

Stakeholder Engagement Plan

Date 10 March 2020

CEPF Grant CEPF-110383

Grantee Culture and Environment Preservation Association (CEPA)

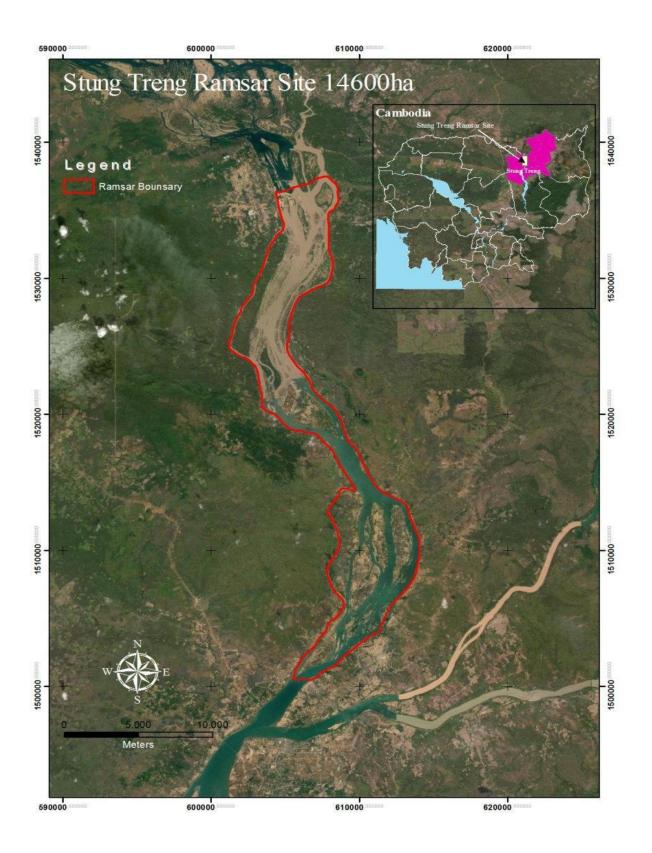
Project Title Sustainable Natural Capital Management through Improving Biodiversity Conservation Efforts in Stung Treng Ramsar Site

Project Location Stung Treng Province, Cambodia

Grant Summary

- 1. Grantee organization. Culture and Environment Preservation Association (CEPA)
- 2. Grant title. Sustainable Natural Capital Management through Improving Biodiversity Conservation Efforts in Stung Treng Ramsar Site
- 3. Grant number CEPF-110383
- 4. Grant amount (US dollars). USD 100,000
- 5. Proposed dates of grant. 01 July 2020-30 June 2022
- 6. Countries or territories where project will be undertaken. Cambodia
- 7. Date of preparation of this document. 27 February 2020
- 8. <u>Introduction:</u> This section will briefly describe the project including design elements and potential social and environmental issues. Where possible, include maps of the project site and surrounding area.

Stung Treng Ramsar Site is situated on the Mekong River between the Lao border and Stung Treng town in Cambodia. It was designated as a Ramsar Site in 1999 with 14,600 hectares. It contains a unique seasonally flooded riverine forest habitat, and is also home to the Irrawaddy Dolphin *Orcaella brevirostris* and the Mekong Giant Catfish *Pangasianodon gigas*. More than 10,000 people, especially the Community Fishery (CFi) members who live in or close to the Ramsar Site, and most of them rely on the Mekong for their food and livelihoods. Fish is the major source of protein and is also harvested to be sold. Many other species are also used, such as snails, crabs and frogs for food, and various plants for fuel wood, building, crafts and medicine. The regular flooding of the river supports rice farming using paddies. (https://www.iucn.org/theme/species/our-work/freshwater-biodiversity/what-we-do/integrated-wetland-assessment/stung-treng-demonstration-site).



