National Execution (NEX) Modality, with the Cambodia National Mekong Committee (CNMC) as the executing agency with the project assurance that was provided by UNDP Cambodia Country Office. The Project Document was signed in July 2004 and the Project effectively started in January 2005 with a six-month Inception Phase.

In June 2004, UNDP and the UNV Office in Cambodia developed a UNV proposal on "Sustainable Livelihoods through Community Volunteerism in the Tonle Sap Region" for funding by the Japanese Trust Fund. In June 2005, the UNV proposal was approved for further elaboration by the Government of Japan for a total amount of 240,000 USD (including 10% for UNV support cost) for a period of 3 years (January 2007 to December 2009).²

The UNV component falls under Activity 3.1.4, "*Identification of income-generating activities that directly threaten biodiversity in the Core Areas, and development of alternative livelihoods to modify these activities*" of the TSCP.

¹ UNV Preamble

² RGC/UNDP Amendment to the Documents – March 2006

1.3. UNV Project Objective

The objective of the UNV component is to promote, through community volunteerism, alternative bio-diversity-friendly income-generating activities among communities living around the three Core Areas of the Tonle Sap Biosphere Reserve in Cambodia. The project was primarily targeting inhabitants of floating villages who are traditional users of natural resources within the three Core Areas. The secondary targeted populations were the seasonal users who largely originated from the outer edges of or outside the Biosphere Reserve area. The population of the Tonle Sap sub catchments is approximately 3 million people, of which an estimated 1.2 million live permanently inside the Reserve. There were large-scale movements of people toward the lake (including the Core Areas) during dry season due to a lack of resources in areas farther from the Tonle Sap.³

1.4. UNV Implementation

In 2007 and 2008, the project harnessed the power of volunteerism through the involvement of six National UN Volunteers (4 Community Mobilization Facilitators and 2 Community Mobilization Field Workers). The NUNVs intervention was under the overall guidance of the national project manager and under the direct technical supervision of the TSCP Sustainable livelihood Specialist. The UN volunteers were under the administration support by the UNV Office. They were based in a community located within the proximity of the three Core Areas (two volunteers per area). At this time, the TSCP SLS technically supported the UNV in setting up of Self-Help Groups (SHG) based on savings and small loan model in all the Core Area communities. The project design included identification of income-generation activities that threaten biodiversity in the Biosphere Reserve's three Core Areas, and the development and support of alternative livelihoods. Potential alternative livelihoods were selected for initial trial based on the following criteria:

- activities that have no or easily managed environmental impacts;
- activities that can be carried out at or near the home;
- activities that benefit poor families or those with otherwise limited access to natural resources;
- activities that produce goods and services that will substitute for those currently obtained from the Core Areas; and
- activities that require low initial investment costs and that produce early and consistent returns.⁴

From these criteria, the UNV/TSCP team identified and tried alternative livelihoods with the SHG such as mushroom growing, floating vegetable gardening, fish cage culture, pig raising, small business trading and the distribution/selling of the Water Ceramic Purifier and Fuel Efficient Cook Stove.

From September 2008 to the end of 2009, the UNV intervention changed its strategy and structure of its human resources plan by promoting one UNV CMF as the Sustainable Livelihood Coordinator (SLC) to supervise the three UNV CMFs in the core areas. The SLC is under the technical supervision of an International UNV and they were all under the overall guidance of the TSCP national project manager. The new UNV HR structure was designed to strengthen the SHG through setting up of the Steering Committee in each core areas to oversee and ensure the management of the different SHG in the area. The team pursued other activities such as EE, Exposure trips, celebration of world environment, etc. to strengthen the capacity of the SHG, Rangers, Monks and other potential ToT community members on environmental awareness and management of the natural resources to its sustainability. The TSCP/UNV also sought the technical expertise of the different NGOs working in the area (e.g. Heifer International, IDE, WCS, ILO, FACT, CEDAC, Live and Learn, ABE, and Osmose) to build and support the capacity of

³ Terms of Reference of the Evaluation of UNV Intervention (2007 – 2009) in the TSCP

⁴ Terms of Reference for Livelihood Support TSCP

the SHG especially the steering committee and other stakeholders such as the Monks and teachers to manage and sustain their activities.

2. Evaluation of the UNV Intervention

This evaluation was required under JTF funding of UNV activities, and will serve as a basis for determining whether or not to terminate, continue, or scale up the intervention. It will also serve as the basis for broader organizational learning. The main stakeholders of the evaluation were the UNDP, UNV, JTF, the Royal Government of Cambodia Ministry of Environment, the Cambodian National Mekong Commission, the Tonle Sap Biosphere Reserve Secretariat and the TSCP.

2.1. Objective

2.1.1. General Objective

The objective of this evaluation is to determine the results and contribution which volunteerism brings to development efforts in the area of environmental conservation and rural poverty alleviation. It intends to assess the relevance, effectiveness, impact and sustainability of the UNV component of the TSCP, and draw lessons and make recommendations for future projects in similar sectors (e.g. should it be scaled up and/or replicated and if so, how).

2.1.2. Specific Objectives

- To generate knowledge about best practice integrating UNV into similar projects
- To identify ways to maximize positive impacts of volunteerism in case of replication in other projects, countries or geographical areas.

2.2. Scope

This evaluation focused specifically on the UNV component of the TSCP from 2007 to 2009. Links to relevant aspects of the TSCP project (e.g. Community environmental education) were explored; however, non-UNV work falling outside the scope of this evaluation was not assessed.⁵

3. Methodology of the Evaluation

3.1. Process

The evaluation first required the review of UNV/UNDP/TSCP Implementing Plans, Annual Reports, TSCP Midterm Review, and other relevant documents. It established the baseline conditions and the periodic levels of attainment leading to the end-line indicators. Secondly, the evaluation gathered end-line performance indicators, including qualitative information on the appropriateness, actual results, implementation process and actual impacts of the UNV interventions from the viewpoint of the beneficiaries, stakeholders and I/NUNV staff. Finally, the data were analyzed using scientific analytical software such as Access and SPSS. Measurement and lessons learned based on the evaluation criteria were drawn out and recommendations for improvement for the next phase of strategies were developed.

Throughout the above processes, the activities of the Evaluation Team were conducted in coordination with the UNV Office and I/NUNV focal point.

3.1.1. Mobilization of the Team

Niras International mobilized the Evaluation Team consisting of 2 consultants: one team Leader (International) and one Assisting Consultant (National). The Team was supported by the two National UNVs in the coordination and mobilization of the beneficiaries, stakeholders and partners in the three core areas and in Phnom Penh.

3.1.2. Review of Documents

⁵ Terms of Reference of the Evaluation of UNV Intervention (2007 – 2009) in the TSCP

UNV Office provided relevant documents relating to the UNDP/TSCP – Amendment to the Project Document and the results of the TSCP/UNDP Midterm Review, both of which were reviewed by the Evaluation Team. The different ToRs of the NUNV in the initiation of the intervention and the Quarterly Reports of the UNV and other relevant documents were also reviewed. The list of all documents reviewed is presented in **Annex 1**

The review established the basis of the UNV intervention objectives, targets, partnerships and areas of implementation which, in addition, better defined the methodologies of the information gathering phase using identified baselines. Thereafter, the review of relevant documents was done to validate the findings from the field investigation.

3.1.3. Area and Respondent Selection Process

Based on the document review, the team felt that the UNV interventions were mainly focused with the community through setting up of the SHG as direct beneficiaries. However, the NUNV intervention has a special focus on the increased awareness on the environment and livelihood activities towards environmental management of the beneficiaries and different stakeholders at the three core areas of the TSBR. Therefore, the selected household respondents were the SHG members, and for the focus group discussions, the team selected the SHG Committee Members, Rangers, Commune Council, and Monks whom the NUNV staffs had worked closely in the three core areas.

The sampled areas were the three core areas of TSBR namely Steung Sen and Boeung Tonle Chhmar in Kampong Thom Province and Preak Toul in Battambang Province. The household interviews were done in the villages where mostly the SHG members were residing, considering the limited time and budget. The focus group discussions were conducted in the core area conservation centres.

3.1.4. Information-Gathering Methodologies

The household interviews using the designed questionnaire covered 60 SHG member respondents. This sample size was equally divided to 20 respondents in each core area.

The focus group discussions were conducted with the SHG steering committee members, rangers, monks and commune council using the developed questionnaire. One FGD was conducted in each core area with 18 participants in Steung Sen, 17 participants in Beoung Tonle Chhmar, and 11 participants in Preak Toul. The List of FGD participants can be found in **Annex 2**.

Key informant interviews were conducted with the different partner NGOs whom the NUNV staff and SHG had worked and linked with during the NUNV intervention. The list of Partners/ persons met/ interviewed is presented in **Annex 3**.

3.1.5. Data-Gathering Instruments

The data gathering tools for the SHG, the key informant (KI) interviews and focus group discussions were developed in line with the target and output of the intervention based on the document review and the evaluation objectives and requirements. The focus group discussion and KI questionnaires were adjusted to integrate evocative techniques which can draw up responses from a larger group. The data-gathering instruments used in the evaluation are found in **Annex 4**.

3.1.6. Evaluation Work Plan

The evaluation was done within a period of 30 days, from 1st of November to 1st of December 2009. The actual implementation of the evaluation work plan (contained in the Inception Report) is shown in **Annex 5**. The final report will be submitted on the 18th of December 2009.

3.1.7. Analytical Framework

The framework for analyzing collected data included the following perspectives:

- Contextual analysis in terms of the relevance focused on the social and environment conditions which the NUNV intervention hopes to address; this was followed by a historical trend analysis from the baseline conditions in 2007 to the current conditions established by the information gathered from the UNV/TCSP beneficiaries and stakeholders;
- Triangulation of baseline, end-line and current performance indicators for effectiveness;
- NUNV capacities in terms of efficiency: the provision and dissemination of clear, timely and practicable guidelines and procedures for project implementation; provision of the necessary resources to support the guideline implementation, and their appropriateness, adequacy, timelines, efficiency in delivery, etc.;
- Cost-Benefit Analysis in terms of financial resource usage specific to identified projects where cost-benefit data are aggregated;
- Use of Strengths and Weaknesses Assessment of the capacity of NUNV in terms of impact and sustainability: volunteering skills level, measures to prepare them for the skills required to implement the intervention, projects, participation, use of local resources, maintenance mechanisms of physical outputs of the project, local government support, etc.

A matrix of the evaluation criteria, required information and tools of data-collection and analysis is contained in **Annex 6**.

3.1.8. Findings Validation and Input of UNV

Findings from the data gathered were presented for validation by the evaluation team to the UNV Office and the key stakeholders of the project in Phnom Penh on 1st of December 2009. Insights and feedback from UNV Office and the project key stakeholders on the presented findings were obtained. Additional information was gathered to fill the data gaps identified through the review of relevant documents and from the primary data.

The feedback to these presentations was thoroughly considered and integrated into the draft final evaluation report.

3.2. Study Limitation

Lack of clear and quantitative indicators was a limiting factor in this evaluation. To remedy this limitation, the questionnaire was designed to allow the respondents to indicate the circumstances that happened before and after the implementation of the project as well as the changes they experienced after joining the project.

4. Output and Performance of the UNV Intervention

The strategy for the target work plan during the inception of the UNV/UNDP/TCSP intervention was followed by the NUNV as indicated on their ToR. The only change was the deployment of six NUNV in the three core areas against the plan of one NUNV in each core area and finally the changed structure in the final intervention of the I/NUNV.

4.1. Self-Help Group Formation

The immersions of the NUNV in the three core areas was planned to assist them in understanding and learning more about the community poverty, needs and aspirations. Through this deeper understanding, the NUNV team was able to mobilize the community to build their own Self Help Group to achieve their immediate needs and aspirations for themselves, for their group and for their environment. With the NUNV guidance, coaching and facilitation, the Self-

Help Groups were formed in the three core areas and created their own by-laws and policy (statute) on the management of loans and other related activities of each group. By the end, there were four SHG in Stueng Sen with a total membership of 100 Households; eight SHG in Boeung Tonle Chhmar with a total membership of 211 households; and three SHG in Preak Toul with a total membership of 96 households. Each of the SHG had between 15 – 40 household members. The detailed list of the total number of members and present revolving fund of each SHG in the three core areas (as of November 2009) can be found in **Table 1**.

Previous reports including the article in the TSBR Bulletin Vol. 5 2008 indicated that the total number of SHG was 22 and the total number of members was 536 households⁶; this was then verified and cleared after one of the NUNV CMF was promoted to the position of Sustainable Livelihood Coordinator under the supervision of the IUNV. Based on the evaluation of the NUNV SLC, there were multiple family members that were included in the previous counting which caused the discrepancy in the total number of both SHG and members.

On the third year of the SHG development, the NUNV facilitated the formation of the SHG Steering Committee (SSC) composed of 15 members (five members in each core area). The objective of the formation of SSC was to coordinate the management of the SHG properly especially in terms of financial management and transparency. This system was introduced to ensure the sustainability, ownership and accountability of the groups not only with their SHG but in a bigger structure. The SSC were supported with different trainings that included financial management, environmental awareness and management, exposure trips, exchange visits, etc. At present, the SSC is being linked with the Commune Council, Government Projects in TSBR, local and international NGOs for further strengthening and enhancement of its skills.

Initially, the savings system of the SHGs in three core areas was managed and facilitated by UNV in accordance with their own specific policies and/or statutes. In early 2009 its savings management system was improved in order to ensure sustainability, ownership and accountability for future SHG development.

Savings Groups Characteristics:

1. Privileges of Participation

Both men and women who are permanent residents in the community and are age 18 or over have the right to participate in the SHG.

2. Size of SGHs

Self-Help Groups were groups of 15 to 30 households who wanted to improve their living conditions by setting up their own savings and loan funds.

3. SHG Management Structures

+ Led by UNV

- a. Savings Committees (SC) consisted of a Group Leader, Secretary and Treasurer.
- b. SHG Advisors (2 or 3 advisors were selected by a vote) consisted of Commune Council members, teachers, village elders, village leaders and/or vice village leaders and popular people in the village.

+ Led by SHG Steering Committee (SSC) and coordinated by UNV

- a. SHG Steering Committee (SSC) consisted of the Chief of SSC, Vice Chief of SSC, Accountant, Administrator and Secretary.
- b. SHG Advisor.

⁶ Tonle Sap Bulletin Volume 5, December 2008, pp 12 - 13

Note: the Savings Committee (SC), SHG Steering Committee (SSC) and advisors had specific roles and responsibilities as indicated in the SHG's statute.

4. SHG Monthly Meeting

The group came together every month to attend a meeting. The participation of all the members in the meeting was important. The objective of the meetings was focused on the three main points as below:

a. Review Savings Funds

- Collection of savings and interest
- Savings scales for the coming month
- Announcement of the total funds recently collected and update regarding the total of revolving funds to the SHG members
- Review of the revolving funds for the SHG members' loans

b. Problem Solving

- Problem solving, particularly the SHG internal problems
- SHG family's problems

c. Promotion and Advocacy

- Environmental education provided by SC/SSC
- Livelihood development program introduced by SC/SSC
- Sharing of community development information to SHG members

4.2. Trial of Livelihood Activities in the Core Areas

After a year of community mobilization and formation of the SHG with capacity building assistance, the NUNV and TSCP facilitated this group to implement livelihood activities. Through the coordination of the NUNV and TSCP livelihood specialist under the guidance of the national project manager the following activities were implemented:

4.2.1. Fish Cage Culture

Fish cage culture training was conducted in Boeung Tonle Chhmar and Prek Toal with 74 participants (46 females). About 20% of total trainees carried out the fish culture in their villages. To support further fish culture activities, TSCP, with the support of the NUNV, sub-contracted the Royal University of Agriculture for 4 days training for 78 persons (55 females). Based on the report, 85% of the trainees fully understood the course content while 15% did not due to limited knowledge and capacity of some participants.

