



Toward Comprehensive Forests and Forest Ecosystems Restoration in Cambodia



Capacity-building workshop for selected subregions of Asia on the restoration of forests and other ecosystems to support the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets

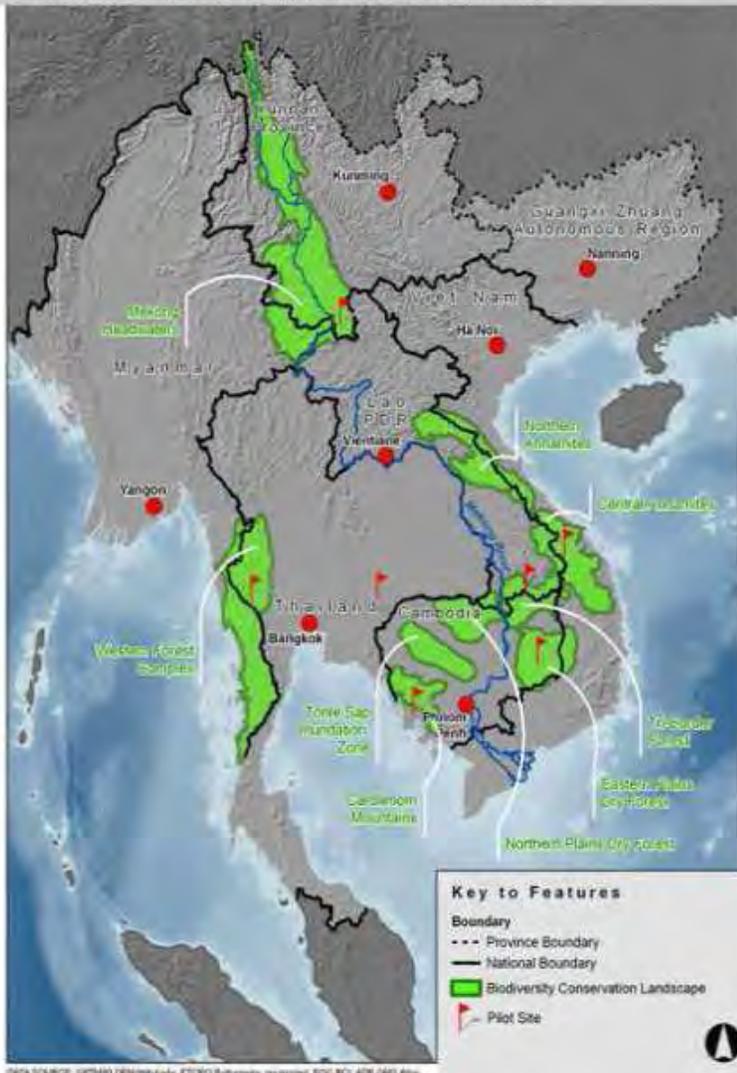
Bangkok, Thailand 27- June-01 July 2016



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Forest Biodiversity in Cambodia

GMS Core Environment Program and Biodiversity Conservation Corridors Initiative - ADB TA 6289
Greater Mekong Subregion
Biodiversity Conservation Landscapes and Pilot Sites



Cambodia is one of 35 Global Biodiversity Hotspots that provide habitats for thousands of plant and wildlife species, many of which are on the IUCN Red List of threatened and endangered species.

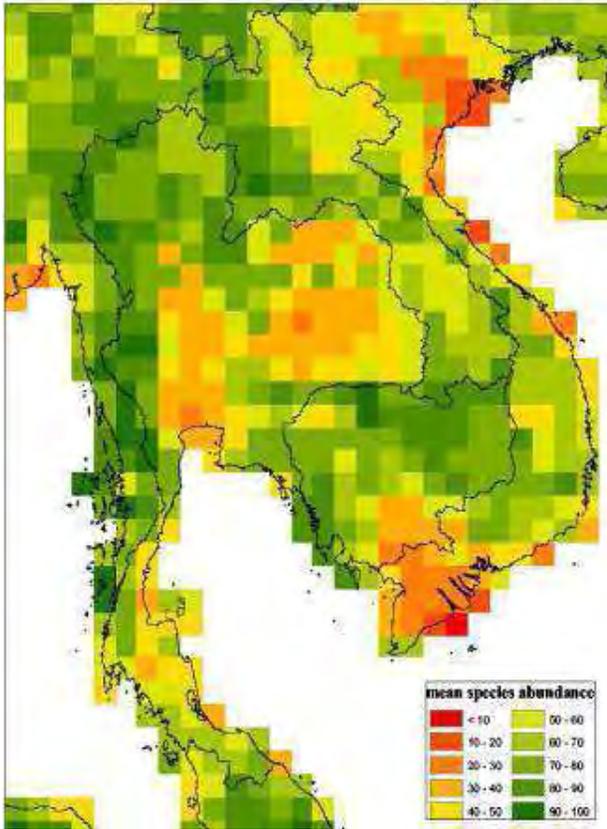
Cambodia has the largest remaining extensive intact block of a unique landscape of exceptional global importance for biodiversity conservation in Southeast Asia and contains 5 of the 9 important Biodiversity Corridors in the Greater Mekong Sub-Region