Currently, in the Ramsar site, there are existing mechanisms in place including CFis in line with Ministry of Agriculture, Fishery and Forestry (MAFF), Ranger under the Ministry of Environment (MoE), and local authority under the Ministry of Interior (MoI) who are playing the key role in natural resources management and biodiversity conservation, however the mechanism have not been well functioning in terms of participation, collaboration and law enforcement in fishery resources conservation and management. There are still gaps in Cfi members participation, especially community youth is a marginalized group who are limited engagement on fishery conservation and management in terms of decision making, CFi management committee structure while the conceptual of fishery conservation and its benefits of CFi members are not well translated in the context of community level to be understood and push for more participation. The community fishery management committee and member are still have limited understanding of their roles and responsibilities to exercise their right in community management, limited capacity in the ecosystem services, biodiversity conservation and its benefits to the livelihoods, leadership capacity, and the institutional management, how to mobilize the resources to support the community management, which is why they facing the difficulty in promoting the sense of ownership and how to sustain the community fishery management. Another corner is collaboration and networking in term of co-management the fishery resources between the community with other key stakeholders on the brood fish protection and law enforcement in the community fishing area is needed to be improved. Also, the capacity of key stakeholders (community fishery, rangers, police officers, and local authorities) to join effort in collaboration with community on the fishery resources conservation and management is needed to be equipped and improved.

The project designed phase was engaged stakeholders and communities through several meetings with the following key objectives

- To identify and assess the social and environmental issues of a proposed project and evaluate project design alternatives to response the real needs of local communities.
- To gather information or advice from stakeholders and taking these views into account when making project decisions and/or setting targets and defining strategies.
- To gather stakeholder feedback and suggestion on the project development and management and mitigation measures of potential impacts, particularly where stakeholders have a potential role to play in these project.

Gather opinions and views from individual stakeholders referring to any suitable solution or intervention in the local context. The proposed project will:

- **1.** Engage youth and community fishery members to be active participation in biodiversity conservation and management in CFis in Stung Treng Ramsar site.
- <u>2.</u> Strengthen collaborative management in the broodstock zones and CFi management areas for improving fish stock and effective law enforcement in Stung Treng province.
- 3. Improve capacity in coordination, partnership and networking among key stakeholders (police, commune council, district authority, FiAC, Rangers, Community fishery Management Committee, CFi networks and NGOs) who are working on NRM with better governance and management in Ramsar site.

Implementation Phase:

- Project Launching: Present project information to a group of stakeholders and open the space
 for the group of stakeholders to provide their views and opinions, feedback and comment for
 improving the project by using participatory exercises to facilitate group discussions, brainstorm
 issues, analyses information, and develop recommendations and strategies.
- **Project Implementation process:** coordination, facilitation and engage local community, authority, and stakeholder who are direct and indirect beneficiary join to implement the planned actions including meeting, exchange learning and sharing, series of training and workshop, conservation and management actions, knowledge products development and dissemination, in

purpose to share the value and ownership of project among key stakeholder to ensure accountability of project delivery, the participation of stakeholders at all stages of project implementation to guarantee accountability and project success.

Monitoring and Evaluation Phase:

- **Monitoring:** engaged stakeholder to monitor the implementation for keeping the project on track through reflection meeting, observation, interview with target beneficiaries.
- **Mid-term Evaluation:** engaged stakeholder to identify the potential programme design's problems, assess progress towards the achievement of objectives, identify and document lesson learnt, identify risks and counter measure and to make recommendations regarding specific action that might be taken to improve the project implementation or filling the gaps in the assessment of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability obtained from the monitoring.
- **End-evaluation:** Involved local communities who are direct beneficiaries, stakeholder to assess the progress, impact over the short and longer period, by deep focus on relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability, and define the point to improve the performance based accountability, transparency and responsiveness. It's also define the lessons and best practice for scaling strategy.
- **Exit strategy workshop:** engaged local communities and stakeholder understand the result of the programme or project through presentation the review or evaluation report, more engage all participants discuss on the sustainable strategy for CBNRM group and their conservation activities also including the hand over process when the program/project end.
- 9. <u>Summary of Previous Stakeholder Engagement Activities:</u> If the grantee has undertaken any activities to date, including information disclosure and/or consultation, provide the following details:
 - Type of information disclosed, in what form (e.g., oral, brochure, reports, posters, radio, etc.), and how it was disseminated;
 - The locations and dates of any meetings undertaken to date;
 - Individuals, groups, and/or organizations that have been consulted;
 - Key issues discussed and key concerns raised;
 - Grantee response to issues raised, including any commitments or follow-up actions; and
 - Process undertaken for documenting these activities and reporting back to stakeholders.

