

Indigenous Peoples Plan/Framework for the CEPF Project “Conserving the last remaining wild populations of hog deer *Axis porcinus annamiticus* in Cambodia”



Background

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund has prepared an Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework to ensure that the World Bank’s Indigenous Peoples Policy is applied to CEPF-supported projects. As the project “Conserving the last remaining wild populations of hog deer *Axis porcinus annamiticus* in Cambodia” is likely to survey hog deer on land traditionally owned, customarily sued or occupied by indigenous peoples this framework has been developed.

According to the CEPF policy the minimum requirements for projects working with Indigenous Peoples are:

1. identification of Indigenous Peoples;
2. assessment of project impacts;
3. consultations with affected communities; and
4. development of measures to avoid adverse impacts and provide culturally appropriate benefits

These requirements are addressed below.

Framework

Identification of Indigenous Peoples

The presence of Indigenous Peoples in areas assessed for the presence of hog deer was determined using a map of Indigenous Peoples distribution (http://www.icso.org.kh/wp-content/uploads/2010/03/Cambodia_IP-target-areas.jpg). The Kratie site was found to be on the edge of the range of the Punong and Kui Indigenous Peoples. Thus being on the edge of the Indigenous Peoples range it is likely that there will not be any Indigenous communities present.

Assessment of project impacts

As detailed in the LoI this project will

“conduct interview and ecological surveys in areas occupied or owned by indigenous peoples. We will determine whether hog deer occur in the area, discuss land-use practices in hog deer habitat and other threats to the species, and investigate whether there is community support for conservation of hog deer and discuss with local people what form those conservation efforts should take. This project will therefore not result in any foreseen adverse impacts on indigenous peoples in the survey areas.”

This still provides an accurate description of the project. Whilst in the LoI we mentioned that the project will have no adverse impacts, neither will it have any positive impacts. Thus the project will not impact upon any people in the project area, indigenous or otherwise.

Consultations with affected communities

Interviews with local community members are an integral part of this project. They will be conducted to ascertain the status and location of hog deer in a number of priority areas. These interviews will be used to inform community members of our activities. Thus should any indigenous communities occur within the project area they will be informed of the project activities through the interview process.

Development of measures to avoid adverse impacts and provide culturally appropriate benefits

As this project has no impact on indigenous communities the development of measures to avoid adverse impacts and provide culturally appropriate benefits is not required, as per the CEPF policy:

“in projects with no impacts this could be limited to consultations during implementation to keep local communities informed about project activities”

This provision was undertaken during the community interviews.

Conclusion

Whilst a component of this project will be undertaken in area that may be occupied or owned by indigenous peoples the project has no impact upon indigenous people. Thus the minimum requirements for projects working in areas with Indigenous Peoples as detailed in the CEPF Policy have been prescribed and will be adhered to.