Forest s Ecosystems in Cambodia

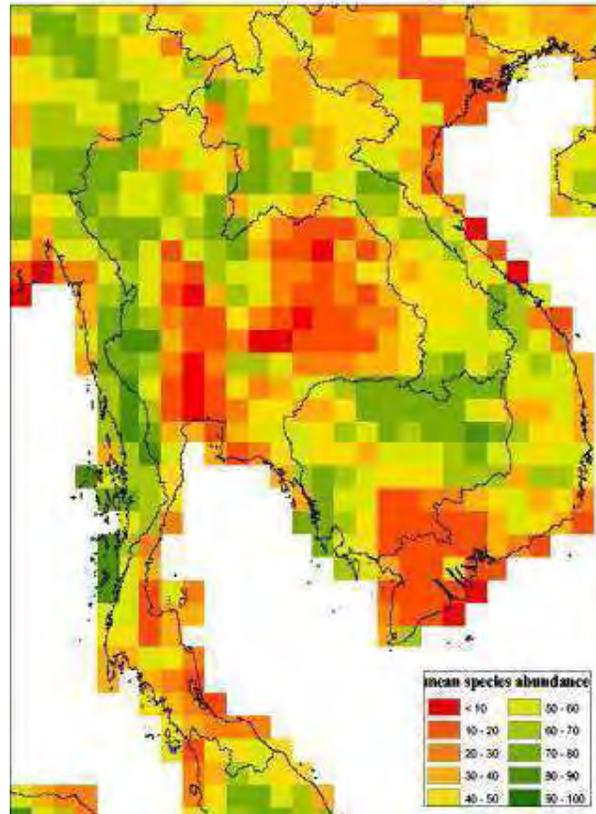


Trend of Species Abundance in GMS

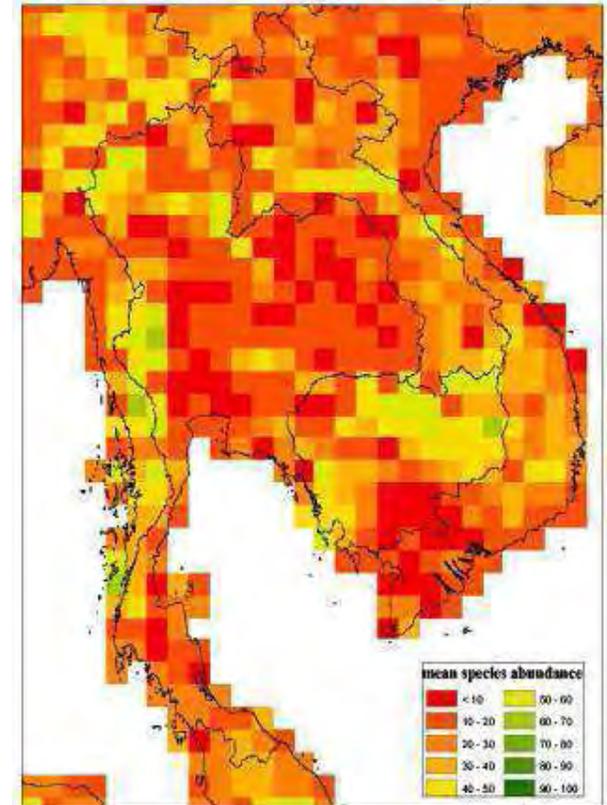
Mean species abundance (as % of original) in 1970