There are numbers of programs and projects were implemented and continue to date such as The Partnership for Community Forestry and Fishery (PAFF) programme, Community Forestry Management through Ecotourism development, Build adaptation capacity of Indigenous People cope to climate change, Share Resources Join Solution (SRJS), Community Based Water Resources Management, Salaphum Project, which can give CEPA both good practices and lessons learned including stakeholder engagement. The following summarize the activities of stakeholder engagement in different three phase of the program or project cycle that have been undertaken so far:

CEPA have engaged the key stakeholders at the early stages of the project was designed during the existing project implemented by CEPA. With this opportunity, CEPA team gathered information, opinions, concerns and suggestions related to fishery management to be improved from all stakeholders and communities from the ground through other important events including as annual assembly of Community Fishery, Collaborative management workshop on fishery management in Ramsar site, Subtechnical working groups on fishery, Workshop on broodstock zone dissemination by Fishery Administration Cantonment (FiAC) in order to circulated the needs and challenges of communities and stakeholders in fishery resources management and conservation in Stung Treng. Here are the key events that have been conducted by CEPA projects with prior consultation and suggestions proposed by communities and key stakeholders:

N.O	Consultation meetings/ Events	Date of event implemented	Location	Numbers of Participants (F)	Proposed action
1	Annual assembly 2019 in 17 CFis	 Nov 13, 2019 Nov 15, 2019 Nov 16, 2019 Nov 17, 2019 Nov 18, 2019 Nov 19, 2019 Nov 20, 2019 Nov 21, 2019 	 Kralapeash, Koh Chhertel Toch Koh Pnov Ou Svay, Ou Run Chum Thom, Koh Key Koh Heb, Vern Sien Koh Sneng, Khe Koh Srolao, Koh Chhertel Thom Thmey, Koh Khonden 	 81/54F, 86/50F 78/36F 79/46F, 68/45F 94/59F, 79/44F 86/44F, 82/36F 85/37F, 79/30F 71/38F, 74/40F 69/40F, 68/45F 	 Strengthen more capacity and awareness raising to CFiMC and Members on fishery Management and conservation. Engage young people in the fishery management as many CFiMC are older and older.
2	Collaborative management workshop on fishery management in Ramsar site	 Feb 22 2019 Sep 23 2019 	Ramsar Center Ou Svay village Ou Svay Commune Ramsar Center Ou Svay village Ou Svay Commune	• 83/17F • 57/6F	 Director of Ramsar site proposed to extend the collaborative management workshop on fishery management in Ramsar site as it is a good mechanism in effective fishery management. The district governor of Borei O'svay Sen Chey have shared the good practice on broodstock zone management by FiAC out of Ramsar site and proposed to establish the model of broodstock zone in Ramsar site.
3	Sub-technical working groups on fishery	• July 02 2019	FiAC office	7/2F	FiAC proposed for more support on broodstock zone management within the year and they also show their commitment on the extension of the broodstock zones in Ramsar site.

4	Workshop on broodstock zone dissemination by FiAC	• Nov 14 2019	Provincial Hall Stung Treng Province	• 83/15F	•	Proposed to extend 7 broodstock zones in Stung Treng in 2020. Proposed for more resources from Development Partners, NGOs to support the activity of broodstock
						zones establishment.
5	Consultation Meeting Provincial	March 2, 2019March 10,	Kampong Cham	• 2/1F • 2/1F	•	Proposed Broodstock zones establishment
	Department of Environment	2019	Phnom Penh	_, _,		processes in Ramsar site with action.
	(PDoE)				•	Proposed to have an
						MOU on the
						Broodstock zone with
						PDoE

- **10.** <u>Project Stakeholders:</u> This section will list the key stakeholder groups who will be informed and consulted about the project. These should include persons or groups who:
 - Are directly and/or indirectly affected by the project or have "interests" in the project that determine them as stakeholders; and
 - Have the potential to influence project outcomes (examples of potential stakeholders are affected communities, local organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and government authorities. Stakeholders can also include politicians, companies, labor unions, academics, religious groups, national social and environmental public sector agencies, and the media).

