

The Economics of Low Carbon in Cambodia - Oddor Meanchey Project

Cambodia

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I. Background Information:

Climate change is a global challenge. The world is being confronted with the negative effects of climate change through increases in temperature and climatic events such as floods, droughts, tropical cyclones, etc. These effects are the result of current resource intensive patterns of global development for social and economic progress. The Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) has become increasingly aware of the impacts of climate change. Climate change not only impacts our generation, but will also have an impact on the people in future generations who will need to adapt and mitigate its effects. Recognizing the impacts of climate change on social and economic development, as well as on the environment and livelihoods of the people, the Cambodian Forestry Administration has partnered with agencies such as the Clinton Climate Initiative (CCI), Pact, community capacity building NGO, and Global Capital to implement a project which would provide a supporting framework for environmentally sustainable and low carbon development and growth in Cambodia. The project is being conducted in Oddor Meanchey to enhance low carbon development and protect land that is suffering from some of the highest deforestation rates in the country.

Quick facts

Zone	Oddor Meanchey province
Topic	Low Carbon Development
Leading agency	Cambodian Forestry Administration
Implementing Agencies	Clinton Climate Initiative (CCI), Pact, Global Capital

Case Study





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II. Project Definition:

The Clinton Climate Initiative (CCI) has implemented two principal actions related to the project by:

- a) improving community awareness of the project and assigning the community as custodians of the forest. CCI also engaged Pact to conduct participatory informed consent exercises in villages and train community members in forest management and low carbon development.
- b) enhancing comprehensive biomass and carbon inventories of all community forestry sites. CCI has played a key role in the implementation of the Oddar Meanchey project. The organization conducted a project feasibility assessment for the Forestry Administration that concluded that the project is viable; they also prepared documentation that provides the scientific platform for carbon calculation and drafted a 30-year project work plan for sustainable development. The latter reduces the country's reliance on forest products and advises the national government on policy and regulatory reforms that support the development of further low carbon projects in the country.

III. Outcome/Impact:

The expected outcome of this project is:

- a) A portfolio of low-carbon interventions by key sectors;
- b) Preventing the release of 7.1 million tons of carbon dioxide through the preservation of 59,385 hectares of forested land.

Through ongoing carbon sales, the project provides a revenue stream to support future sustainable forest management and low carbon development activities. Furthermore, this project could potentially be used as a model for sustainable forest management and low carbon development in other regions.

References:

1. CCI (2010), Study on the Forest Project, Low Carbon, and Climate Resilient Development in Cambodia.
2. GGGI (2012), Green Growth Planning for Developing and Emerging Countries.
3. GG (2012), Roadmap to Green Growth for Cambodia.