Mean species abundance (as % of original) in 2000



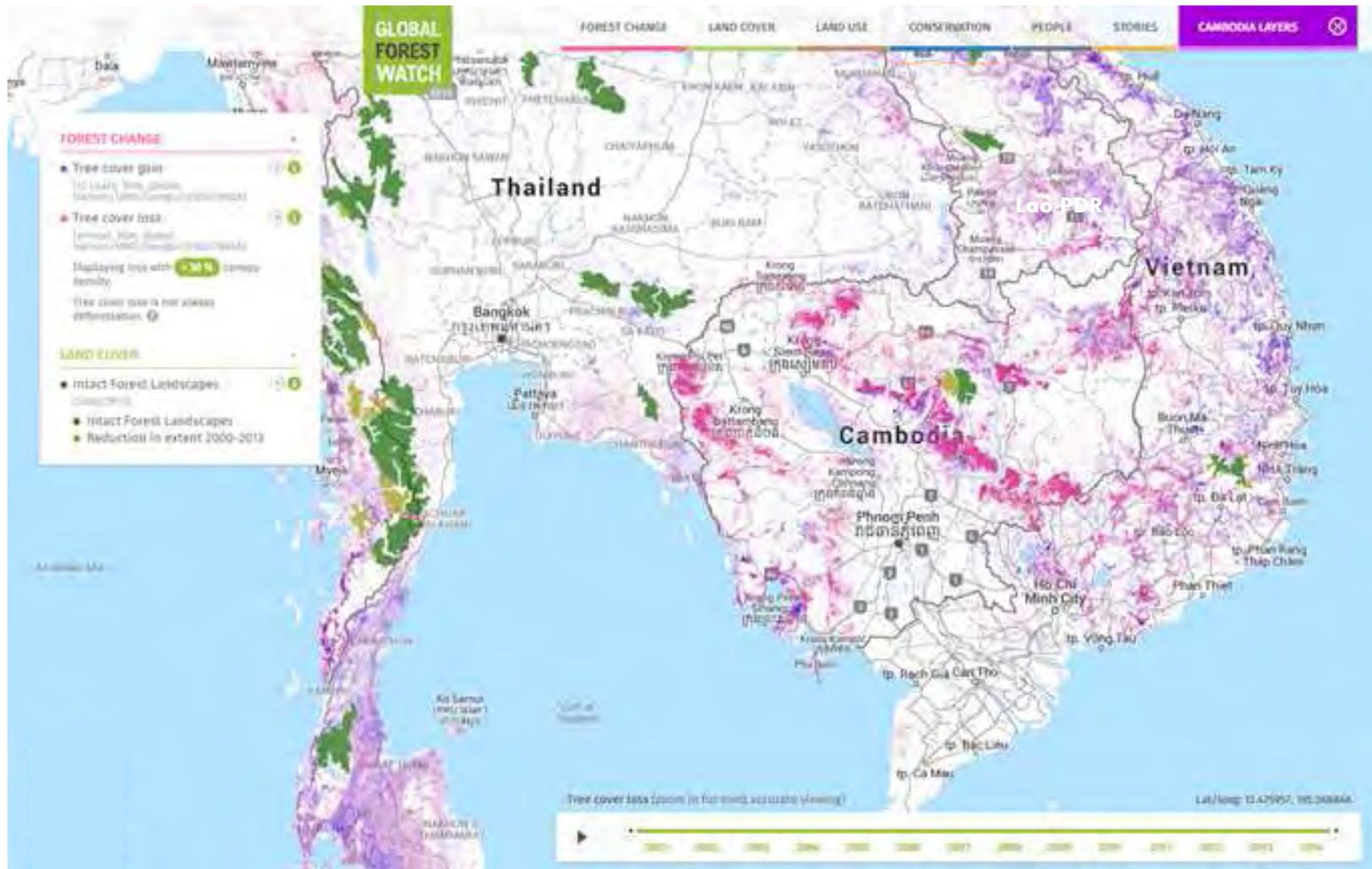
Mean species abundance (as % of original) in 2030