The proposed project called "Sustainable Natural Capital Management through Improving Biodiversity Conservation Efforts in Ramsar Site" informed, consulted and engage all the following stakeholder or group who are:

- **CFi Members:** the local people who are the member of community fisher that appreciate the support the action, they have engaged in all the project stage design during the annual assembly as the key event that take place every year, so it is the opportunity to raise their concerns and support to the fishery resources management and conservation. They are direct beneficiaries which the project will be working with to empower them to exercise their rights in community fishery management, environmental conservation, and livelihood improvement through various meetings, workshops or other public events conducted by youth groups or CFiMC in their communities.
- Local authority: through informal consultation meeting in pre-planning stage, the local authorities including commune councils, district governors are willing to collaborate and support the project actions to success their development plan in term of sustainable natural resources management and community development. They will provide the technical support and seeking government budget to support the community fishery management plan during the project implementation and after the project ended. They are also the direct beneficiaries as the project will provide the several trainings to them related to (1) Effective Collaborative Management, (2) Leadership and Management, (3) Lobby and Advocacy, (4) Effective communication and conflict transformation which these trainings will improve their participation and collaboration on the fishery resources management and conservation at the community lelvel.

- Police: who are the government officials have authority to arrest or make filing complaint to the
 court for any offensive cases or illegal cases occurred during the mission. So their role is to
 support the community fishery management committee in law enforcement activities including
 patrolling and filing cases. They will be equipped with the same trainings as local authorities as
 well.
- Rangers: are the staff under supervision of Provincial Department of Environment in line with Ministry of Environment. The rangers have specific roles to manage and protect in the protected area through strengthening law enforcement activities including patrolling and law dissemination to the villagers or community members. In this proposed project, they are the closed partner for community fishery management committee in patrolling and they will take responsible to lead other police officials in the related authority to protect the fishery resources in the Ramsar site. They are the direct beneficiaries who will be provided several trainings as the other stakeholders too.
- **Fishery Administration Cantonments:** are the technical experts on fishery and biodiversity conservation and management they will support to the proposed project through lobbying other government officials at the provincial levels including district and provincial governors, member of parliament who has power and influent in supporting the broodstock zone establishment in Stung Treng. The project will get technical support both in broodstock zone management and fishery management, so they will be involved in most of activities in this project.
- **Provincial Authority:** is refer to the provincial governor of Stung Treng who is the key person and power to encourage this project to be more effective and participation from key stakeholders to collaborate with CFiMC in fishery resources management and conservation.
- **CFi network:** is a group of CFis who are working in roles of representing the Cfis, sharing information and strengthening the collaboration. This network is functioning in joining in any important events by NGOs, government to share the Cfis concerns and challenges in CFi management. It is also contributed in the proposed project through improving strengthening collaboration in fishery resources conservation and management.
- NGOs and CSO: are the active actors who can share the concerns and needs of community from the ground to the government from sub-national to the national levels to get responsive and take action. Through this project the Stung Treng NGOs Alliance (STNA) is part of the project support to strengthen the NGOs or CSO who are working on all sectors, especially the fishery sector to be more functioned to advocate or raise their voice to the government for better responsive. Technical Working Group-Fishery at National: is the national platform that collective NGOs/CSO who have the same mission on fishery sector to meet together for discussion and raise the key issues or concerns in the fishery development in Cambodia to more improvement. It is also the platform for sharing good lessons learns and practice from other Development Partners. The proposed project activities and result will be contributed in the Joint Monitoring Indicator (JMI) of FiA.
- 11. **Stakeholder Engagement Program:** This section will summarize the purpose and goals of the program. Briefly describe what information will be disclosed, in what formats, and the types of methods that will be used to communicate this information to each of the identified groups of stakeholders. Methods used may vary according to target audience, for example:
 - Newspapers, posters, radio, television;
 - Information centers and exhibitions or other visual displays; and
 - Brochures, leaflets, posters, non-technical summary documents and reports.