About 1,765 kg fish fingerlings (460 kg of eel, 400 kg of striped catfish, and 905 kg of walking catfish) were distributed to the 75 families identified as poor in the 3 core areas for fish culture and this served as a trial alternative livelihood. The fish fingerlings were worth 34,950,000 Riels and the amount was considered as a loan which the beneficiaries agreed to payback after the harvest. This amount was deposited to the SHG savings account and served as a revolving fund to the other members.

The evaluation team observed the fish cage culture in the visited villages and found that most of the cultured fish was snakehead and none of the above mentioned fish species were seen in the three core areas. Therefore, it was deduced that this activity was not yet replicated by the beneficiaries, either there was no source of fish fingerlings or the activity did not result in a feasible livelihood from the initial piloting.

4.2.2. Floating Vegetable Production

In 2008, four NUNV and ten members of the SHG including 5 females were trained by CEDAC on vegetable growing and production in Takeo province. The training aimed to build the capacity of the participants to become trainers in their village on vegetable growing. The participants were made aware that they would share their skills and capacity to train other members of the community after their training.

The follow-up activity of this project was the preparation of floating gardens. A total of 35 families (22 HHs in Preak Toul and 14 in Beoung Tonle Chhmar) were supported with bamboos, nails and 2,200,000 Riels each for the preparation of the HHs floating gardens. After the HHs floating gardens were installed, the project team inspected the structures and provided the vegetable seeds. The UNV and members of the ToT continued their monitoring of the activity and provided appropriate technical assistance to the beneficiaries.

In the annual report of 2008 of the project, it was mentioned that the beneficiaries were earning between 10,000 – 15,000 Riels per day from selling the excess vegetables grown in the floating gardens⁷. However, during the evaluation field visit, the team saw small plots of herbs and spices gardens intended for household consumption only but not as for commercial purposes. This observation needs to be validated further from the UNV and TSCP which are supporting the technical expertise on this activity.

4.2.3. Mushroom Growing

The mushroom growing was introduced to the SHG members by providing training to 11 participants including 6 women for 12 days in Prek Leap University of Agriculture. The training aimed to teach the participants on how to produce the spores of the mushroom. Hands on training was conducted by the 2 participants at their home and they proved to be successful in producing the spores during the trial phase.

The project provided the SHG in Preak Toal and Beoung Tonle Chhmar a set of mushroom spawn materials. Two community beneficiaries produced 3,030 parcels and sold them to other members of the community for them to also grow mushrooms.

Based on interviews and observations, the activity was not sustainable because of some constraints on the materials such as availability of saw dust and dried water hyacinths used in growing the mushrooms. It was then concluded that this livelihood activity is feasible as land-based but not as a floating-based livelihood activity.

4.2.4. Ecotourism Promotion

Ecotourism promotion was conducted in Preak Toul Core area by sub-contracting Osmose NGO that had extensive experience in promoting the activity in the area. The activity was conducted in Peak Kantel Sub Village to 15 families as the main beneficiary group. The group was trained by Salabai School and Hotel on how to host visitors. The group was provided with equipment and materials such as paddling boat, mattresses, cooking utensils, etc. to be used in hosting their visitors. Apart from this, a kitchen and floating platform (with toilet) were constructed for the visitors to allow viewing of the flooded forest and wild-bird watching.

This activity has the potential of diverting away efforts in fishing and thus decreasing the pressure towards the fisheries. However, this activity is also a great challenge for the community because of high investment required and the seasonality of the tourist visits to the area. As it was mentioned in the report, this can only be established when the potential site is ready to

⁷ Tonle Sap Bulletin Volume 5, December 2008, pp 12 - 13

attract and host the tourists⁸. To date, the activity has not been replicated in any of the three core areas.

4.2.5. Energy Fuel Efficient Cook Stove and Ceramic Water Purifier

The project conceptualized that in order to reduce the deforestation due to fuel wood harvesting, energy fuel efficient cooking stoves (EF ECS) could be introduced to the communities. In line with this concept, the project contracted International Development Enterprise (IDE) to deliver 2,760 stoves. To date, a total of 1,634 stoves were distributed to the communities. Based on the NUNV fourth quarter and annual report of 2008 and SHG interviews, the EF ECS were sold to the communities and the money was deposited to the SHG fund to be used as a revolving fund for the group.

Another product identified by the project with potential to support the communities' health was the ceramic water purifier (CWP). The project contracted IDE to deliver 2,850 CWP to the SHG in the three core areas. The same concept with the EF ECS was used i.e. the money that was collected from sales of the CWP was deposited in the SHG fund. To date, the SHG in the three core areas were able to distribute 2,142 CWP.

Based on the strategy report 2009 of the IUNV and interviews of the beneficiaries and other stakeholders, most of the EF ECS and CWP products were not being used by the beneficiaries because of durability problems of some spare parts especially with the EF ECS. With regards to CWP, it seems that more training is required as some people were afraid that they would get illnesses from drinking water filtered by CWP, while some did not have the patience to wait for the water to be filtered. However, based on the SHG member interviews, the WPF were working properly and were being used by 88% of the beneficiaries. As for the EF ECS, 46% were still working properly and the rest are not functioning anymore.

4.3. Capacity Building

The TSCP project sub-contracted Heifer International to build the capacity of 15 project field facilitators (NUNV, TSCP PIU Staff and Rangers) on the following trainings:

- Heifer Project International-Cornerstones, Village Based Holistic Community Development Model,
- Participatory Self Review and Planning and Self Help Group (SHG) Formation, Project Management and Strengthening;
- Value Based Visioning and Planning for SHG;
- Training of Trainer for Community Development Facilitation.

After the training, NUNV also shared their training experience from Heifer International to the SHG members. They implemented 6 training sessions with 168 participants in total including 144 women.

In year 2009, the UNV programme mainly focused on building the financial management capacity of the SSC and the environmental awareness of the communities that had been mobilized in the three core areas. Before the intensive training sessions and activities on this capacity building, the NUNV had conducted regular meetings and capacity building with the SHG leaders. This included the training of 66 persons including 51 females on SHG establishments and more precisely, on how to do registers on accounting books and general administrative management. An exposure trip was also part of the capacity building of the SHG where 29 members including 17 females visited a local NGO in Kampong Chhnang Province.

⁸ Tonle Sap Bulletin Volume 5, December 2008, pp 13

The NUNV, SSC, TSCP and Rangers were trained by Live and Learn in using the tools developed for EE. Environmental education to the SHG and communities finally commenced through the use of the Live and Learn tools to 135 participants including 106 women. Part of the awareness raising on the environmental issues was the participation of the communities with different activities such as World Environment Day (WED) Celebrations. During the WED, the SSC with the different stakeholders in the area organized the activities and about 499 participants including 306 women attended the celebration.

One of the main training activities for the EE introduced during the third year of the project was the development of Training of Trainers (ToT) for the environmental education in the three core areas. The Monks, Rangers, SSC, the Commune Council were mobilized and trained to be TOT in the three core areas. Having a Monk serving as trainer was very effective in encouraging the community to protect and conserve their natural resources. About 259 community members including 211 women were educated by the Monks using the L&L EE tools.

Another aspect that motivated the key stakeholders in the core areas was the exposure trips that were conducted. By coordinating with the BABSEA project, 41 participants (NUNV facilitators, TSCP staff, SSC, and rangers) visited Batom Sakor National Park and Peam Krasob Ecotourism area in Koh Kong Province. This visit in Koh Kong protected area motivated the communities to strengthen the group to manage their environment and natural resources in their areas as a source of sustainable income and for ecotourism.

The NUNV cooperated with the Cambodian Red Cross (CRC) in conducting first aid training which was attended by 23 beneficiaries. The activities included topics such as basic principles in first aid, bleeding, unconsciousness, respiratory emergency, heart attack, burns and transport of patients, fractures, dog and snake bites, drowning, body hygiene, and malaria. This training was significant and important considering that the area is located far from the health centres and hospitals.

5. Factors and Issues affecting the output of the UNV Intervention.

The evaluation conducted a purposive sampling of the beneficiaries to gather the needed data; however, some of the data collected had no available clear and quantitative baseline to compare with. The analysis of the performance output mainly focused of the Self Help Group (SHG), Alternative Livelihood and the environmental awareness since this is the main I/NUNV intervention.

5.1. Self-Help Group

The survey of 60 respondents determined the age of the members in order to assess if the selection of the members had considered a range of ages especially the younger ones (the next generation that could support conservation of the TSBR in the future). The result in **Table 2** shows that about 40% of the total respondents were ageing 46 years and above and those ageing below 17 was only 2%. Long term planning should take into account the next generation because they will be the next users of the resources; hence to build basis for sustainable use, the voice of the future generation should also be heard. The point here is that, if this young generation will be involved in the SHG group and could start making financial savings now then the possibility for them to set up their own business is greater. The accumulated savings could also be used for school fees when they pursue higher education that could widen their opportunity to work in other places not necessarily related to fishing activities.

The survey determined the extent of gender inclusion with the SHG. Based on the result in **Table 3**, about 73% of the SHG respondents were women and heads of households. It can be seen in the data that none of the men in the SHG were non-heads of the households compared to women non-heads of households which comprised 7%. This could mean that men were less

concerned about savings compared to women in the three core areas and with men as head of households. This result validates the inclusion of gender especially in the formation of the SHG.

The evaluation study looked into the selection of the SHG members and whether the poor had been included in the development; the monthly income of the HHs was determined to assess if the SHG members were still below poverty line based on \$1/day income. Based on the results shown in **Table 4**, there were about 18% respondents who were still under poverty line of \$1/day income and about 55% just above the poverty line threshold. Based on this information, it can be perceived that there may be changes in the income of the SHG members after almost three years of being a member of the SHG.

The housing conditions were also assessed to further determine the economic status of the SHG members. Based on the result in **Table 5**, about 50% of the total respondents were poor based on the conditions of their house with walls and roof made of thatch. However, about 25% of the total respondents are now with wooden walls and roofed with tin sheets. Based on this survey, it can be confirmed that the NUNV mobilized the poor communities during the initial formation of the SHG.

The data in **Table 6** showed that about 82% of the respondents were group members without any position or official designation in the SHGs. Based on the interview, most of the group leaders know more about what is happening with their revolving fund. According to them, the creation of the SSC will give more transparency of the status of each SHG. With this information it is therefore advised that SHG and SSC leaders should put more efforts to motivate their members to become more active and hold positions in their SHG in order to learn and become aware of the progress of their revolving funds.

The interview with the SHG leaders revealed that their service in assisting the group was voluntary and with no compensation. **Table 7** shows that about 97% of the respondents said that the leaders were not getting any benefits from the revolving fund aside from borrowing from the fund as a member. This shows commitment on the part of the leaders to manage the revolving funds considered vital by the SHG members. It is also a vital part of sustaining the increase in the fund and fast proceeds of loans.

In **Table 8**, it can be seen that the length of membership of 93% of the respondents was more than a year. This resulted in SHG strength in managing their savings and funds properly. This also shows a strong ownership of the groups of their savings and revolving funds. However, of the three core areas, it was only in BTC where there were new members. This implies that in BTC there was replication of the SHG with 20% new membership.

Table 9 shows that most of the members (40%) were receiving loans in the range of 201,000 – 400,000 Riel, followed by those receiving 401,000 Riel and above, which was considered to be just enough to start a small alternative livelihood activity such as pig and chicken raising. This also means that there were members sharing more benefits to their groups by paying the interest rates and their revolving funds are therefore, increasing.

The length of the loan payments differed in each core area. **Table 10** shows that about 32% of the loans were payable in 1 month and 3 months. These were the main practices in BTC and PT; however, in SS, loan payments mostly lasted for a 6 month period. **Table 11** shows that in terms of payments, the core areas also differ. In BTC, payments were made in just one month with the capital plus the interest; however, in SS and PT, only the interest was given back to the group. Looking at the efficiency of payment in **Table 12**, it can be noticed that 90% of SHG members in BTC could pay back their loan on time compared to SS and PT where there were some delayed payment at 5% and 35% respectively.

The loan purpose was assessed by comparing it with the UNV 2nd quarterly report in 2009 on the percentage of loan usage of the SHG in the previous years. Based on this report, around 67% of the SHG loan was used for purchasing fish equipment and around 18% was used for business activities. There was a considerable difference when compared to the collected data in **Table 13** which shows that the number of loans which was used for purchasing fish equipment decreased to only 38% of the total respondents. Alternative livelihood activities have increased by 24%. It is significant to note that there was an increase of loans for health issues at 10% in this recent survey compared to just about 4% in the previous survey report.

Attendance in the meeting for the self help groups was vital for the members to be well informed on the progress and status of the group. However, during the survey as shown in **Table 14**, only 70% of the total respondents were attending the regular group meetings. This needs to be addressed by the SSC to inform and get the participation of each member of the group to sustain and replicate the different activities.

Any significant impact and changes in the status of the SHG members were looked into through the assessment of their accumulated assets and savings. Based on the data in **Table 15**, about 40% of the respondent members accumulated assets after becoming a member of the SHG. **Table 16** shows that 100% of the SHG members increased their savings after joining the group.

Borrowing money is part of the community life in the area as coping mechanism to survive and meet their needs for daily food and necessities. The SHG has been a good start for the community to reduce the burden from paying high interest to the village money lender. However, **Table 17** shows that 50% of the SHG members were still borrowing from village money lenders who collect interest of more than 5% per month. The reason they continued to borrow was that they could borrow larger amounts of money (100 USD and higher) from village money lenders compared to the SHG loan which was still limited.

5.2. Livelihood Activities

Table shows that the borrowed money intended for livelihood activity was being used for raising livestock such as pigs and chicken, as well as fish aquaculture by about 56% of the members. Therefore, this activity should be innovated to make it more environmentally friendly especially for the pig and fish raising activities.

Eighty two percent of the members received technical assistance from UNV and from other partners in implementing their new business ventures.

The process of identifying the livelihood activities that the SHG members would engaged in is shown in **Table 19**. The results show that about 69% of the respondents said that the livelihood activities were introduced by the UNV facilitator and only 19% of the respondents said that it came from their own ideas. This response corresponds with the previous analysis of the livelihood activities which had not been replicated because ownership was lacking and the activity was not a demand driven need of the community or households. Moreover, the non-replication could also be attributed to other factors such as market access issues, availability of inputs and applicability of piloted livelihoods without subsidies.

It can be noticed in **Table 20** that there was a good financial return on the different livelihood activities. Results show that about 44% of those implementing livelihood activities could earn

additional income of 40 - 75 USD per month and about 25% of the respondents said they could earn more than 150 USD per month from their livelihood activities. Based on this result, we can say that there could be a possible 100% to 200% increase in income of the SHG members if one takes into account the majority (about 55%) of the SHG members who have an income of \$38 - 75 per month.

Attendance of the members in the commune council planning was a good indication that the community was given the opportunity to share their ideas and to know the development plans being implemented in their area.

As shown in **Table 21**, about 82% of the total respondents received technical support from UNV and from other partners in implementing the new business venture. **Table 22** shows that about 77% of the total respondents received technical assistance (TA) on pig and chicken raising and 17% received TA on vegetable and mushroom production from UNV facilitators and partners.

Attendance of the community members in the commune council planning was a good indication that the community was given the opportunity to share their ideas and to know the development plans being implemented in their area. **Table 23** shows that about 50% of the total respondents attended different commune council meetings. **Table 24** shows that about 35% of the respondents attended the Commune Investment Plan and 7% attended the Planning and monitoring of the commune projects.