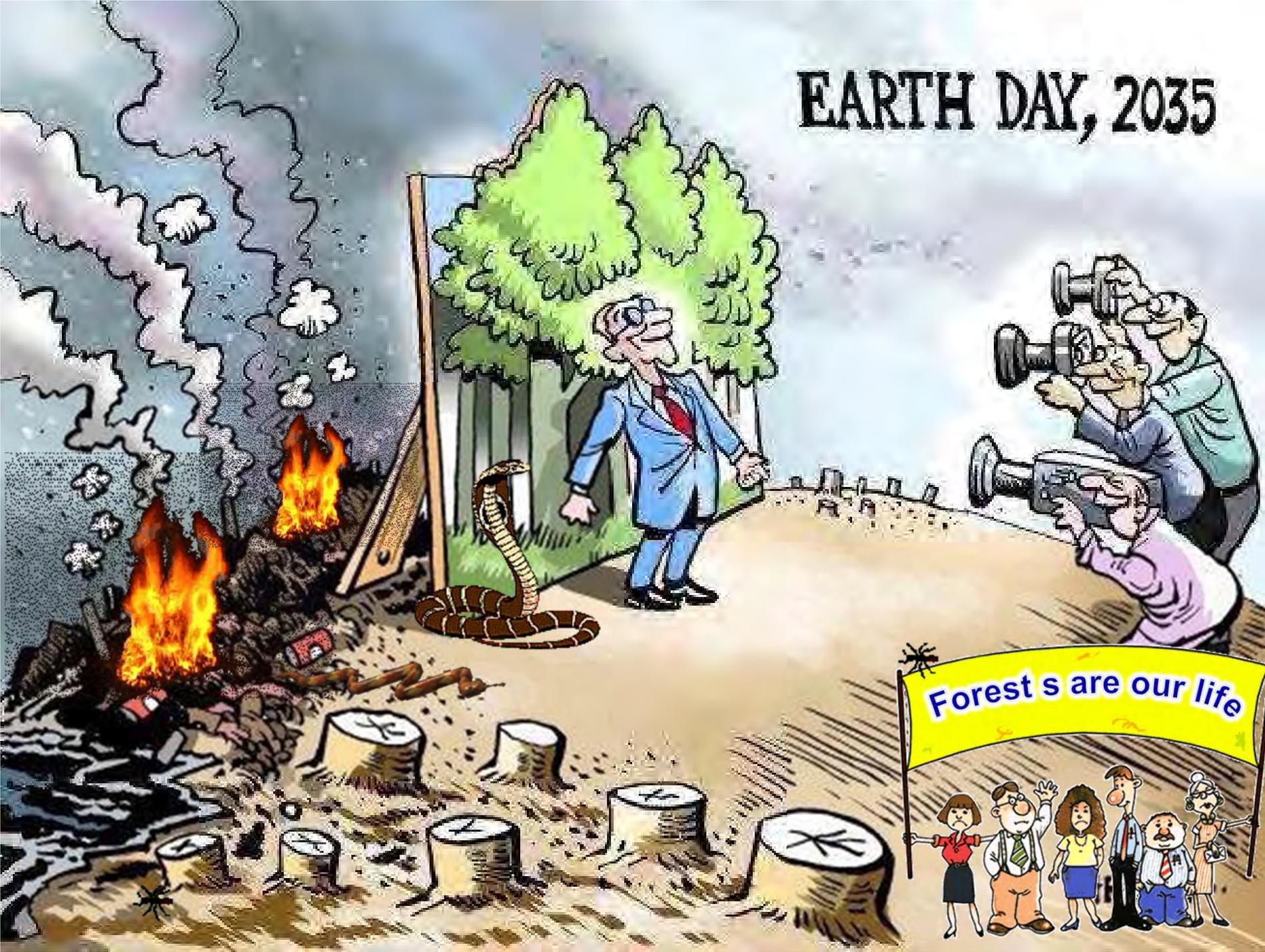
Source: Ben ten Brink "BCI Measuring and Modelling Biodiversity 2006"



Forest loss and degradation 2000-2013 (Global Forest Watch)

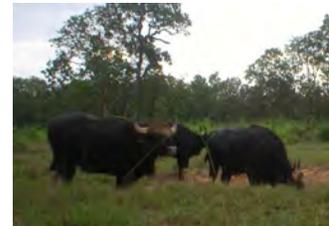


EARTH DAY, 2035



Is sustainable forest management in tropical forests possible?

- **SFM** = environmental, social, and economic sustainability
- **SFM** = no degradation, no species loss, and landscape planning
- We know that <10% of tropical forests are sustainably managed (ITTO: Blaser et al. 2012)
- Focus is on production of wood products, not conservation
- Some tree species do not regenerate well (e.g., mahoganies)
- Complex co-evolved processes – e.g., seed dispersal by elephants
- Some evidence that SFM can be done - but difficult so far



“Global forest-related processes and initiatives”