Stakeholders	Information	Formats	Communication methods
Youth Group	-Ecosystem services -Biodiversity conservation values link to local livelihood -Project planning, outcome, impact, and lesson	Soft copies, print	Handout Report Case studies
Member of Community Fishery	-CFi legal documents; by- law/regulation, agreement, management plan -Fishery Law -Project planning, outcome, impact, and lesson	Hard copies Print	By-law/regulation Agreement Management plan Report Case studies
Patrolling Team	-Effective patrolling method -How to compile illegal case -Project planning, outcome, impact, and lesson	Print	Training Manual Report Case studies
Community Fishery Network	-Project planning, outcome, impact, and lesson	Print	Report Case studies
Local authorities; commune councils, district councils/governor,	-Project planning, outcome, impact, and lesson	Print	Planning Report Case studies
Sub-Technical Working Group on Fishery in Stung Trang province	-Project planning, outcome, impact, and lesson	Soft copies, print	Planning Report
Provincial Department of Environment; Ranger, Ramsar Authority,	-Project planning, outcome, impact, and lesson	Soft copies, Print	Planning Report
Stung Trang NGO Alliance Network	-Project planning, outcome, impact, and lesson	Soft copies, print	Planning Report
Fishery Administration	-Project planning, outcome, impact, and lesson	Soft copies, print	Planning Report

- **12.** <u>Consultation methods:</u> This section will describe the methods that will be used to consult with each of the stakeholder groups identified in previous sections. Methods used may vary according to target audience, for example:
 - Interviews with stakeholder representatives and key informants;
 - Surveys, polls, and questionnaires;
 - Public meetings, workshops, and/or focus groups with a specific group;
 - Participatory methods; and
 - Other traditional mechanisms for consultation and decision-making.

Stakeholder	Methods	
Youth Group	Participatory meeting, training, workshop	
Member of Community Fishery	Public awareness raising, Participatory workshop, questionnaire,	
	focus group discussion, key informant interview	
Patrolling Team	Participatory training and workshop, questionnaire, focus group	
	discussion, key informant interview	
Community Fishery Network	Participatory meeting, Questionnaire, Focus group interview	
Local authorities; commune councils,	Questionnaire, Key Informant Interview (KII)	
district councils/governor,		
Sub-Technical Working Group on	Meeting, Questionnaire, KII	
Fishery in Stung Trang province		
Provincial Department of Environment;	Meeting, Questionnaire, KII	
Ranger, Ramsar Authority,		
Stung Trang NGO Alliance Network	Meeting, Questionnaire, KII	
Fishery Administration	Meeting, Questionnaire, KII	

- 13. Other Engagement Activities: This section will describe any other engagement activities that will be undertaken, including participatory processes, joint decision-making, and/or partnerships undertaken with local communities, NGOs, or other project stakeholders. Examples include benefit-sharing programs, community development initiatives, resettlement and development programs, and/or training and microfinance programs.
 - The project planned to organize dissemination meeting on the broodstock zone with fishers around the broodstock zones to be understood and well collaboration by not using large scale of using gillnets during the 5 month restriction in the closing seasons of fishing.
 - Through sub-technical work group on fishery is regularly organized every 3 month to share the result of intervention and concerns of community on broodstock zone management and find ways to support or respond.
 - Cfi network meeting conducted regularly in every three month will raise the challenges of community needs and wrap up for sharing to other key stakeholders, especially the DoE and FiAC.
 - Commune and district council meeting organized by government is the platform that CFis and CFi network can share the information related to fishery resources conservation and management to the government to get respond.
- 14. <u>Timetable:</u> This section will provide a schedule outlining dates and locations when various stakeholder engagement activities, including consultation, disclosure, and partnerships will take place and the date by which such activities will be incorporated into project design.