5.3. Environmental Awareness

This evaluation measured the awareness of the communities in three core areas through government, NGOs, and community and individual levels. Results show in **Table 25** that about 60% of the total respondents have knowledge about the government policy on environmental management and livelihoods development. Based on this result, the project still needs to work on the remaining members to increase their awareness, especially in the Steung Sen Core area.

Based on the result presented in **Table 26**, the SHG respondents were highly aware of the different activities that affect the changes in fish catch. These include illegal fishing according to 48% of the total respondents and over fishing because of the increase of population according to 37% of the respondents. **Table 27** shows the awareness of the SHG members on the causes of changes to the flooded forest. According to 52% of the respondents, the main activity that causes the flooded forest destruction was the cutting and expansion of agricultural areas.

Table 28 shows the group activities identified by the respondents where 50% suggested strengthening law enforcement and 30% asked to continue EE to other members of the community. According to 45% of the total respondents as shown in **Table 29** communities should have strong participation in the environmental awareness raising around the core areas and 25% said that everyone should report illegal activities to relevant authorities.

The result in the SHG members' interview on environmental awareness and the knowledge of the different activities needs to be disseminated in the three core areas which were being supported with the knowledge shared by the key leaders in those areas. The different responses of the key leaders regarding the environment and the different management of the different actors can be found in **Annex 7**.

The perception and opinion of the SHG regarding the UNV intervention was also assessed during the time of SHG interviews. **Table 33** shows the different opinions of the communities in the three core areas regarding the UNV intervention. The main issue that should be remembered

and could have an important impact on the community is the formation of the SHG and the promotion of the WPF and EFECs. It can be noticed that of the three areas, BTC has the highest number of responses among the SHG respondents regarding environmental education activities that the UNV had supported these during the intervention.

6. Assessment of Overall UNV Intervention

6.1. Relevance

The relevance of the UNV intervention was looked into during the evaluation in terms of the fit of the intervention into the overall goals and objectives of TSCP which is building management capacity for biodiversity conservation in TSBR. The intervention of the UNV falls on output 3.1.4 of this goal through the Identification of income-generating activities that directly threaten biodiversity in the Core Areas, and the development of alternative livelihoods to modify these activities.

The intervention was highly responsive to the needs of the poor in the three core areas. It has developed solidarity, reciprocity and trust of the community members in each other through the creation

The UNV intervention was able to identify the different threats through training and working with the direct users of the natural resources. The setting up of the SHG group of the poor and direct users of these resources were unified to work on the conservation of the natural resources and start the development and management of alternative livelihoods of each family through their accumulated group fund.

The output of the identification of threats to natural resources contributes to the achievement of the following:

- Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 7 on ensuring environmental sustainability;
- MDG 1 on eradicating extreme poverty and hunger through the development of alternative livelihoods of the communities;
- UNDP Cambodia Country Programme Action Plan 2006-10 of sustainable livelihoods for poverty reduction and conservation;
- The National GEF Strategy for Cambodia 2008-14 of increased community awareness of protected areas; and
- UNDAF 2006-2010, on the empowerment of local communities in sustainable use of natural resources and in environmental protection and enhanced capacity to manage risks and respond to natural and man-made disasters and crises.

The heightening of environmental awareness of the communities and their participation in the enhancement and protection of the natural resources in the three core areas supports the Royal Government of Cambodia's Rectangular Strategy which promotes the local communities participation directly, actively and equitably in fisheries plans, programs and management and to the Cambodia National Strategic Development Plan 2006-10 of increased community awareness of biodiversity.

The intervention was highly responsive to the needs of the poor in the three core areas during the implementation. It demonstrates and develops further solidarity, reciprocity and trust of the community from each other through the creation of the SHG. The formation of the SHG provided the family members access to seed capital with low interest rates compared to money lenders in the villages. The SHG members also ensured that their accumulated savings could support the families in the case of emergencies especially health related needs. The identification of

alternative income generating activities for the poor encouraged them to increase their income and address their basic needs such as food and health. Enhancing people's environmental awareness, protection and conservation of the fishery and other resources is vital to sustain the livelihoods of the poor who depend heavily on these resources for their daily consumption. The intervention is still relevant at completion because it will serve as a model for replication in the remaining two years of the TSCP implementation until the end of 2011.

6.2. Effectiveness and Appropriateness of Approaches

6.2.1. Effectiveness

This evaluation looked into the extent the results of the UNV intervention met the defined purpose and objectives. Overall, the UNV intervention met the defined output in the implementation of the project through the identification of the direct users and poor families in the three core areas and the different ways they harvest and use their natural resources. The identified groups were organized and formed into SHG, which were supported with different kinds of training to develop their skills on project and financial management and alternative livelihoods. Finally, these groups were supported with education, materials and tools to continue to advocate for the conservation of the fisheries and other natural resources through replication and training of the other members of the communities.

However, it will still take some time to fully conclude the interventions' effectiveness as community organizing is not an overnight activity that will give immediate results and success towards sustainability that enable the beneficiaries to manage themselves without direct support. The communities in the remote areas, especially in the flooded areas, have little access to different infrastructure such as schools causing limited levels of education and heavy dependence on natural resources for survival. Therefore, continued support from the government and other institutions pursuing development, especially in this sector, should cooperate hand in hand to develop a holistic approach that can assist these communities not only on their capacity but the need to include physical resources such as infrastructure where they and their children could learn and fully internalize what the project is aiming for.

Pilot alternative livelihood activities were identified and tested in three core areas as part of the intervention; however, it seems that the identified livelihoods did not come from community demand driven needs and knowledge. These activities were seen by the evaluation team as somewhat ineffective because almost none of them were being replicated.

The environmental education was seen to be effective through the result of FGD's with the SSC, commune council, Monks and Rangers in the three core areas. However, again, the EE needs to be replicated by the other members even just with the SHG to volunteer in advocating and internalizing the protection and enhancement of the natural resources for their sustainability. The training of the Monks to become environmental trainers was very effective especially when they were conducting EE with the communities and in schools. Culturally, great respect has been given to the Monks. Through the Monks' volunteerism in conducting training, EE and the protection of natural resources, the people understand more about the concept of UNV Volunteerism for peace and development. The exposure trips of the leaders and other key stakeholders into the successful areas with the same intervention is an effective activity of the UNV and the TSCP in motivating and helping this group become more innovative and creative. However, this was just implemented in the last part of the UNV intervention where a follow-up is highly recommended to the TSCP/UNDP to sustain the momentum of these groups.

The environmental education was imparted to the SHG members on the final year of the NUNV intervention. Internalization and impact of this activity on the SHG members can be seen when compared with the purpose of the SHG members' loan during the first two years of the NUNV intervention against the collected data during the visit. The NUNV 2nd quarterly report of 2009 indicated that about 68% of the SHG members used their loans to buy fishing equipment thereby

putting additional pressure onto the fishing grounds and only 17% used their loans for non-fishing livelihood or business activities. But during the field visit, the team marked that the SHG members using their loan for buying fish equipments was only 38% (a decrease of about 30% from the previous years). It can be noted also that the use of loans for livelihood activities (not related to fishing activities) was at 24%, an increase of about 7% from the previous years. Therefore from this result one can say that the heightening of environmental awareness of the SHG members had an impact on their livelihood activities and this helped to reduce the pressure on the fishing ground inside the conservation areas. The continuous environmental education of the communities in the core areas will therefore help them to understand why they have to reduce the pressure in the fishing grounds and pursue alternative livelihood activities that can support their families. Supporting the SHG leaders and chosen trainers to continue conducting environmental education to more stakeholders can therefore ensure change in the future.

6.2.2. Appropriateness

For the UNV intervention, the strategy for the project inception was an ideal approach; however, in the actual implementation there were some changes that affected the effective implementation of the intervention. For example, the different number of UNVs deployed and the issue of preparedness on what and how to implement the activities in the field. The volunteers were not fully supported with technical support from TSCP because of some issues of top-down and output based management approaches which hindered some of the target plan activities⁹. This could be observed in the TSBR Bulletin Report of 2008, particularly the number of SHG in 22 groups in the three core areas during the time without proper coordination and only 12 groups in the core areas when the coordination was put in place in 2009. This was later validated by the evaluation team with the different key stakeholders of the project which included the management, staff and different partners of the project.

On the other hand, the evaluation team could conclude that the other changes of the strategy were effective, especially the immersion of the UNV in the communities for more than two years. Immersion is a very important part of organizing mainly when the objective is to find in the area who really needs help and who really wants change. The UNV cooperated closely with the communities on a day to day basis in the three core areas which had not been done by most of the development workers, government officials or NGOs. However, this would have been more effective if the NUNV were properly supported on the technical aspect of organizing the communities in the early stages of the intervention. It was only on the latter part that NUNV were properly supported technically when an International United Nations Volunteer (IUNV) was hired by the project.

Volunteerism has been an effective approach integrated in the TSCP project. Its value has been properly exercised by the NUNV through spending most of their time in understanding the needs and aspirations of the poor communities in the three core areas on a daily basis. The evaluation team observed that most of the steering committees adopted the volunteerism that the NUNV shared with them. During the visits most of the members showed their interest and continued seeking the assistance of the UNV especially on the financial management aspect. Time was devoted by the SSC taking advantage of the NUNV is in the area and this certainly shows their concern and commitment. It is the same way with the Monks who devoted their time in conducting environmental education to the community and schools. The Monks showed volunteerism doing activities that can protect and enhance the natural resources in the core areas, with these initiatives increasing the number of the communities that will be reached and internalize the teachings. The volunteerism of rangers to patrol day and night is commendable particularly as they are compensated with a small allowance only. However, the evaluation team believed that if all of these recent actors could replicate themselves to show volunteerism and

⁹ Based on the TSCP/UNDP/UNV management and staff interviews

internalize this value, then the future of the natural resources and sustainable livelihoods of this community which heavily depends on these resources would be assured.

Partnership was incorporated into the project implementation; experienced partners were sub-contracted especially for the capacity building activities. This was an effective strategy but it could produce more if there was a longer contract with these partners, not necessarily for the whole implementation of the project, but at least for follow up activities on the progress of the capacity already being trained. Refresher courses are very important especially to the beneficiaries with limited education to go beyond a better capacity in management, implementation, and innovation of the different activities to a higher level which could reach a wider number of beneficiaries, not necessarily in the three core areas, but around the TSBR. Volunteerism has reached partners as they understand more about the concept and values of the UNV commitment in helping and developing the communities in the core areas to manage and sustain their resources.

Local government cooperation was minimal, and was not very effective during the first years of implementation. The project was implemented by the MoE, but it would be more effective if during the implementation there was already wide collaboration with the different government ministries and departments active in the core areas. The intervention of the UNV was mainly focused on strengthening the SHG capacity but it would be more effective if this group were linked to a wider organization either with the local government in the area or with the Community Based Organization (CBO) and other NGOs that could assist the group to more opportunities for development.

Women were very effective in solving issues and conflicts regarding financial management especially on the SHG revolving fund such as late and non payment of members.

Integration of gender concerns was found to have been adequately addressed. This view is based on the formation of the SHG in which about 85% of the members were women. The SSC members have almost 90% women attending different kinds of capacity building activities in financial and environmental conservation. Gender equity was found to be always considered in community interventions such as training and other activities.

Based on informal interviews with the SSC women leaders and NUNV staff, women were very effective in solving issues and conflicts regarding financial management especially on the SHG revolving fund such as late and non payment of members. With this skill, the men were giving the full rights to women to manage and decide for the SHG revolving fund especially in solving issues. According to the women most of them were also the ones deciding on where they wanted to use their loans from the SHG revolving fund.

Environmental awareness was also observed to be high among the women leaders. During the FGD women were allowed to group together and share their knowledge and understanding regarding the conservation and protection of the environment. The result of the FGD shows that women have high understanding of their environment and the different management options for the conservation of the natural resources. They also showed confidence in sharing this knowledge to the group and were given respect by the men while they were doing their presentations. According to them they used to do EE on a regular basis not necessarily with a formal presentation; therefore, they had gained expertise in sharing this to other members of the community

The evaluation team was not able to carry out a visit to observe the decision making power of the women within the family because of the limited time allotted for this evaluation. However, it was observed during the visit that the women could stay late at night outside their houses especially when they were seeking for the assistance from the NUNV on their SHG activities.

The immersion of the UNV is one of the main interventions which had the greatest impact on the development of the key beneficiaries. It caused internalization among the SHG members of the value of working together to achieve a positive and lasting change in their lives.

6.3. Impact

As mentioned in the above discussion, immersion is one of the main interventions which had the greatest impact on the development of the key beneficiaries. The immersion caused internalization among the SHG members of the value of working together to achieve a positive and lasting change in their lives. With the formation of the SHG, the enhancement of the values of solidarity, reciprocity and trust among families and to the communities as a whole was ignited once again to work together for the conservation of their environment and to sustain the natural resources as a source of their livelihood. The creation of the revolving fund has had a great impact on the families that previously depended mainly on money lenders. Through this seed capital, the community could start new opportunities to assist families attain better lives and consequently, reduce pressure on the natural resources which are their main source of livelihood.

It was realized that the implementation could have greater impact if the community or the stakeholders were given the chance to actively participate in the development. It can be observed that the SHGs and steering committees are being more responsible in managing the funds that they have put up and for the other activities they have been implementing such as environmental education. This is a sign of empowerment of the stakeholders where they are now more committed and responsible to manage the small funds that they have raised and to take care of these funds for their future. However, there is still a need for close monitoring of the group implementation in which the groups have not yet reached the critical mass. Replication of the group and evolving to an association or linking it with the existing CBO is an ideal move to reach a greater number of communities who will pursue the goal of the project to achieve a greater impact in TSBR.

The communities have started to suggest some concrete ideas and activities on how they are going to protect and conserve the natural resources.

The environmental awareness raising initiated by the development groups and institutions in the core areas also assisted the UNV to advance the awareness of the community into a higher level (e.g. putting the theory into action). The communities have started to suggest some concrete activities/ideas on how they are going to protect and conserve the natural resources. For example, some groups requested the project set up a floating platform for the garbage of the communities during the flooding season. Some requested support for the reforestation of the flooded forest areas that had been cleared whereas, others suggested the setting up of fish sanctuaries or protected areas. These concrete activities are now being realized by the stakeholders and the communities in the area. Close coordination of the different groups pursuing conservation to implement and sustain these activities in the area are still in question,

as it is not certain how they can unify and reduce the overlapping of activities to achieve more impact and become more efficient in the implementation of the identified activities as a whole.

It was also mentioned in the TSCP MTR that during the early stage of the implementation that the project approach was more of an activity-based management rather than a result-based management (RBM)¹⁰. It was only on the final year of the UNV that an RBM approach was recognized and implemented. If this approach had been adopted during the early stage of the project implementation, then there would have been more results or impact compared to what it has achieved until now.

6.3.1. UNV Impact to the Communities

6.3.1.1. Communication

One of the significant changes brought about by the UNV into the community especially to the SHG leaders was the development of their communication skills and self esteem. These skills and confidence were acquired by the SHG and SSC leaders from the training on capacity building and exposure trips in other places with successful experiences of networking and community organizing. The SHG leaders and members can now express and lobby community needs and issues with local authorities such as the village chiefs, commune councils and other government institutions and NGOs working in the village. This is supported by the collected data from the field showing that about 50% of the SHG member respondents had participated in the community development meetings of the commune councils. It was also observed during the FGD that women were trained to facilitate and express their ideas in the group with confidence showing sensible recommendations in the management of the natural resources towards its sustainability. Dissemination of information especially related to the conservation and protection of the natural resources, and other community development projects by the government and NGOs are now easily informed to the community especially to the SHG members. The SHG also became a venue for its members to share their experiences and issues within their family and community, which serve as lessons learnt to everyone.