- **Global objectives on forests (GOF)** and other key activities to implement the UN Forest Instrument (formerly Non Legally Binding Instrument-NLBI) and advance SFM
- **Convention on Biological Diversity** – Strategic Plan and Aichi Targets: SFM (7), PAs (11), degradation (5), and carbon (15)
- **UNFCCC – REDD+** with safeguards
- **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**: sustainable land use, halt degradation, restore ecosystems
- **Promotion of SFM - ITTO and FAO**
- **ITTO-CBD Program on Biodiversity Conservation**
- **Forest Ecosystem Restoration Initiative** – Korea through the CBD and the **Global Landscape Restoration Initiative** (e.g., Bonn Challenge)
- **Intact Forest Landscapes Program**
- **National Forest Program**

Global Objectives on Forest

Global Objectives on Forests

- **GOF1: Reverse Forest Loss:** Reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide through sustainable forest management, including protection, restoration, afforestation and reforestation, and increase efforts to prevent forest degradation.
- **GOF2: Enhance Forest-Based Benefits:** Enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, including by improving the livelihoods of forest-dependent people
- **GOF3: Increase Sustainably Managed Forests:** Increase significantly the area of sustainably managed forests, including protected forests, and increase the proportion of forest products derived from sustainably managed forests.
- **GOF4: Mobilize Financial Resources:** Reverse the decline in official development assistance for sustainable forest management and mobilize significantly-increased new and additional financial resources from all sources for the implementation of sustainable forest management

GBO4 on Target 5

- *Deforestation was high in 2010-2014, though and it slowed considerably since 2015*
- *Habitats losses continued due to forest land conversion and incompatible developments of cross sectors*
- *Continuation of conversion: Forests, grassland wetland river system*



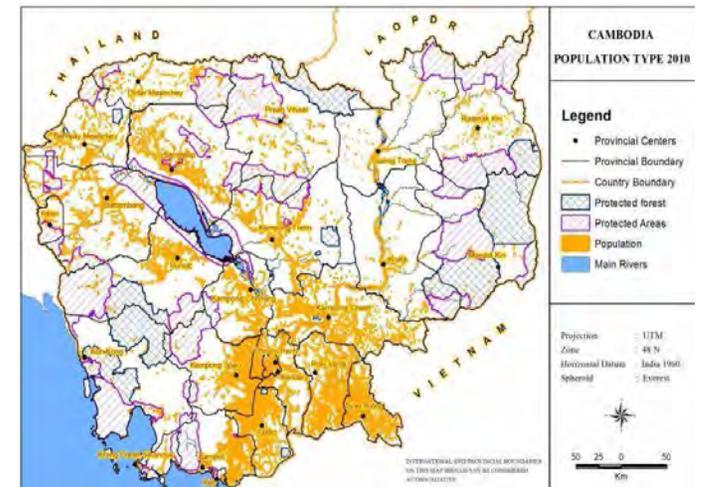
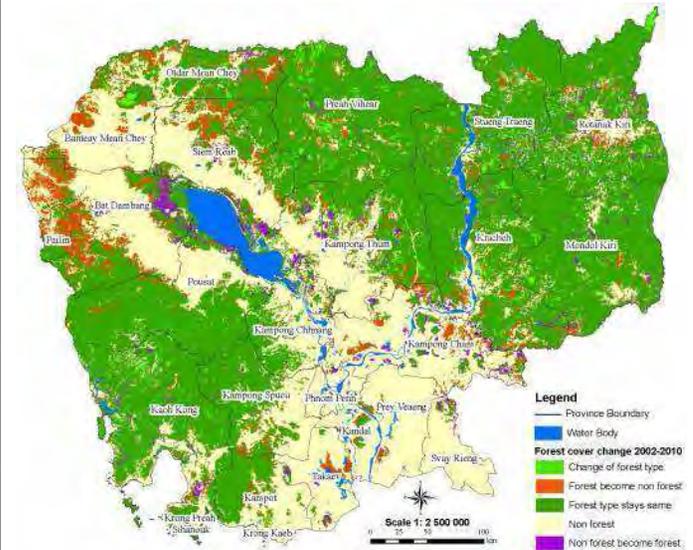
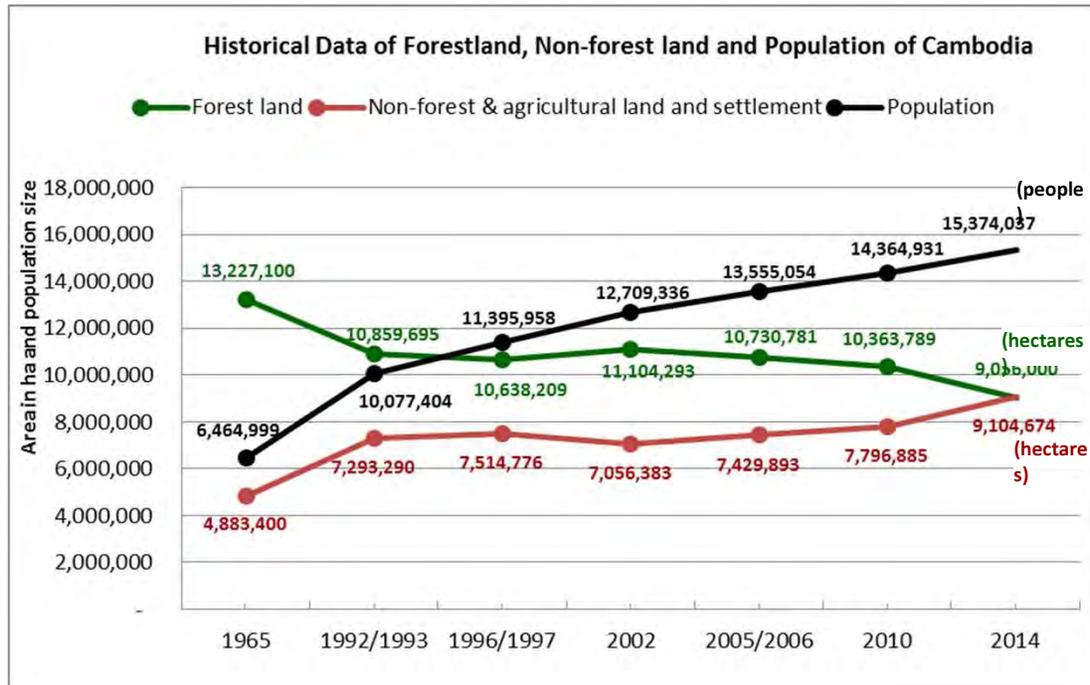
GBO4 on Target 15