6.3.1.2. Leadership

Shaping the development and commitment of community leaders especially in remote areas where communities have limited education is always a challenge to social development workers. But this challenge became an inspiration to the UNV staff who not only formed 15 SHGs and 3 SSC but also made them and the community aware of their roles and responsibilities in the core areas. This challenge was addressed by the UNV with daily coaching, mentoring and guiding of SHG leaders on how to facilitate monthly meetings, address group and financial issues, manage loans and funds, and share their learning and experiences to their group members. This was further supported by the TSCP/UNV by organizing training, seminars and exchange visits which shaped these SHG leaders to improve their skills and capacities to manage their SHG to its sustainability. According to the SHG leaders even after the UNV or TSCP project ends, they are now comfortable and committed to continue their activities by themselves not only because they are getting benefits from their loans and savings but because of the organizational and financial management skills and capacities they have gained from the UNV/TSCP interventions.

"Cambodian people offer great respect to the Monks and whatever the Monks say is always given the highest trust and is fully accepted and implemented"

6.3.1.3. Advocacy

¹⁰ Mid Term Evaluation of the Tonle Sap Conservation Project, Cambodia pp 15

One significant contribution of the UNV in advocacy for the conservation and protection of natural resources was the involvement of religious entities and women in the environmental awareness efforts. Buddhism is the main religion in Cambodia and has great concern for communities' socio-cultural development. Communities show the highest respect and trust to the Monks who lead them into prayers for success and a good future. The UNV initiated the move and invited the Monks in the core areas to attend the seminar and training on environmental education conducted by the Association of Buddhists for the Environment (ABE). ABE had extensive experience in Cambodia advocating for the conservation and protection of the environment. According to them "Cambodian people offer great respect to the Monks and whatever the Monks will say is always given the highest trust and is fully accepted and implemented". This was demonstrated after the Monks voluntarily conducted environmental education with the community and schools; most of the participants were very eager to hear what the Monks were teaching and sharing regarding the conservation and protection of the environment. This could be observed also in the 499 attendees of the world environment day celebration led by the UNV, TSCP, Monks, SHG, Rangers, and CC.

The women especially the SHG group members and the SSC leaders contribute a big part in advocating the conservation of the natural resources in the core areas. The UNV trained them to conduct environmental education in their families, neighbours and groups. They were also trained and instructed to be more vigilant in reporting illegal activities to authorities when they observed the conservation areas, since most of the time they are in their houses which are in close proximity to the conservation area.

6.3.1.4. **Trust**

One of the good values that has been missing among communities for a long time is their trust in each other because of the past unrest experience of the country. The UNV intervention was able to enhance this value once again by working closely with the SHG members on the policy and management of their revolving fund. This was demonstrated by the SHG, allowing each member to borrow from the fund without any collateral but trust that they would pay it back. After almost three years, trust can be felt strongly from the SHG - the evidence shows that the revolving funds of the SHG are still intact and increasing.

The trust that has been enhanced by the UNV to this community is not only within the group but to their providers such as the government and NGOs. Before the communities felt that they were abandoned by the government. This resulted in less participation of the communities in the development of their village. The UNV intervention has changed this perception through the integration of community activities within the whole village especially partnership with local authorities, government institutions working in the area, and different NGOs. From this initiative of the UNV, trust and participation of the communities with the government and other development workers were enhanced and become stronger. This was supported by the information that the commune council in the core areas were now acting as the advisor of the SHG steering committee.

6.3.1.5. **Participation**

As it was mentioned in the previous discussion the SHG members who were previously afraid of participating with community development are now voicing their needs, issues and ideas to the commune councils and other institutions in the area. This was supported with the data that about 50% of the SHG members were able to attend and participate in the commune council meeting regarding community development activities. Some SHGs were also given the chance to cooperate with the commune council in developing proposals for livelihood activities. The SHGs were also closely cooperating with different partners such as Live and Learn, the Monks, WCS and other stakeholders in conducting environmental education in the core areas.

6.3.1.6. **Pride**

Acquiring capacity and skills as SHG leaders and managing the finances of the SHG have been a source of pride for the communities to boast of. Another source of pride developed by the UNV intervention was the accumulation of savings of every SHC member. In the past the SHG members didn't know where to get funding every time that a family member was sick or experienced emergency needs. They were not able to attend ceremonies which were considered as a special part of community recognition in Cambodia. When the SHG members started to accumulate savings, some of these needs started being addressed.

6.3.1.7. **Volunteerism**

The UNV sharing of skills has changed a number of lives in the core areas. A number of the SHG members learned how to lead and manage their own groups because of the patience of the UNV in shaping their leadership and financial management capacities. The SHG has adapted this value by sharing their learning to other members. This was further demonstrated by sharing their knowledge regarding conservation of the natural resources in the areas hoping to sustain these for the next generation.

6.4. Efficiency

6.4.1. SHG Cost-Efficiency

Intervention efficiency is the measure of resources used against the results achieved and also known as a value-for-money measurement. Value for money of outputs over inputs to the project or cost-efficiency was attempted in the SHG since this is the major activity and achievement of the UNV intervention by using cumulative Annual Reports from UNV from 2007-2009.

Initially, SHG's capitals were sourced from TSCP/UNDP TRAC FUND committing the amount of 31,412.40 USD to subsidize the SHG members to buy the EFECs/CWP as credit and/or in cash, but in the actual and final contribution, the SHG received 29,302.23 USD. These funds were divided and deposited into individual SHG Savings Accounts. The SHG Leaders managed this capital as revolving funds for the SHG members to enhance their livelihoods and/or utilize for other household's purposes. Currently, the capital of the each SHG in the core areas is significantly increased; the total funds of the four SHG in Steung Sen have increased to 11,979 USD, the five SHG in Boeung Tonle Chhmar to USD 12,222¹¹, and the three SHG in Prek Toal to 9,251 USD, having a grand total of 33,452 USD in the three core areas (these figures were reported during the evaluation period). **Figure 1** below shows the increasing trend of the SHG revolving funds by percentages in the three project core areas. These results show that the build-up of the SHG capital is through their own initiative; therefore, the ownership and commitment to sustain this activity can be achieved. Hence, this system of accumulation of capital and savings of the SHG is considered cost efficient.

Self Help Group Revolving Funds and Savings

The best thing about the SHG revolving fund was the members accumulated more funding with their own initiatives. These initiatives included the selling and buying of the EFECs and CWP that were first subsidized by the TSCP/UNV implementation. Another was the implementation of the different livelihood activities funded by the TSCP/UNV, and depositing the income/profit gained from these activities in the SHG account.

The accumulated fund became the revolving fund of the SHG members and they could borrow with an interest rate of 2%. The 2% interest rate became the savings (1%) of the member who

¹¹ This budget does not include the capital of the three new SHG recently established in Boeung Tonle Chhmar core areas (2,036,400R= USD 5,009)

borrowed and additional funds of 1% to the revolving fund. Savings could only be withdrawn in case of emergency or else it was used as part of the revolving fund.

The members could borrow on a monthly basis as long as they had paid the previous interest or the full amount of their loan. From this system the accumulation of the revolving fund and savings of the group became faster.

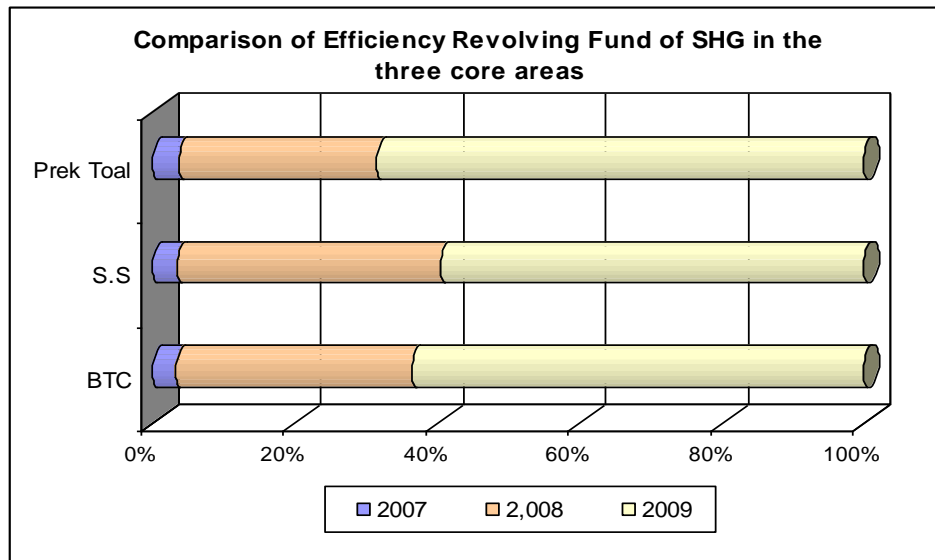


Figure 1 Comparison of Fund Accumulation by the SHG in the Three Core Areas

6.4.2. Fund Usage Cost Efficiency

This evaluation did not measure inputs against actual costs, since this is best addressed by an audit and is outside the scope of the evaluation. Also, there are some issues regarding the limitation of close monitoring of the UNV Office on the field level expenses due to limited technical/field oversight¹². But an indication of fund usage may be seen in the UNV Progress Summary, provided by the UNV Office.

6.4.3. Efficiency of the UNV Intervention

Other concerns for efficiency relate to how well the UNV intervention managed the implementation. Closely related to this is the sub-contracting approach of TSCP/UNDP to assist the UNV in the implementation of the pilot of alternative livelihoods. Overall, the partnership selection was seen to be sound. TSCP/UNDP inter-institutional cooperation was adopted in contracts/grants for specific work packages or agreed project services. However, it is quite difficult for expert partners to have sustainable programs as most of them have limited funding. For example, the case of sub-contracting Heifer International and CEDAC which only lasted for a few days without the plan of follow up activities to assess the progress and achievements during the implementation. Another example is the training and capacity building of facilitators and beneficiaries which was conducted outside the core areas by sub-contracted partners which mostly lacked backgrounds in what was really happening in the locality of the core areas. The TSCP/UNDP had some constraints also in the selection and sub-contracting the right partners since they did not know what was really needed of the facilitators and the beneficiaries. There should be a training needs assessment (TNA) done by all parties including the sub-contractors before contracting the right partners for the training and activities. This would be better

¹² Closure of bank account for UNV component under the TSCP, July 2009

implemented if there was close participation of all parties including the sub-contractor in the analysis of what the facilitators and beneficiaries really need.

The efficiency could also be measured through time slippage; during the initial UNV intervention there are activities that should have been implemented such as the implementation of different activities that would replace the activities that threaten the biodiversity. However, because of the bureaucratic system and the line of approving officers from the TSCP to UNDP, most of the planned activities were delayed during the actual implementation. The human resources capacity of the initial facilitators also affected the delay of the implementation of the activities; if the project had hired the international specialist in the initial implementation of the project then the CMF could have been guided in the right direction as it was in the final year of intervention of the UNV.

6.5. Sustainability

The sustainability of the main interventions of the UNV with the SHG is seen by this evaluation as still uncertain; it is true that the community has internalized the value of working and saving together; however, institutionalizing the groups just started by the formation of SSC and they are still in the form of committees without legal recognition from the government. The cooperation with the entire constituent of the TSCP such as rangers, PIU and other key stakeholders has also just started. If this cooperation is not facilitated and guided further then these groups could collapse and decide to just divide the funds they have accumulated among themselves. It is therefore absolutely vital that the SHG and the SSC should be linked firmly to the whole TSCP implementation and to government, NGOs and to the community based organizations that are legally registered to monitor their activities and functionality, including the implementation of their activities. The linkages and the momentum have just been started; the need for close coaching and guidance to sustain the planned work plan and activities still exist.

The piloted livelihood activities were seen by the evaluation team as not sustainable based on the results of data collection, observation and analysis. Although there were some activities identified by the communities which are becoming common livelihoods of the communities using the revolving fund of the SHG like pig and chicken raising, these activities are causing adverse effects such as adding effluent to the water. Therefore, the project should consider how this problem could be solved via recycling and reducing the effect to the environment.

The environmental education and awareness raising was seen to be a fairly sustainable activity because of the replication of the ToT and the identification of key volunteers who can continue the activities such as Monks, teachers and the commune councils. The question is how all of these key stakeholders can work together to achieve more sustaining activities and greater impact to the conservation of the TSBR as a whole.

Immersion and living with the community gives more access for the facilitator to get more information about the real needs and issues of the communities

6.6. Good Practice

There were several good practices that can be identified from the UNV intervention. During the project years, TSCP/UNDP/UNV gained unique knowledge and experiences which can be used to achieve even better results in the models of intervention for TSBR conservation. The team has good case studies of specific projects and their impact on the beneficiaries and their communities. But good practices in terms of the different interventions needs to be integrated into the reporting system. This is to ensure that they are documented and shared among the

partners and other development agencies as part of sharing lessons learned, encouraging replication and drawing in other development actors to support the TSCP/UNDP/UNV initiatives.

Good practices identified by the evaluation team were volunteerism, encouraging participation from wider groups of people (including monks, teacher, and children, having good cooperation between government, local NGO partners, the private sector and community groups, enhancing awareness towards mobilizing people to action, and providing capacity building) and towards sustaining the natural resources with long-lasting impacts on poverty reduction and conservation. Drawing good practices and lessons learned was mainly through the review of UNV intervention and from discussions with TSCP, partners and staff.

- a. Gender issues were included well in the UNV Intervention. The most notable measures are in the SHG group formation with almost 85% of the members being women. In most of the communities, the presence and participation of beneficiaries in capacity building either in financial management or environmental awareness activities was mobilized by the UNV facilitators. This was achieved by the UNV through visits and encouragement of the women to participate in meetings and relevant trainings.
- b. The immersion of the UNV in the core areas in day to day cooperation with the communities through identification and assisting the poor and needy through a revolving fund from SHG served as a model to tackle the multidimensional nature of poverty. This approach is built on solidarity, reciprocity and trust among community members to bring about lasting benefits for all, especially the poorest and most vulnerable families in the area. About 400 families benefited from this intervention of the project. Immersion and living with the community gives more access for the facilitator to get more information about the real issues of the communities thus the participation in conservation is more sustainable. There is a positive attitudinal and behaviour change in the community especially if they are always being reminded by their neighbours about their future. They understand that if they help each other and work together a positive and lasting change can be achieved, such as the conservation of their natural resources, and then sustainability can be ensured. This value now serves as a guiding principle for the communities to take care of their resources on their own.
- c. The savings habits of the communities have changed. Based on the results of the survey, 100% of the SHG have their own savings within their groups. This habit of the communities insures them against any emergencies that could be faced by the family especially regarding their health needs. The savings have also motivated the communities' social involvement where most of the members could attend ceremonies through the use of their revolving fund from the groups. This value was achieved by the persistence of the UNV to share the importance of having savings during times of adversity.
- d. Inclusion is considered as a good practice of organizing the key users of the resources. The mobilization and integration of the communities to attend in the development of the Commune Investment Plan and share their ideas shows greater participation of the poor communities in the development of their areas. The voluntary participation of the Monks in environmental education encourages almost all of the communities in the village with the eagerness to attend, hear and see what messages of the Monks have. This motivation to the communities was achieved by the UNV through getting the trust of this sector by ensuring that their voice will be heard by the local authorities.
- e. Heightening the awareness of communities is the foundation of a higher level of environmental intervention. In the conservation of the environment and natural resources, stakeholders need to be aware of the existing laws on biodiversity conservation and the

different ways of managing interventions to advance to a higher level of action and implementation such as reforestation, solid waste management, releasing of fish fingerlings in the natural areas, setting up of protected areas, etc. The UNV intervention and the TSCP project implementation including the different NGOs promoting EE is a good practice to motivate and encourage the communities to manage their resources to a higher level.

6.7. Lessons Learned

- a. Volunteerism is expecting no returns but ensures the development of our brothers and sisters. This is a treasure and great value which everyone should possess to eliminate poverty and achieve a fairer world. Volunteering should be internalized not only in words but in the deepest part of our heart (**Neak Smak Chet in Khmer**) to deliver good results and successes. This was demonstrated by the UNV by leaving their families and living with the communities. This was appreciated by the community and in return they followed this as a model.
- b. A complex structure sometimes makes things more complicated such as multidisciplinary systems, i.e. someone doing the technical assistance and the other the administrative assistance. Sometimes this results in miscommunications and misunderstandings within the project team. This affects the whole implementation process especially for the beneficiaries. Delays and cancellations of planned activities affect the outcome and impacts of the project goals and objectives, and thus the effectiveness and efficiency of the project suffers. In future projects especially, UNV partnerships with other institutions should provide total management to the partners, especially with regard to both technical and administrative support to the NUNV.
- c. The bottom up approach has been tested in many areas of development. The right holders are the only ones who can really manage and take care of their own wealth in their areas. With the support of the government and different development institutions in empowering these right holders through support for capacity building and human rights development, a greater assurance of successful outcomes could be achieved.
- d. Understanding of the deeper causes of poverty and the needs of the poor could not normally be done in just a few visits to an area. Deep penetration through immersion has a higher chance of gaining the trust of the communities to share their miseries, dreams and aspirations; thus change could start from there.
- e. Communities working and caring for each other can achieve a positive and lasting change in their lives, to their neighbours and to their environment. The formation of the self help groups demonstrates this with about 400 Households having their own savings within the group.
- f. Training of Trainers serves to replicate development effectively by passing skills and knowledge to a wider number of facilitators and beneficiaries. Advocating volunteerism which is in the heart of the UNV intervention encourages a larger number of trainers to volunteer.
- g. Contracting partners should not only facilitate training but also be part of the training needs analysis of the trainees. As much as possible the training for the beneficiaries should be done in the place where the implementation will be conducted so that there will be a more realistic understanding of the situation and area. The conducted training needs to be followed up especially on the progress of the implementation in the field to determine what is lacking and what is needed to support the effectiveness of the intervention.

- h. The partnerships with the communities are crucial for the successful implementation of any project. Working closely with communities is not always a smooth process; organizing, mobilizing resources and people and ensuring management and participation are all time consuming activities and time needs to be properly allocated for this.
- i. The system of assisting the SHG to accumulate capital in their fund on their own initiative by not providing cash, but EFECs/CWP and livelihood projects instead, shows greater ownership from the group and commitment; therefore, it can ensure sustainability.

7. Scope for Improvement

Based on the result of the evaluation, the UNV intervention of developing the SHG in the core areas need to hold its momentum in relation to the development of the SSC. In view of this, it is recommended to have at least a one year extension to further support the SSC leaders to become volunteers doing the same activities that the UNV implemented during the project. The UNV will just guide and coach these new community volunteers to fulfil the recommendations below. The UNV will follow up the activities once or twice a month to ensure that the activities planned are achieved. With the progress of the implementation, especially with regard to human resources, it has been observed that the NUNV still needs technical support especially in mobilizing and organizing the community. With the activities identified for the SSC, the evaluation recommends a six-month IUNV support to the NUNV to achieve the planned activities

The SHG Steering Committee (SSC) still needs the full support of the project, and if the UNV will not extend its intervention the SSC development should be turned over to TSCP project management so that TSCP team can support the leaders in building further capacities. While building their capacities the SSC should be linked with other legally recognised organizations at the local, provincial and national level. The SSC should first be linked with the Community Fisheries Organization (CFiO) as a committee on SHG since many of the members are already members of the CFi Organization. The SSC through the endorsement of the CFi Organization should be linked with the Commune Investment Plan especially with the project TSSLP and other related projects that support certain livelihood activities. Through the CFi Organization the SSC should start preparing a proposal to be submitted to different NGOs, and INGOs supporting CBO and SHG such as Heifer International, etc.

The CFi Organization should start to work closely with the SSC in developing SHG within the organization in order to empower every member to be more active in participating with the different activities of the CFiO. The CFiO should strengthen the organization through cooperation and coordination with the local, provincial and national authorities. They are also encouraged to develop their network with the same CFiO in the TSBR and different NGOs and INGOs working in the area through support of their activities The CFiO leaders should already be attending conferences of CBOs and NGOs at the national level and they should be included in the list of NGOs in Cambodia through CCC.

The SHGs should also start supporting each other in building their group capacities. Leadership should be passed on to other members every year in order to empower each member and spread understanding about the responsibilities. Each SHG needs to be encouraged to devise solutions on livelihood activities such as livestock production, which has potential for biogas and fertilizer from the effluent. They could also start enhancing the skills of each other by sharing and cooperating in beneficial activities such as sewing, motor mechanics, electrical repairs, etc. or they can start to attend informal education. Other self help groups could start thinking of activities related to conservation such as reforestation where they can set up a flooded forest nursery where they can sell the seedlings to the different organizations implementing

reforestation such as ABE, Live and Learn, WCS, etc. Other SHG should do ecotourism activities through setting up suitable places for tourists to visit and stay. It is also important that the marketing system of the ecotourism will be promoted by the members. The SHGs need to become more active in different activities with group initiative to get more participation and ownership. Through this unified action they can achieve a positive and lasting change in their own areas. There should be group recognition every year during the World Environment Day since they have already started celebrating this day. There, the best group of the year should receive an award for their achievement and through this, more groups will be encouraged and motivated to do their best in the coming year.

The individual members of the SHG should strive to come up with their own Individual Household Plans (IHP) especially on the identification of activities they think could be supported by the SHG fund such as alternative livelihoods. Education is one of the key points to improve the chances for the next generation and to reduce the use of and pressure on fisheries and other natural resources. It would be beneficial for the SHG to encourage the younger generation to participate in the activities in order to allow them to develop their savings with the SHG. On environmental education, the young generation should start to organize their own groups and clubs advocating conservation and protection of the environment.

Environmental Education should continue to be implemented especially with the ToT groups that have been identified such as the Monks, Rangers, SSC and the SHG. The ToT is operating on a voluntary basis among the groups that can be replicated in other areas. The planned activities by the TSCP/UNDP in schools need to be pursued. Those groups that have higher awareness should be supported to implement actual activities that will enhance and conserve natural resources.

Partnerships should continue to be strengthened including existing partnerships such as Heifer International, ILO, Live and Learn, WCS, ABE, Osmose, CEDAC, etc., to follow up the progress for further assistance in development especially for the CFiO which includes the rangers and SSC. Close cooperation with local authorities has the same importance since there are a number of development funds from the government that are intended for community development and these could be accessed easier if they were recognized as an institution. TSSLP which is working directly with the commune investment plan is a good opportunity to form linkages with the CFiO which is working closely with the CIP right now. This could be facilitated by the TSCP.

The UNV Office still has to work closely with the TSCP for two remaining years even if the UNV decides not to extend the intervention. The two institutions have to unify the rangers and SHG. The project has to ensure that the two committees will become part of the CFiO with defined functions. Through this, more benefits will be generated; also, more can be achieved by working together in proposing and lobbying for more productive activities in the core areas.

8. Conclusion

The UNV intervention has achieved the target activities in the inception of the UNDP/JTF proposal and achieved the target output for the TSCP project. The project identified the current activities of the communities having impacts on biodiversity like the cutting of flooded forest for fuel and clearing of the area for agricultural purposes. Based on these findings, the TSCP/UNV project introduced the use of EFECs and CWP to reduce the use of fuel wood for cooking and boiling water. Over-fishing and illegal fishing activities were also identified as having an adverse effect on the population and species composition of fish in the TSBR. Based on this, the project identified the direct user groups and mobilized them to form into SHG. The SHG group was supported in various capacities related to organizational, financial and environmental management and alternative livelihoods such as mushroom growing, floating vegetable growing,

fish culture, and ecotourism development. The intervention also identified SHG leaders, Rangers, CC and Monks as community volunteers and trained them as Trainers to conduct environmental awareness raising in the areas. The communities showed a positive response and interest in the protection and conservation of the natural resources, solid waste management activities, reforestation of flooded forest areas, reporting of illegal fishing activities to authorities, and enhancement and protection of protected areas by sharing their knowledge with their families and neighbours.

The overall UNV intervention has contributed to the empowerment of the poor communities in terms of the development of communication and management skills, improved community involvement, building trust and taking pride in serving the community and fostering the spirit of volunteerism among the SHG members and other stakeholders.

Although the output has been achieved, further strengthening and replication still needs to be supported by the TSCP project for the final two years of implementation to have greater results and impacts to TSBR. The steering committee of the SHG has just been created to monitor and ensure the transparency of the SHG fund and loan activities. Alternative livelihoods have not been fully identified, carry forward or replicated in any of the core areas. The TOT volunteers still need to be guided and coached on how they can transfer their knowledge and skills to a wider number of volunteers advocating the protection and conservation of natural resources in the areas. The number of advocates and beneficiaries was still only a few groups of households, far from the critical mass of 1.2M inhabitants of the TSBR. The integration and networking of the SHG, SSC, Rangers, and Monks with local community organizations, local authorities such as the CC and provincial and other organizations promoting the same trust in the area need to be developed and strengthened. This venue will serve to share experiences and learning both by the community and the different institutions involved in the conservation and community development.

This assessment therefore, concluded that the overall UNV intervention has contributed to the empowerment of the poor communities in terms of the development of communication and management skills, improved community involvement, building trust and taking pride in serving the community and fostering the spirit of voluntarism among the SHG members and other stakeholders.

9. Recommendations

1. UNV should build on and consolidate successes within the sector, up-scaling similar designs and implementation arrangements within or outside the scope of TSCP particularly in the area of environmental conservation and building up of institutional capacity.
2. UNV can fulfil its currently planned mandate if the human development core area of intervention is more substantially addressed through continuing training and capacity building activities.
3. UNV should look for ways to support the continuing and unfulfilled demand for alternative livelihoods particularly building synergies with NGOs working in the area,

identifying needs of the SHGs, and partnering with the NGOs with experience in successful alternative livelihoods trials.

4. Community mobilization and the formation of SHGs on the ground should be extended to encourage volunteerism, local understanding, appreciation, and ownership of resources.
5. UNV should look to forge partnerships with most local government agencies at a strategic level.
6. A livelihoods approach to organize and strengthen the SHGs can still be followed and need not be too diluted if the scope of the supported activities can be kept within the project mandate.

Table 1. List of the Self Help Groups in the Three Core Areas and their Revolving Funds

Core Area	SHG	Members	Revolving Fund
Stung Sen	1. Koh Tapouv	14	17,245,400
	2. Phat Sanday	24	11,364,700
	3. Kompong Chomlornng	23	12,009,900
	4.Toul Neang Sav	39	7,294,400
Total		100	47,914,400
Beoung Tonle Chhmar	Doun Sdeang #1	28	7,872,000
	Doun Sdeang #2	29	865,000
	Poveuy#1	29	7,843,100
	Poveuy#2	19	421,400
	Peam Bang#1	30	11,154,500
	Peam Bang#2	30	9,959,000
	Peam Bang#3	25	12,061,000
	Peam Bang#4	21	750,000
Total		211	50,926,000
Preak Toul	Prek Toal	30	8,826,500
	Kompong ProHuk	29	14,300,000
	Anglong Ta Or	37	13,877,000
Total		96	37,003,500
Grand total		407	135,843,900

Table 2. SHG Members ` Age Profile per Core Area

Age Range	SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Below 17	1	5	0	0	0	0	1	2
18 - 25	3	15	1	5	2	10	6	10
26- 35	8	40	4	20	7	35	19	32
36 - 45	3	15	5	25	2	10	10	17
46 - above	5	25	10	50	9	45	24	40
Total	20	100	20	100	20	100	60	100

Table 3 SHG Members' Gender per Core Areas

Gender	SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Female (Head of the households)	14	70	15	75	15	75	44	73
Male (Head of the Households)	3	15	4	20	5	25	12	20
Female (Non – Head of the households)	3	15	1	5	0	0	4	7
Male (Non – Head of the Households)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total:	20	100	20	100	20	100	60	100

Table 4. Monthly Household Income

Monthly Household Income	Before								After							
	SS		BTC		PT		Total		SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
below 150,000	1	5	4	20	1	5	6	10	1	5	9	45	1	5	11	18
151,000 - 300,000	6	30	6	30	7	35	19	32	10	50	9	45	14	70	33	55
301,000 - 450,000	2	10	5	25	4	20	11	18	4	20	0	0	1	5	5	8
451,000 - 600,000	6	30	4	20	5	25	15	25	3	15	2	10	3	15	8	13
601,000 - above	5	25	1	5	3	15	9	15	2	10	0	0	1	5	3	5
Total	20	100	20	100	20	100	60	100	20	100	20	100	20	100	60	100

Table 5. Housing condition

Housing condition	SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Thatch house roofed with thatch	10	50	11	55	8	40	29	48
Thatch house roofed with tin sheets	2	10	4	20	4	20	10	17
Tin sheets walls and roof	3	15	0	0	3	15	6	10
Wooden house roofed with tin sheets	5	25	5	25	5	25	15	25
wooden house roofed with tiles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other (specify).....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	20	100	20	100	20	100	60	100

Table 6. Positions in the SHG

Positions in the SHG	SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Steering Committee	0	0	0	0	2	10	2	3
Group Leader	2	10	1	5	2	10	5	8
Secretary	1	5	0	0	1	5	2	3
Treasurer	0	0	1	5	1	5	2	3
Member	17	85	18	90	14	70	49	82
Total	20	100	20	100	20	100	60	100

Table 7. Benefits of SHG Leaders

Benefits	SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Reimbursement of expenses incurred for administrative work	1	5	1	5	0	0	2	3
None	19	95	19	95	20	100	58	97
Total	20	100	20	100	20	100	60	100

Table 8. Length of Membership

Length of Membership	SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Less than 3 months	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3- 6 months	2	10	0	0	0	0	2	3
6- 9 months	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9- 12 months	2	10	0	0	0	0	2	3
Over 12 months (since _____)	16	80	20	100	20	100	56	93
Total	20	100	20	100	20	100	60	100

Table 9. Loan Size

Loan size	SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
40,000 Below	0	0	0	0	2	10	2	3
41,000 - 80,000	0	0	1	5	3	15	4	7
81,000 - 120,000	2	10	0	0	4	20	6	10
121,000 - 200,000	3	15	1	5	3	15	7	12
201,000 - 400,000	6	30	14	70	3	15	23	38
401,000 - above	6	30	3	15	4	20	13	22
N/A	3	15	1	5	1	5	5	8
Total	20	100	20	100	20	100	60	100

Table 10. Length of loan repayments

Length of loan repayments	SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
1 month	0	0	19	95	0	0	19	32
2 months	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3 months	6	30	0	0	13	65	19	32
4 months	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 months	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6 months	8	40	0	0	2	10	10	17
8 months	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10 months	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12 months	2	10	0	0	4	20	6	10
Over 12 months	1	5	0	0	0	0	1	2
N/A	3	15	1	5	1	5	5	8
Total	20	100	20	100	20	100	60	100

Table 11. Terms of Loan Payments

Terms of Loan Payments	SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Monthly with interest rate	0	0	19	95	1	5	20	33
Monthly only interest rate	17	85	0	0	18	90	35	58
Total paid with interest rate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other _____	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
N/A	3	15	1	5	1	5	5	8
Total	20	100	20	100	20	100	60	100

Table 12. Efficiency of loan Repayment

Efficiency of loan Re-payment	SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Advance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
On time	15	75	18	90	13	65	46	77
Sometimes late	1	5	0	0	6	30	7	12
Always late	0	0	1	5	0	0	1	2
Can not pay (because of health problem & livelihood condition)	1	5	0	0	0	0	1	2
N/A	3	15	1	5	1	5	5	8
Total	20	100	20	100	20	100	60	100