Enhance ecosystem resilience and carbon stocks through increase coverage of forest conservation areas and annual reforestation program and forest plantation/agro-forestry.

Reforestation program and forest plantation/agro-forestry, There are no good estimates of the area of degraded forest, in large part because there is no existing definition



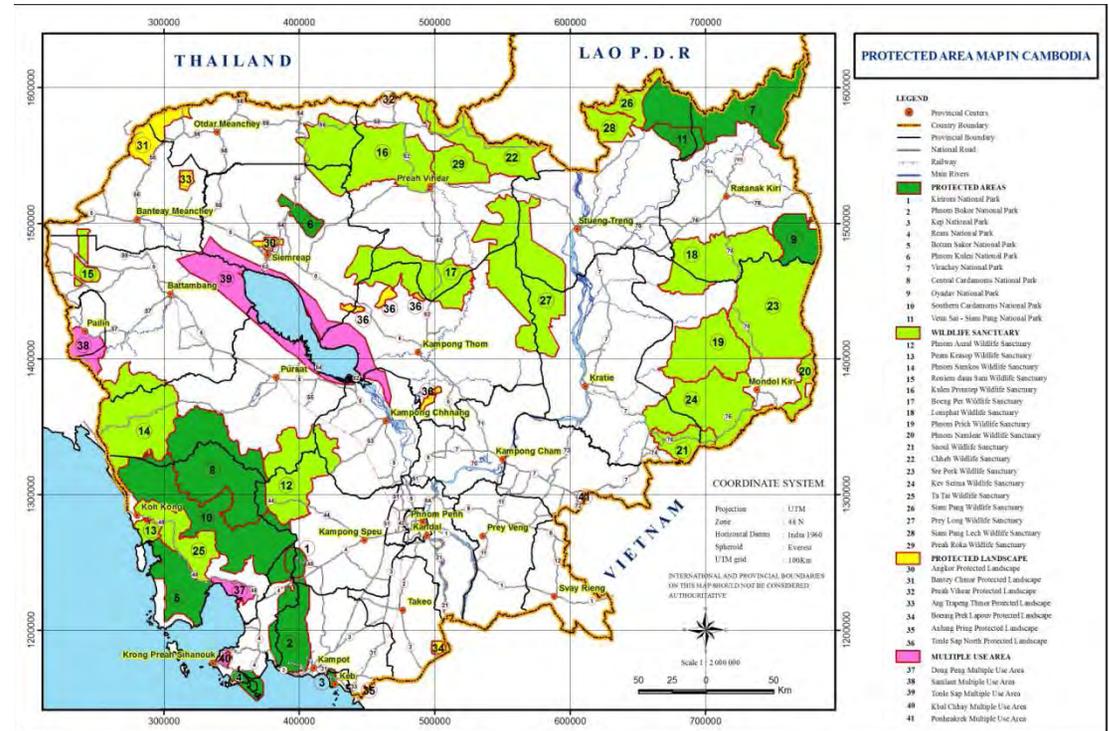
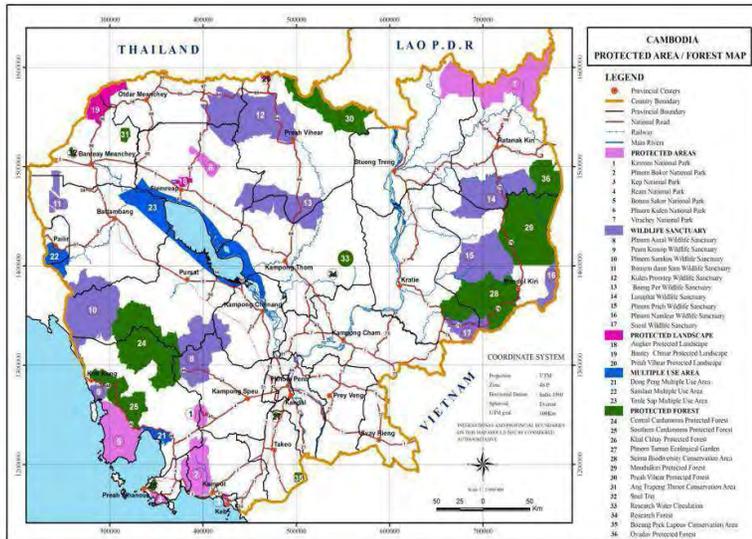
Forest Cover and Population Trends



GB04 on Target 11

Before May 2016

After May 2016



Cambodia currently has over 5 million ha of Protected Areas, Protected Forests and Biodiversity Conservation Areas and 25,000 ha of inland fish sanctuaries representing about 30% of the country's land surface (Aichi Target 11: 17%).

Forest Biodiversity links to the 2030 Agenda Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

GOAL 15

PROTECT, RESTORE AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE USE OF TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS, SUSTAINABLY MANAGE FORESTS, COMBAT DESERTIFICATION, AND HALT AND REVERSE LAND DEGRADATION AND HALT BIODIVERSITY LOSS

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
More at sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgsproposal

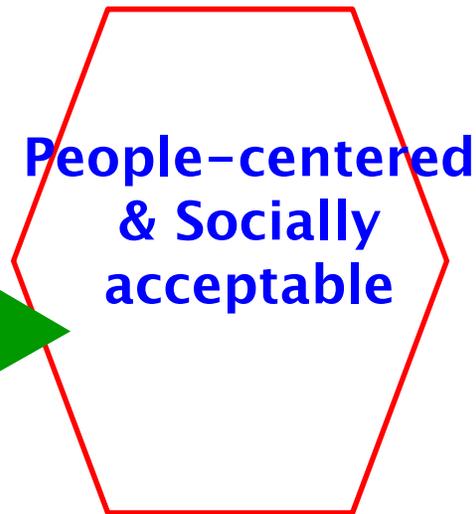
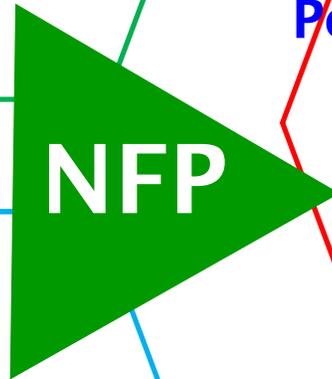
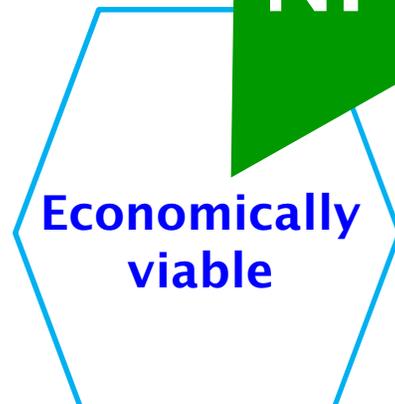
15.1→ by 2020 ensure conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements;

15.2→ by 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests, and increase afforestation and reforestation.

Forests are essential to maintaining biodiversity and supporting environmental processes.