Table 13. Loan Purpose

Loan Purpose	SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Buy fishing equipment	9	35	12	52	5	25	26	38
Livelihood activity	5	19	5	22	6	30	16	24
Use for health problem	4	15	1	4	2	10	7	10
Buy feeds for livestock	1	4	1	4	2	10	4	6
House repair	2	8	0	0	2	10	4	6
Buy foods	1	4	0	0	2	10	3	4
Use for ceremony	1	4	2	9	0	0	3	4
Buy Assets	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pay other loans	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
N/A	3	12	1	4	1	5	5	7
Total	26	100	22	96	20	100	68	100

Table 14. Attendance in Monthly Meeting

Attendance in Monthly Meeting	SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Yes	16	80	15	75	11	55	42	70
No	4	20	5	25	2	10	11	18
Sometime	0	0	0	0	7	35	7	12
Total	20	100	20	100	20	100	60	100

Table 15. Assets Status

Assets Status	SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Increased	8	40	5	25	11	55	24	40
Decreased	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Remain the same	12	60	15	75	9	45	36	60
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	20	100	20	100	20	100	60	100

Table 16. Savings status

Savings status	SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Increase	20	100	20	100	20	100	60	100
Decreased	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Remain the same	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	20	100	20	100	20	100	60	100

Table 17. Other Loan

Other Loan	SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Yes- with other loan	8	40	7	35	15	75	30	50
No other loan	12	60	13	65	5	25	30	50
Total	20	100	20	100	20	100	60	100

Table 18 Livelihood Activities from SHG Fund

Livelihood Activities from SHG Fund	SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Raising (pig, chicken and fish)	3	60	4	80	2	33	9	56
Selling (cloth and Spices)	2	40	0	0	3	50	5	31
Buy fish for sell	0	0	1	20	1	17	2	13
Total	5	100	5	100	6	100	16	100

Table 19. Method/process of choosing livelihood

Method/process of choosing livelihood	SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
UNV introduces	3	60	4	80	4	67	11	69
Self-made	1	20	1	20	1	17	3	19
Family or Friend introduces	1	20	0	0	0	0	1	6
Family legacy	0	0	0	0	1	17	1	6
NGOs introduce	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	5	100	5	100	6	100	16	100

Table 20. Monthly Profit/Earning from livelihood

Profit/earning from livelihood monthly	SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
below 150,000	0	0	1	20	0	0	1	6
151,000 - 300,000	2	40	2	40	3	50	7	44
301,000 - 450,000	0	0	2	40	1	17	3	19
451,000 - 600,000	0	0	0	0	1	17	1	6
601,000 - above	3	60	0	0	1	17	4	25
Total	5	100	5	100	6	100	16	100

Table 21. Recipient of Technical Assistance from UNV

Recipient of Technical Assistance	SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Received TA	14	70	18	90	17	85	49	82
Did not received TA	6	30	2	10	3	15	11	18
Total	20	100	20	100	20	100	60	100

Table 22. Kind of Technical Assistance

Kind of Technical Assistance	SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Training on fish and livestock raising (pig, chicken)	15	75	16	80	15	75	46	77
Training on vegetable and mushroom production	5	25	3	25	2	25	10	17
Small business development	0	0	1	0	3	0	4	7
Total	20	100	20	100	20	100	60	100

Table 23. Attendance with Commune Meeting

Attendance with commune meeting	SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Yes	10	50	11	55	8	33	29	48
No	10	50	9	45	12	50	31	52
Total	20	100	20	100	20	83	60	100

Table 24. Kinds of meeting

Kind of meeting	SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Commune Investment Plan	10	50	8	40	3	15	21	35
Planning and Monitoring of the Commune Project	0	0	0	0	4	20	4	7
Literacy and Fishery Community	0	0	0	0	1	5	1	2
Other Community Development Issues	0	0	3	15	0	0	3	5
N/A	10	50	9	45	12	60	31	52
Total	20	100	20	100	20	100	60	100

Table 25. Members' awareness and knowledge of Government Policy on Environmental Management and Livelihood Development

Members' knowledge and awareness	SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Aware/with knowledge	8	40	12	60	14	70	34	57
Not aware/no knowledge	12	60	8	40	6	30	26	43
Total	20	100	20	100	20	100	60	100

Table 26. Causes of Change in fish catch

Causes of Change (fish)	SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%

Illegal Fishing	9	45	11	55	9	45	29	48
Over fishing+ increasing human population + illegal fishing	6	30	5	25	11	55	22	37
Increasing Human Population	2	10	4	20	0	0	6	10
Don't know	3	15	0	0	0	0	3	5
Total	20	100	20	100	20	100	60	100

Table 27. Causes of Change in Flooded Forest

Causes of Change (Flooded Forest)	SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Cutting for fishing tools & Agriculture Production	16	80	11	55	4	20	31	52
Burning+ cutting + climate changes	1	5	3	15	11	55	15	25
Climate changes	0	0	6	30	5	25	11	18
Don't know	3	15	0	0	0	0	3	5
Total	20	100	20	100	20	100	60	100

Table 28. Group Activities of NRM

Group Activities to NRM	SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Strengthening law enforcements	8	40	9	45	13	65	30	50
Continue to promote environmental education	7	35	8	40	5	25	20	33
Report the illegal activities to the relevant local authorities	1	5	3	15	2	10	6	10
No Ideas	3	15	0	0	0	0	3	5
Re-planting forests	1	5	0	0	0	0	1	2
Total	20	100	20	100	20	100	60	100

Table 29. Individual Activities of NRM

Individual Activities to NRM	SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Participation in the community environmental awareness-raising activities	12	60	6	30	9	45	27	45
Reports the illegal fishing and cutting flooded forests activities to the relevant local authorities	0	0	9	45	6	30	15	25
Work in close collaboration with fishery community committee to preventing the illegal activities	4	20	0	0	3	15	7	12
Strengthening law enforcements through the local government and/or authorities	0	0	5	25	1	5	6	10
No ideas	3	15	0	0	0	0	3	5
Promote environmental education within family, friend and new generation	1	5	0	0	1	5	2	3
Total	20	100	20	100	20	100	60	100

Table 30. Sharing of Environmental Education knowledge by members

Sharing of EE knowledge by members	SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Members sharing EE knowledge	17	85	16	80	11	55	44	73
Members not sharing EE knowledge	3	15	4	20	9	45	16	27
Total	20	100	20	100	20	100	60	100

Table 31. Sharing to whom

Sharing to whom	SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Family/neighbors/Friend/Children	7	35	9	45	7	35	23	38
SHG's member	8	40	3	15	4	20	15	25
Community	2	10	4	20	0	0	6	10
N/A	3	15	4	20	9	45	16	27
Total	20	100	20	100	20	100	60	100

Table 32. Knowledge on Rights and Access on NR

Knowledge of Rights and Access on NR	SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Yes	17	85	16	80	17	85	50	83
No	3	15	4	20	3	15	10	17
Total	20	100	20	100	20	100	60	100

Table 33. Knowledge of members about UNV Activities

UNV Activities known by members	SS		BTC		PT		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Promote saving group/WPF/EFECs	7	35	5	25	6	30	18	30
Fish raising training/WPF/EFECs and environmental education	0	0	4	20	1	5	5	8
Fish raising, saving money, planting vegetable , WPF and EFECs	0	0	0	0	5	25	5	8
WPF/EFECs and chicken and fish raising and vegetable seed	0	0	0	0	4	20	4	7
Pig and fish raising training/WPF and EFECs, environmental education	0	0	4	20	0	0	4	7
WPF/EFECs and environmental education	0	0	0	0	3	15	3	5
Environmental Awareness-Raising, WPF and EFECs	3	15	0	0	0	0	3	5
Environmental Awareness-Raising, WPF/ EFECs and provide vegetable seed and floating gardening	0	0	3	15	0	0	3	5
Fish raising training/WPF and EFECs	2	10	1	5	0	0	3	5
WPF,EFECs, Environmental Awareness-Raising, training of trainer for community development facilitations, SHG management	3	15	0	0	0	0	3	5
Provide vegetable seed and WPF/ EFECs	1	5	1	5	0	0	2	3
Educate how to make vegetable floating garden, WPF, EFECs	1	5	0	0	0	0	1	2
Educate how to plant mushroom and organize vegetable production/ WPF/EFECs	1	5	0	0	0	0	1	2
Fish raising, vegetable seeds, environmental education, WPF and EFECs	0	0	0	0	1	5	1	2
Pig raising training/WPF and EFECs, environmental education	1	5	0	0	0	0	1	2
WPF,EFECs, Environmental Awareness-Raising	1	5	0	0	0	0	1	2
WPF/EFECs and chicken and fish raising	0	0	1	5	0	0	1	2
WPF/EFECs and fish raising	0	0	1	5	0	0	1	2
Total	20	100	20	100	20	100	60	100

Annex 1 The List of all Reviewed Documents

MOE. National GEF Strategy 2008-2014. UNDP. April 2008.
RGC. MOP. National Strategic Development Plan 2006-2010. MOP. January 2006.
RGC/MOE. Law on Natural Protected Areas. January 2008.
TESMP. Tonle Sap Biosphere Reserve Bulletin (volume 3, 2007 and volume 4 2008)
TSCP. Final Report on Sustainable Livelihoods, November 2005-August 2008. August 2008.
TSCP. Amendment to the Project Document
TSCP. Project Profile
TSCP. TSCP Inception Report. June 2005. Phnom Penh.
TSSLP. Monthly Progress Report 2009
TSCP. 2nd Quarterly Report of Livelihoods Component 2009
TSCP. 3rd Quarterly Report of Livelihoods Component 2009
TSCP. Tonle Sap Biodiversity Monitoring Protocols. November 2008.
TSCP. Draft Livelihoods Strategy 2009
TSCP. Draft Work plan (2009-2011)
TSCO. Quarterly Work Plan (2nd, 3rd 4th, 2009)
TSCP. Mid Term Evaluation Report (2008)
TSCP. Management Plan for Boeung Tonle Chhar Core Area, 2008-2012. December 2007.
TSCP. Management Plan for Prek Toal Core Area, 2007-2011. June 2007.
TSCP. Management Plan for Stung Sen Core Area, 2008-2012. December 2007.
TSCP. UNDP GEF APR/PIR 2007. July 2007.
TOR of National UN Volunteer Field Workers in Community Mobilization
TOR of UNV Sustainable Livelihoods Advisor
TOR of UNV Community Engagement Specialist
TOR of United Nations Volunteer Coordinator
UNDP. UNDP Strategic Plan 2008-2011. May 2008.

Annex 2 The list of Partners/ persons met/ interviewed

Date/time	Meeting/Focus Group Discussion	Meeting place
9 - 13 November, 2009	Field visit to Project Areas	
KII and Households Interview Focus Group Discussion (FGD) Case studies		
09/11/2009	<p>Focus Group Discussion (FGD)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. Hy Tang Hen, Community Facilitator 2. Miss. Lak Sare, Steering Committee 3. Mr. Chhum Vann Net, Steering Committee 4. Miss. Sok Srey Mom, Secretary of SHG 5. Miss. Hun Sophea, Steering Committee leader 6. Mr. Leng Sok, Phat Sanday, Commune Council Chief 7. Mr. Chan Veasna, Vice Steering Committee 8. Mr. Hun Chheng Kear, Treasurer 9. Mr. Oung Chan Thourn, Treasurer 10. Mr. Heang Khhun Na, School Director 11. Mr. Oun Chheng Lon, SHG Leader 12. Mr. Ny Non, Ranger 13. Mr. Tem Sok Teang, Ranger 14. Mr. Say Chear, Ranger 15. Mr. Nob Sophera, Ranger 16. Mr. Hout Synourn, Ranger 17. Ourn Oun, the monk 18. Eoul Chhum, the monk 	Steung Sen Core Area
10/11/2009	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. Mom Meang, Ranger 2. Mr. Lok Phourn, Ranger 3. Mr. Leang Kim Soung, Ranger 4. Mr. Chob Sanaya, Ranger 5. Mr. Teav Sam Phon, Ranger 6. Mr. Samrith Samon, Commune Council Chief 7. Chhem Yeourn, SHG leader 8. Moun Me, SHG leader 9. Ban Moug, Vice SHG leader 10. Noum Sy Net, monk 11. Cheat Brous, monk 12. Mr. Bot Rith, Steering Committee Chief 13. Mr. Sok Seng, Community Mobilization 14. Ms. Neng Chhourn, Treasurer 15. Ms. Mon Mean, SHG leader 16. Ms. Mon Navy, Vice SHG leader 17. Ms. Mon Chann Thon, Vice SHG leader 	Boeung Tonle Chhmar Core Areas

Date/time	Meeting/Focus Group Discussion	Meeting place
	18. Chhoun San, Treasure	
11/11/2009	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. Bun Phan, Ranger 2. Mr. Vay Rong, Ranger 3. Bun Beng, Commune Council Chief 4. Ly Heang, Steering Committee 5. Noun Vanny, monk, 6. Bun Sokheang, monk 7. Ms. Ey Symon, Secretary 8. Ms. San Navy, Facilitator 9. Ms. Keang Sophorn, SHG leader 10. Pil Khoun, SHG leader 11. Soung Pesit, Deputy Prek Toal Core Area 12. Osmose 	Prek Toal Core Area
17/11/2009	Key Stakeholder Interview	
08:30-09:00Am	Mr. Meng Monyrak, TSCP National Project Director	TSCP Office
09:00-10:00 Am	Miss. Theang Sopheak, OIC/ TSCP Project Manager	TSCP Office
11:00-12:00 Am	Mr. Keth Bunthan, Executive Director	Live and Learn Environmental Education Office
1:30 -3:00 pm	Mr. Julien COLOMER,	UNV support office
	Mr. Neissan Besharati, UNV Programme	
	Ms. Tep Sovannaroth, Country assistant	
18/11/2009		
09:30-10:30 am	Mrs. Seltik, ILO program coordinator	ILO, Phnom Penh Center floor#2,
03:00-04:00	Mr. Sopheap and Salat, Association of Buddhism for Environmental (ABE),	Wat Svay Por Per, Sangkat Tonle Bassac, Khan Chormkar Morn, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
19/11/2009		
09:00-10:00	Mr. Or Thy, CEDAC Program Advisor	Phnom Penh village, Sangkat Phnom Penh Thmey, Kan Ressay Keo
20/11/2009		
03:30-04:30Pm	Miss. Nita, Training manager, Heifer International,	address # 30, street 436/99, Boeung Trabek, Chamkar Morn, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
27/11/2009		
4:00 -5.00pm	Mr. Mok Ora, NUNV Sustainable Livelihood Coordinator Miss. Hy Tanhorn, National UNV Specialist	TSCP Office

Annex 3 Data-gathering instruments

SHG Questionnaire

UNV BENEFICIARIES EVALUATION

General information

Name of interviewer

1. Core Area: _____	
2. Name of SHG Member: _____	
3. Age: _____	
4. SHG Member's gender	
a. Female (Head of the households)	
b. Male (Head of the Households)	
c. Female (Non – Head of the households)	
d. Male (Non – Head of the Households)	
5. How many in the family are member of the SHG? _____	
6. Total number of household member. _____ adult (18 above) _____ children	
7. How many in your HH member's earning income _____?	
8. How much is the estimated household's income per month? (If she/he know per day, multiply by 30 days)	
a. Before project intervention _____ Riel	
b. Present _____ Riel	
9. Households Source of Income aside from fishing/ farming and Non-timber products (If there is any please specify)	
.....	
10. SHG Member's Housing condition	
a. thatch house roofed with thatch	
b. thatch house with tin sheets	
c. tin sheets walls and roof	
d. wooden house roofed with tin sheets	
e. wooden house roofed with tiles	
f. Other (specify).....	
11 Member's Assets	
11.1 Non – Productive	
+ Type of assets	+ Avail year
a. Motorbike
b. Bicycle
c. Boat

- d. Boat with engine
- e. TV
- f. Radio
- g. Battery (electricity)
- h. Cell phone
- i. Others (specify)

.....