- Forests contain an estimated 75% of all terrestrial plant and animal species, most of which are found in tropical forests.
- Forests combat land degradation and desertification by stabilizing soils, maintaining nutrient cycling, and reducing wind and water erosion.
- Biodiversity in forests is the driving force behind most ecological processes, including soil fertility, pollination, nutrient cycling, natural pest control and the maintenance of water resources.

Main Pillars of National Forest Program (NFP)

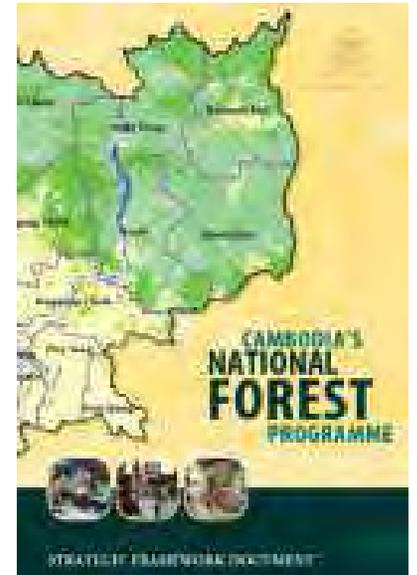


Cambodia pursue SFM for fostering Healthy Forest, Healthy People and Healthy Economy



“National Forest Programme 2010-2029”

- National Forest Demarcation, Classification and Registration.
- Forest Resource Management and Conservation.
- Forest Law Enforcement and Governance.
- Community Forestry.
- Capacity Building and Research Development.
- Sustainable Forest Financing.



Technical and financial support are required to implement effective actions to support the Sustainable Utilization of Forest and Biodiversity Resources, especially with regard to Integrated Forest Ecosystem Restoration programs and the expansion of Agroforestry practices among Forest-Dependent Communities.



Forestry Strategic Plan 2014-2018

Results /Indicators	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Protected Forests and Wildlife Conservation Areas – Annual Increase (ha)	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Reforestation – Annual Increase (ha)	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Community Forests Established and Strengthened –Annual Increase (no.)	32	32	32	32	32

Cambodia is promoting the sustainable utilization of natural resources and the conservation of biodiversity, ecosystems and landscapes to support green development and the bio-economy

Forest Resource Management and Conservation

National Arbor Day



Forest Resource Management & Conservation

Habitat Restoration and Reforestation



Forest Resource Management & Conservation

Habitat Restoration and Reforestation



Forest Resource Management & Conservation

Habitat Restoration and Reforestation



“National REDD+”

- **REDD+** implementation in Cambodia phases:
Readiness, Implementation, and Results-Based Payments (RBP) for verified emissions reductions. Currently, is the end of its Readiness Phase and plans to transition to the Implementation Phase in 2016.
- **Cambodia REDD+:**

National Strategy or Action Plan (NRS);

Safeguards Information System (SIS)

National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS);

Forest Reference Emissions Level/ Forest Reference Level (FREL/FRL)



Issues to Address for Forest and Terrestrial Ecosystem Restoration

- **How to synergising Global forest-related processes and initiatives**
- **Compatible of cross sectoral plans related to forest land use**
- **How to promote Investment Confidence**
- **How to foster Trust/Believe**
- **How to improve land productivity**
- **Government Support: such collateral assurance, enable policy and legislation**
- **Uncertain of Forest Land Use Planning**
- **Intact forest landscapes remain but are only 25% of the total forest estate and have little protection**
- **There are no good estimates of the area of degraded forest, in large part because there is no existing definition**
- **Political Stability and Peace**

Conclusions

- **Forest area continues to decline and existing forests become more fragmented**
- **Sustainable forest management in the tropics requires more research and is as yet not fully possible and projects like the 'Emerald Triangle' assist in achieving global forest-related targets through national participation**
- **The Sustainable Utilization of Forest Resources and Biodiversity requires implementation of actions that include appropriate legal and policy frameworks, socioeconomic incentives aligned to those frameworks, broad stakeholder engagement and effective monitoring and enforcement.**
- **International Cooperation, Technical and financial support are required to implement effective actions to support the Sustainable Utilization of Forest and Biodiversity Resources, especially with regard to Integrated Forest Ecosystem Restoration programs and the expansion of Agro-Forestry practices among Forest-Dependent Communities.**

Thank you for your attention!



Building the Future We Want

**Collaboration and cooperation for sustainable landscape management ,
conservation, restoration to make safer world habitats for all.**