11.2 Productive Assets

+ Type of assets + Avail year

- a. Livestock (Please specify)
-
-
-
-

- b. Machine (Please Specify)
-

- c. Others (specify)
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

Self Help Group Evaluation

12. Month _____ Year _____ your SHG starts?

13. Total Members of SHG you belong _____?

14. Your position in the SHG _____?

15. What are your responsibility/contribution to your SHG?

16. Are you being paid or benefited with this position?

a. if yes, what you are getting?

b. if No why?

17. How long have you been with SHG? (Please circle one)

- a. Less than 3 months
- b. 3- 6 months
- c. 6- 9 months
- d. Over 9 months (since _____)

18. What is your current loan size?

Dollar amount _____ **OR** Riel amount _____

19. How many percent is the interest of your loan per month? _____

20. How long is your loan for?

- a. 1 months
- b. 2 months
- c. 3 months
- d. 4 months
- e. 5 months
- f. 6. months
- g. 8. months
- h. 10. month
- i. 12 months
- j. Over 12 months

21. How is your Terms of Loan Payments?

- a. Monthly with interest rate
- b. Monthly only interest rate
- c. Total paid with interest rate
- d. Other _____

22. Your status of payment?

- a. Advance
- b. On time
- c. Sometimes late
- d. Always late
- e. Cannot pay (specify your reason)

23. What is the purpose of your loan?

- a. Livelihood activity (specify)
-
-

(next go to HFSQ)

- b. Buy fishing equipment
- c. Buy feeds for livestock
- d. Pay other loans
- e. Use for health problem
- f. Buy Assets
- g. House repair
- h. Use for ceremony
- i. Buy foods
- j. Others (specify.....)

24. How did you choose your livelihood?

25. How much you are earning from this livelihood?

Per day.....Riels or Per month.....Riels

26. Are there any technical assistance trainings from UNV or other institution you received regarding alternative livelihood?

- a. Yes
- b. No

(If yes: please specify what trainings).....

.....

.....

27. What have you learned from these trainings? Specify.....

.....

28. How many times you have already taken loan from SHG?

- a. Once
- b. 2 x
- c. 3 x
- d. 4 x
- e. 5 X
- f. 6 X
- g. 7 X
- h. 8 X
- i. 9 X
- j 10 X
- k. 15X
- l. 20X
- m. 25X Above
- n. N/A

29. How is the interest/profit of the SHG loan used or divided among members? Specify

.....

.....
.....

30. Who is managing your SHG?
.....

31. Who is assisting your SHG?
How many times in a month?.....

32. Do you attending the monthly meeting of the SHG? a. Yes b. No

If No, Why?

- a. Busy taking care of my business
- b. Busy doing household work
- c. Not interested with the agenda
- d. Nothing to share with the meeting
- e. Others (specify)

33. Do you have saving account with SHG?

- a. Yes b. No

If no: why?

- a. No money to save
- b. Don't know about SHG saving services
- c. Feel more secured to save at home/with other MFIs
- d. The interest provided is too low
- e. Others (specify):_____

34. Being a member of SHG, have your personal savings:

- a. Increased? b. Decreased?
- c. Stayed the same? d. Don't know

35. Being a member of SHG, have your assets:

- a. Increased? b. Decreased?
- c. Stayed the same? d. Don't know

36. Being a member of SHG, has your business:

- a. Improved? b. Stayed the same?
- c. Worsened? d. Don't know

37. If you could change something about SHG to make it even better, what would you change?

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

38. What are the issues/ challenges your SHG experienced and seen in the future?

39. Do you owe money to someone besides SHG? a- Yes b- No (go to 39)

- 39.1 If yes, from whom?
- a. Village Money lender
 - b. Private Company
 - c. Other MFI/bank

- d. Friend or family
- e. Other (specify) _____

39.2 How much money do you owe?
 _____(specify if dollars or riel),

39.3 What is the interest rate? _____

40. Is there other micro finance or micro credit programs in your area, which you can get a loan from?
 a. Yes b. No c. don't know

41. Are there other non government organizations in this Village?

- a. Yes b. No

If yes, please tick any below organizations if you are member/ beneficiaries of these organizations and you received tangible or intangible benefits (e.g. trainings, materials for patrolling etc.)

- a. Association of Buddhism for environment (ABE) b. Heifer International
- c. CEDAC
- d. Bridges across border
- e. International Conservation (CI)
- f. International Labour Organization (ILO)
- g. Live & Learn Environmental Education
- i. Other (please, specify _____)

42. Have you attended any commune or government meeting and planning?

If yes, what kind?

.....

If not, why?

.....

43. What is the initial step of the SHG to work with the commune council especially on the development of livelihood activities and rights to NR?

.....

Environmental Awareness Evaluation

1. What are the natural resources that can be found in this Village? Can you estimate the changes from 1999 and now 2009?

2.

Resources Type	1999	2009
Flooded Forest Increased Decreased Stayed the same Don't know		
Fish (Black) Small Many Few Medium Many Few Big Many Few		
Fish (White) Small Many Few Medium Many Few Big Many Few		
Other Resource		

3. What are the benefits you are getting from these resources?

4. What are the issues and causes of changes natural resources? Enumerate!

5. What are the issues and causes of changes the fish? Enumerate!

6. What are the things that can be done to address these changes as individual and as a group?

7. As an individual what activities you have done to show your understanding and concern?

8. Are you a member of the Trainers trained by UNV for EE?

a. Yes b. No

If yes, please specify your activities _____

9. Is there fish sanctuary or protected areas in the village? Who Manage? _____

10. Have you share what your knowledge environment to other members of the community?

a. If yes, how and to whom?

b. If No, Why?

11. Do you know your rights/ access to these natural resources?

a. If yes, what?

b. If No, Why?

12. Do you know an organization here in the village promoting environmental management/ livelihood aside from UNV? Please specify the name of organization if you are a member or attended their meetings/workshops.

13. Do you know any policy of the government regarding environmental management and livelihood development?
a. Yes b. No (go to 12)
If yes, please specify.

14. What are the things that UNV promoting/ advocating to you, your group and this village? Please enumerate everything you know.

15. What are the trainings you received from the UNV regarding environmental education?

16. Have you join/ attended a commune development planning?
If yes, what kind of planning

If No, why?

17. Water purification filter/energy and fuel efficient cook stove

15. a. Do you have your own WPF/EFECS?

a. Yes, b. No

15. b. How much you buy it? _____ Riels

15. c. When did you buy it ? _____ Year

15. d. Is it still working? Are you using it?

a. Yes, b. If no, what are the problems?.....

Household Food Security Questionnaire

(Ask these questions to those who is the poor SHG member and/or low income)

<p>1. Were you worried that your food would run out before you had money to buy more? A. Yes B. No – Go to question 2 1.a how often did this occur? 1. Often 2. Sometimes 3. Rarely</p>
<p>2. The food you had didn't last, and you did not have enough money to buy more? A. Yes B. No – Go to question 3 2a. how often did this occur? 1. Often 2. Sometimes 3. Rarely</p>
<p>3. Did you have to eat the same foods daily because you did not have money to buy other foods? A. Yes B. No – Go to question 4 3a how often did this occur? 1. Often 2. Sometimes 3. Rarely</p>
<p>4. Have you or any other adult in your household cut the size of your meal because you did not have enough money to buy food? A. Yes B. No – Go to question 5 4a how often did this occur? 1. Often 2. Sometimes 3. Rarely</p>
<p>5. Did you skip some of your daily meals because you did not have enough money for food? A. Yes B. No – Go to question 6 5a how often did this occur? 1. Often 2. Sometimes 3. Rarely</p>
<p>6. Did you ever eat less than you felt you should because you did not have enough money to buy food? A. Yes B. No – Go to question 7 6a how often did this occur? 1. Often 2. Sometimes 3. Rarely</p>
<p>7. Were you ever hungry and did not eat because you did not have money to buy enough food? A. Yes B. No – Go to question 8 7a how often did this occur? 1. Often 2. Sometimes 3. Rarely</p>
<p>8. Did you lose weight because you did not have enough money to buy food? A. Yes B. No – Go to question 9</p>
<p>9. Did you or another adult in your household ever not eat for a whole day because you did not have enough money to buy food? A. Yes B. No 9a how often did this occur? 1. Often 2. Sometimes 3. Rarely</p>

KI Questionnaire

1. What are the main thrust/ objectives of your organization?
2. What is your strategy in reaching your objectives?
3. What cooperation you have with UNV and SHG? How long has been this cooperation?
4. What did UNV shared with your organization?
5. In your own observation did the UNV reach the disadvantage individual and families in this area?
6. Are you familiar with Volunteerism for Development (V4D)?
7. What are your ideas about volunteering and what it means to you?
8. Is your organization promoting volunteering activities? Give some example.
9. Do you think volunteering can help in reducing poverty in this area? Why & how? And Why not?
10. What have you shared with the SHG and UNV? Please specify
11. What are the lessons learned from the intervention of UNV and your organization in the development of the SHG and community?
12. What assistance could the SHG expect from your organization in the future?
13. Do you have regular meeting with the Commune Council especially on community development issues?

Draft Management Interview Guide

The following is a set of key questions that will be used as a general guide for the evaluation discussions. More specific questions will be added depending upon the interview.

Project Formulation

1. Do you think the overall design and approach of the UNV intervention in the TSCP is right? If not what is the right design and approach in your own opinion?
2. Does the project document/inception report provide sufficient guidance on the selection of activities and monitoring of results? Are these reports still relevant and useful guides for the any possible UNV intervention?
3. Do you think the existing decision making process been effective and efficient? Would you change anything in the current arrangement given the experience to date?

4. Given the reality that the UNV intervention has just got its momentum this year do you think it is proper to extend or just turn it over to UNDP/TSCP? Why?

Project Implementation Modalities

5. In your opinion did the UNV intervention been effective and efficient in terms of how the activities have been delivered in the three core areas?
6. What have been the particular challenges or issues in the UNV intervention to date? Have any specific constraints been encountered that affected the quality of project delivery?
7. What is the status of the relationships and coordination between the project team, project consultants and the government staff? Would you change anything in how they have functioned?
8. How are the relationships between the UNV/UNDP and the TSCP/CNMC? What types of linkages have occurred, if any, and have they been productive?
9. Have the financing, disbursement and contracting processes operated as planned?

Project Management

10. Has the Project Steering Committee been useful in providing strategic direction? Is there a specific example of their direction?
11. Has the TSCP Management Team been effective in providing operational and technical guidance to UNV? Has it been capable of addressing key issues, concerns or questions that have arisen during intervention?
12. Have any major project management or supervision issues affected the interventions results or created any uncertainties or tensions?
13. Has the TSCP project monitoring and reporting provided the necessary information to assess progress in meeting project objectives and targets (UNV level)?

Project Results

14. What are your observations and impressions of the effectiveness of the SHG income generating activities in the core areas to date? How sustainable are these results?
15. What are your observations and impressions of the effectiveness of the Environmental Awareness activities of the UNV to date? Is there any difference with the EAEOP of the TSCP? How sustainable are the results of the UNV intervention?

Capacity Building

16. Are there any observed changes in awareness, methods or practices that can be specifically attributed to the training or study tours provided by the UNV?

17. Is there any firm evidence of the effect of these activities compared to the baseline conditions at the start of the intervention? How would you rate the improvements in capacity to date?
18. Are there changes at the institutional level that may be attributed to the intervention, such as those related to how the key beneficiaries and stakeholders operate in their management duties in the three core areas?

Sustainability

19. Is the SHG steering committee has their own management plan in sustaining the SHG in the core areas? Do they have plan for environmental management that has been incorporated with the CC?
20. Did the STC prepared livelihood plan that could be incorporated with the CC CDB?

Annex 5 MATRIX OF MAJOR TASKS, INFORMATION NEEDS, SOURCES AND DATA-COLLECTION METHODS

TASKS	INFORMATION NEEDS	INFORMATION SOURCES	DATA COLLECTION and ANALYTICAL METHODS
<p>To assess the relevance of UNV intervention to the TSCP implementation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extent of coverage of projects supported by UNV/TSCP; • Description of specific target or primary groups of beneficiaries: brief descriptions of their conditions, type of beneficiaries, numbers, geographical location or target areas • Baseline biodiversity/ environmental and economic and social conditions • Current biodiversity/ environmental and economic and social conditions • Comparative assessment of situations based on perception of international, national, and local volunteer, beneficiaries and TSCP staff. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNV Office and TSCP documents, quarterly, annual and final reports, partners reports, and baseline studies • Project stakeholders: partners, national and local volunteer, target beneficiaries, community-based organizations, local authorities, and other key stakeholders • Map indicating the location of the projects of activities specifically areas with the UNV intervention • Secondary data with information on the TSBR biodiversity issues : poverty, degradation, and over exploitation of resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of documents : UNV/TSCP log frame, Annual Plans, Project Mid-term Evaluation • Individual, group (FGDs) interviews, and case studies particularly with primary target groups/beneficiaries • Secondary materials and Internet research • Change in Baseline against the Current Analysis • Partnership/Stakeholder Analysis
<p>To assess the Effectiveness of UNV intervention to provide services to issues addressed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseline and UNV/TSCP log frame, UNV project Design (business model) and quarterly and Annual Plans • Monitoring Reports (annual, bi-annual, quarterly, mid-term review) • Perception of National/local authorities, stakeholders, direct Beneficiaries, national and local Volunteer and TSCP staff on the results and benefits • Outcome against the UNV intervention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNV/TSCP design, Mid-term review and Annual Plans • Different intervention of the UNV not necessarily under the ToR • Programme stakeholders: partners, target beneficiaries, community-based organizations, local authorities, other key stakeholders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Process Documentation of UNV/UNDP and TSCP against implementation as to input-output and outcomes • Field work methodologies for information collection : interviews, FGD, dialogues, case studies and project visits • Triangulation of baseline, end-of-program Performance Indicators and current indicators collected

TASKS	INFORMATION NEEDS	INFORMATION SOURCES	DATA COLLECTION and ANALYTICAL METHODS
<p>To assess and document the delivery process, results and Impact of the UNV intervention</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues of primary target groups at the outset of the supported projects and related changes at national level and in project locations of UNV/TSCP intervention • Extent to which objectives and strategies in progress of the Project have been achieved (changes in the economic and social aspect, biodiversity/environment and partners' achievements in relation to their capacities, and quantitative and qualitative indicators specified in the Project Log frame) • How results and impacts of the projects are perceived by various stakeholders and beneficiaries • Delivery mechanisms for the projects/activities (local volunteering, local partnerships; capacities of partners and primary target groups to effectively implement projects/activities and achieve goals on an overall level; strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, constraints) • Factors/ conditions that facilitate/ inhibit achievement or non-achievement of projects' results and impact; how factors enhance/ limit achievement or non-achievement of UNV/TSCP objectives and strategies, including impacts (or indications of impact) and variations in the achievements/ non-achievements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseline reports; materials depicting beneficiaries and other stakeholders related situation in the project areas during the start up and the current situation as viewed by beneficiaries, stakeholders, partners and other relevant agencies • Primary target groups and other stakeholders: local volunteers, partners, donors, local authorities/ local government offices • Case studies illustrating crucial factors that facilitate/ inhibit achievement/ non-achievement of results and impacts of volunteerism • Project reports, budget and financial records, manuals, personnel records; other partner/stakeholders Reports and related documents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of documents (reports, situation analyses, evaluation, those from electronic sources, etc.) • Individual interviews & focus group discussion with partners and target groups • Case studies from direct beneficiaries. • Project Visits (to see palpable or physical results) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ interview/discussion with UNV/TSCP staff and partners • Change in Baseline against Current Analysis
<p>To assess the Efficiency</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information on how economically have the various inputs been converted into outputs, results and outcomes? • Systems of Management and operations that emphasize value for money: use of budget, improving staff capacities, accounting and transparency systems, practice of control, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of General Ledger, Program Project Module/log frame, Progress Reports, Management Systems, Finance Systems • Interview with UNV/TSCP Staff, national volunteer, local volunteer and beneficiaries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance Allocation against Expenditures Analysis at UNV intervention level • Case studies on specific cost-benefit analysis on project with aggregated cost-benefit values • Basic income generating activities, environment and biodiversity and

TASKS	INFORMATION NEEDS	INFORMATION SOURCES	DATA COLLECTION and ANALYTICAL METHODS
	<p>supervision.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human resource and volunteerism development with partners and beneficiaries 		<p>community groups/ organizational Diagnosis</p>
<p>To assess the sustainability of Programme within the primary target groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structures, mechanisms and other factors that pave for sustained work of beneficiaries/ primary target groups (e.g., people’s participation and sense of ownership, presence of CBO advocating biodiversity an environmental management, support from government, local authorities, and law enforcement) • Capacities of UNV to facilitate sustained action by beneficiaries (in terms of money, methodology, materials and management); of primary target groups to carry out activities on their own • Partners’ and beneficiaries’ knowledge levels on the projects, abilities to cope with local situation and respond to changing situations • Environment, socio-cultural, economic and political conditions or factors that facilitate/ inhibit sustained action among beneficiaries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documents, reports/ secondary sources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Baseline reports, Plans - Programme Annual/ final reports - Primary target groups • Various stakeholders: partners, local authorities/ local government offices, beneficiaries or indirect beneficiaries • Specific case studies illustrating crucial conditions that contribute to/ prevent Programme sustainability at primary target group levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of documents (reports, situation analyses, etc.) • Individual (including key informant, case studies) & group (FGDs) interviews, particularly with primary target groups • Community Observation • Stakeholder Analysis
<p>Other Concerns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteerisms • Gender • Capacity Building • Human rights • stakeholders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extent of advocacy, integration, mobilization and facilitation of the different dimensions of volunteerism and community development • Beneficiaries, partners and stakeholders internalization of the different pillars of volunteerism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field work activities: Interview, FGD, case studies with the different beneficiaries, partners, and stakeholders • Observation of development of the target areas • Meeting and discussion with the UNV administrators and TSCP staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quantitative and qualitative analysis pf the field work activities • Analysis of the meeting and discussion with the partners and administrator of the UNV Office

TASKS	INFORMATION NEEDS	INFORMATION SOURCES	DATA COLLECTION and ANALYTICAL METHODS
To provide directions for future phases of the UNV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future Programme framework, if available • Anticipated directions of the government and Project as shown in policies, action strategies or as expressed by partners, donors, partners, primary targets, local authorities, other stakeholders • Gaps/ emerging needs/ new issues at local levels relating to issues of UNV intervention • Legal, administrative and other policy initiatives that impact on UNV intervention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cambodia Development Strategies • Laws and policies on environment/biodiversity, rural livelihood development, local governance, social reforms, and poverty reduction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key Informant Interviews with UNV Office/TSCP stakeholders and international, national and local volunteer • Review of development policies, strategic plans and development projects

Annex 6 Focus Group Discussion Results

Focused Group Discussion

Question	Women	CC/Rangers	Monks
Q1 Environmental ISSUES			
Stueng Sen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cutting of flooded forest, results destroy the egg's shelter. • Using of illegal fishing equipments including electro fishing, small mesh sizes and collecting the small fishes. • Burning forest, hunting/ trapping, eggs collection of its complete extermination of endangered species. • Thrown garbage into the water, results poor quality water and affected community health • Natural resources threats and/or decreased, results reduces the tourism activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing human population • Using modern fishing equipments • Spreading flooded forests land for agriculture productions • Poor livelihoods in the community • Environmental education and/or Awareness Raising was still limited • Lack of law enforcements • Development of modern technology • Climates changes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using of illegal fishing equipments • Cutting of flooded forests • Increasing human population • Burning of flooded forests
Boeung Tonle Chhmar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cutting of flooded forests • Electro fishing • The practice of community on rubbish disposal causes serious water pollution • Pumping out water with engine pumps from natural ponds and streams in order to catch fish. • Using small mesh sizes for catch fish • Collection of eggs and • Trapping small birds unnecessary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing human population • Fire forests (destroy wildlife shelter) • Using of illegal fishing equipments (Modern and small mesh sizes for catch fish) • Spreading of forests land for farming productions • Water pollutions (flowed agricultures chemical, oil and acids into the water) • Poor education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cutting of flooded forests for firewood over demand • Cutting of flooded forests to use as fishing tools. • Using of modern and illegal fishing equipments and over demand likewise (elector fishing and fishing during the breed season and use small net sizes and ...etc. • Environmental pollutions by thrown the waste and chemical into the water, consequences water were poor qualities. • Cutting of flooded forests for farming productions.

- | | | |
|-------------------|--|--|
| Preak Toul | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cutting of flooded forests • Using of illegal fishing equipments such as (electro fishing and small mesh sizes) • Environmental pollutions • Trapping of wildlife | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate changes • Increasing human population • Using of illegal fishing equipments • Most of people were poor education and/or limited capacity |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cutting of flooded forests • Using of illegal fishing equipments such as (electro fishing and small mesh sizes) • Trapping of wildlife for trade • Pumping out water with engine pumps from natural ponds and streams in order to catch fish. • Using of poisons for trapping wildlife |

Q2 Present Activities

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|-------------------|---|--|
| Stueng Sen | <p>Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organized the environmental awareness – raising and/or campaign within the community, in order to promote understanding the disadvantage of cutting flooded forests, using of illegal fishing equipments and thrown the wastes into the water. | <p>Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of Conservation and Natural Resources Management law • Conducted the consultations discussions between and among the relevant key institutions for natural resources management • Promotes the environmental education and law enforcement at local level • Encourages and motivates the conservation work activities • Facilitation, coordination and problem solving in the community |
| | | <p>Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Ministry of Environment, Fishery Administration, Provincial Fishery and Agriculture Department and local authorities (commune and village) were working together to promote the conservation the environment and natural resources in the specific areas. |
| | <p>NGOs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided funds, equipments | <p>NGOs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small Enterprise Development |

- Provided training on organize vegetable production, fish cage culture training and basis life saving training.
- Provided Water Purification Filter (WPF), Energy and Fuel Efficient Cook Stove (EFECS) and floating home garden.
- Provided loan and technical assistances for fish raising
- Provided the training on environmental education to the monks.

Community/Individual

- Our SHG was monitoring and protecting the environmental and natural resources and promotes environmental education to the local villagers.
- Re-planting flooded forests

Boeung Tonle Chhmar

Government

- Conducted the environmental education in the community
- Promoted the environmental awareness-raising through community development network
- Promoted and educates community to re-planting flooded forests where destroy by burned
- Educated the community to reduces the cutting of flooded forests for firewood

NGOs

and technical assistance to the local community

- Provided the environmental education at the local community
- Monitoring and coordinating of using the natural resources
- Local livelihood development activities
- Provided the technical assistance for the natural resources management

Community/Individual

- Participation in the environmental protection campaign
- Assists in promoting of the environmental education to the community

Government

- Development of law and establishing of fish sanctuary or protected areas where fish breeding areas where fish breeding
- Establishing of the temporary lot
- Establishing of the protected natural resources areas in the community.
- Providing the staff capacity building programs for provincial and community levels
- Strictly of law enforcements by local staff

- Establishment of Saving Group
- School and health care facilities
- Commune Office
- Environmental education and provides Water Purification Filter (WPF), Energy and Fuel Efficient Cook Stove (EFECS), garbage can, funds, animal raising, vegetable seed and floating home garden.

Community/Individual

- Steering Committee (SC) and the monks was working together to promotes the environmental education

Government

- Reducing of cutting flooded forests
- Reducing of over fishing during fish breed season.
- Declarations of principle were related with the law enforcements such as not allow community to uses elector fishing, catching small fishes and using small net sizes over 500 meters.

NGOs

- Conducting of the Environmental

- Organizing the World Environmental Campaign
- Environmental Awareness – Raising by using the difference posters, photos and pictures
- Encourages of the SHG members to be more conscious on the environmental education

Community/Individual

- Promoting of the environmental education to HSG member
- Steering Committee (SC) has been playing as an important body in promoting of the environmental education within the SHG and community

- Ranger staff was working to monitor and eliminates all kind of illegal activities
- Building a good communication network with the local authorities and other relevant key institutions (Solidarity)

NGOs

- Providing of the budgets, salary, equipments such as boat and gasoline to the field inspector for daily work operations
- Provided Fuel Efficient Cook Stove (EFECS) to the community, in order to reduce the cutting flooded forests.
- Provided Water Purification Filter (WPF), and floating home garden.
- Provided the budgets for capacity building programs
- Organized the World Environment Campaign
- Established of TOT for environmental education including monks and SHG members.

Community/Individual

- Establishes the 8 SHG in three villages of Peam Pang commune.

Awareness Raising Programs through the monk and the community

- Development of livelihood programs such as saving group, fishing – raising, organize vegetable production and floating home garden in the community.
- Providing the technical training on fish - raising, vegetable production, mushroom spawn production and basis life saving.

Community/Individual

- Economically in using of firewood
- Not cutting of flooded forests use as fishing tools and other purposes.
- Not using of elector fishing and over fishing during the fish breed season.
- Not catching of the small fishes for feeding
- Stop to using all kind of the illegal fishing equipments, which affects to the existing natural resources

Preak Toul	<p>Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Awareness - Raising • Disseminations of environmental education through radio, TV and Posters 	<p>Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness – Raising of the environment and fishery laws • Establishment of Core Areas and Community Natural Resources Protected Areas. 	<p>Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Awareness - Raising programs and educates people in the community to protection and conservation of the environments and natural resource in the Tonle Sap biosphere reserve.
	<p>NGOs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNV, SHG, monks and MoE staff was working together to promote the good and bad environmental education in the community • Awareness - Raising to stop using of the illegal fishing equipments such as elector fishing, small mesh sizes and etc... • PAC was involved in promoting the reducing of cutting flooded forests, illegal fishing equipments and trap wildlife for trade. 	<p>NGOs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP/ADB/GEF/FACT, COWS/PAC and UNV were working in the core areas to promotions of the environmental education, wildlife and natural resources conservation and livelihood development programs. 	<p>NGOs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNV has supports the World Environment Campaign
	<p>Community/Individual</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in promoting of the environmental education likewise stopping of cutting flooded forests, illegal fishing equipments and environmental pollutions. 	<p>Community/Individual</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law dissemination and law enforcements in the community • Rangers were working in the core areas to protection of the wildlife and natural resources in the Tonle Sap biosphere reserve. • To changes of the livelihood activities of 	<p>Community/Individual</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SHG and the monks was conducted the environmental education in the community such as saving of wildlife and protection of flooded forests.

Q3 Future Activities

Government

- Strengthening of implementation the existing mechanism and makes disciplinary measures for whom using the illegal fishing equipments
- Strengthening and increasing of the environmental awareness - raising in the community

Government

- Developing of more concretes law for the local community
- Strengthening of law enforcements at the community level
- Continuing to promotes the environmental education programs in the community
- Continues to encourages and motivates the conservation activities
- Continues to provides the technical assistances to the community for livelihood development programs
- Continues to facilitates and coordinates the development programs at the community level

Government

- To reduces the illegal fishing activities
- Re-planting flooded forests and protecting environment for further sustainable

Stueng Sen

NGOs

- Suggest to NGOs/UNV to continue supporting the SHG for further sustainable development
- Continue to providing of the environmental education for the community
- Suggest to providing of the rafts for keeping the wastes in the community
- Enhancing of the community to re-planting and keeping the existing flooded forests.

NGOs

- Continues to supports funds, equipments and technical assistances for environmental education/ disseminations and conservations programs
- Continues to provides loan for community livelihood development programs
- Enhancing the work collaborations between the Government and NGOs

NGOs

- Suggest to NGOs to continue the financial and technical assistances, equipments and poster for environmental education.

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Chhmar**

Community/Individual

- To be involved in protecting and keeping of the community environments

Government

- To eliminates of the cutting flooded forests
- To reduce and/or elimination of the fishing lot, which always causes the conflict interest between lot owners and local fishermen

NGOs

- Request to NGOs to continue supporting of the livelihood development programs in the community.

Community/Individual

- To be involved in protecting and conservation of the natural resources

Government

- To strengthening of law enforcements
- To introduce the livelihood development programs, in order to reduces and/or withdrawal from the using of natural resources
- To promote and/or campaign in re-planting of flooded forests in the community
- To conduct the environmental awareness raising and/or dissemination programs through TV, radio, Ministry of Education Youth and Sport, school, pagoda and local community.

NGOs

- To provides the funds to the poorest families for alternative livelihood development activities
- To provides the loan programs
- To continues providing the technical assistance to the community, in order to improving their living

Community/Individual

- Steering Committee (SC) and the monk would work in close collaboration to promote mores understanding of the environmental education.

Government

- The fishery administration law should be strictly implemented by the relevant local authorities, especially for opening and closing of the fishing season.
- The non transparency of the violation of the law should be severely implemented and responsible by relevant local authorities.
- The more different regulations should be draft to protect the significant threat of the wildlife and natural resources today.

NGOs

- Suggest to NGOs/CBO continuing supports the environmental awareness – raising programs, in order to saving the significant threat of the wildlife and natural resources today.
- Suggest to NGOs/CBO should be developed a project proposal for re-planting of the flooded forests were burned and/or heavy destroyed

Preak Toul

Community/Individual

- Steering Committee (SC) continues to provide the environmental awareness programs within the SHG itself as well as for the community as a whole.

Government

- Continues to disseminates the environmental education through radio, TV and posters
- MoE staffs continue to educate the people in the core areas to be aware of the consequences of their cutting flooded forests, illegal fishing and environmental pollutions.

NGOs

- The existing NGOs and UNDP/UNV were working in the core areas should be continued to support the environmental education programs by providing the financial and technical assistance for future sustainable project.

Community/Individual

- Continues to disseminate the environmental education activities through SHG and the monks.

conditions

Community/Individual

- The SHG member should be participated in re-planting flooded forests and collecting of the waste
- Continue to conduct the awareness raising programs for the community to stopping flows of oil, acids and chemical into the water.

Government

- Development of the environmental education plan and strengthening of law enforcements as well as establishing of the management committee.

NGOs

- Continues seeking the new NGOs to be partnership for financial assistances.

Community/Individual

- Continues to supports law disseminations as well as strengthening of law enforcement
- Continues to encourage the community livelihood

Community/Individual

- We have to live and love the existing environments and natural resources are surrounding our life.
- We should not cut the flooded forests, which it was the shelters of the wildlife and for all kind of fishes.
- We all together have to be protected our environments and natural resources for future sustainable as well as for our new generations.

Government

- Continues to protection the cutting of flooded forests, illegal fishing and trapping all kind of wildlife

NGOs

- Continue to support technical assistance and capacity building in promoting of the environmental awareness raising programs and improving of the community livelihood conditions.

Community/Individual

- Participation in protecting of the flooded forests, wildlife, re-planting forests, and participate the training programs would be provided by

development programs.

NGOs, in order to improving the skill/knowledge for alternative livelihood development.