Stakeholder	Stakeholder engagement Activities	Time	Location
Youth Group	-Project kick-off -Create Youth Group and ToR -Share information on ecosystem services, and biodiversity conservation values link to local livelihood -Share project outcome, impact, and lessons learnt	Oct,2020-May, 2021	Ramsar site, Stung Trang province
Member of Community Fishery	-Project kick-off -Disseminate CFi legal documents; by-law/regulation, agreement, management plan, Fishery Law -Engage in project activities -Share project, outcome, impact, and lessons learnt	July, 2020-Jan, 2021	Ramsar site, Stung Trang province
Patrolling Team	-Project kick-off -Training -Effective patrolling -Share project, outcome, impact, and lessons learnt	Oct,2020-Dec, 2021	Ramsar site, Stung Trang province
Community Fishery Network	-Project kick-off -Training -share project outcome, impact, and lesson	Aug, 2020-May, 2022	Stung Trang province
Local authorities; commune councils, district councils/governor,	-Project kick-off -Participatory meeting -Share project outcome, impact, and lessons learnt	Dec, 2020-March, 2022	Ramsar site, Stung Trang province
Sub-Technical Working Group on Fishery in Stung Trang province	-Project kick-off -Participatory meeting -Share project outcome, impact, and lessons learnt	July-2020-June,2022	Ramsar site, Stung Trang province
Provincial Department of Environment; Ranger, Ramsar Authority,	-Project planning, outcome, impact, and lesson learnt	Dec, 2020-March, 2022	Stung Trang province
Stung Trang NGO Alliance Network	-Project kick-off -Share Project outcome, impact, and lesson learnt	Aug, 2020-May, 2022	Stung Trang province
Fishery Administration	-Project planning, outcome, impact, and lesson learnt	July-2020-June,2022	Stung Trang province

15. **Resources and Responsibilities:** This section will indicate what staff and resources will be devoted to managing and implementing the Stakeholder Engagement Plan. Who within the project team will be responsible for carrying out these activities? What budget has been allocated toward these activities?

The Project Team consist of Operational Staff (OS) and Management Team (MT) of the organization. Operational Staff compose with three part time staffs; one Project Officers (POs) and two Project Assistant (PA) who have qualified experience in community engagement and development, in the area of fisheries. All requested staff are inhabitants of the target province. This would be an effective way in terms of direct/fast supervising by a Provincial Coordinator (PC) and Management Team with expertise on NRM, community development, eco-tourism, aquaculture development, climate change, gender, and project management. Management Team (MT) compose of 5 senior staffs (Executive Director, Deputy Executive Director, Provincial Coordinator, Financial Manager, and Administration Officer) who are the part time charge with the responsibility to strengthen decision-making procedures, coordination and flow of information, ensuring efficiency, transparency, accountability and equity in programme implementation and budget management.

The proposed actions are managed by MT under guidance by the Governing Board and Technical Team under supervise by Provincial Coordinator. Technical Team who have the day-to-day responsibilities of managing the program implementation to achieve its programmatic objectives and effective implementation and it has regular monthly meetings. Technical Team is composed of a PC, Project Officer, Project Assistant, Accountant, and field staff. PC reporting to MT then MT report to Board. The CEPA consultant team is an independent body work to support all CEPA programs/ projects and this team compost of people with diverse skills and background. CEPA conducted a comprehensive baseline study to collect the baseline indicators at the start of the project, and conduct an end line study at the end of the project. Monitoring conducts a monthly and quarterly basis by using it as a learning tool to improve performance in general. CEPA will also conduct an annual project reflection or workshop with our stakeholders and beneficiaries in order to communicate results to stakeholders and adjust our implementation to better meet expected results.

Progress reports will highlight any changes in output indicators using the MoV laid out in the LFA identify lessons, any obstacles and constraints that hinder project implementation and how these will be overcome, and any changes required to project activities or processes. A mid-term evaluation of key outcome indicators will be conducted and a final evaluation of the project will be conducted to assess overall achievement against project indicators and to determine whether the full scale of the project impact has been achieved. External auditing of the finances and financial operations conduct annually to ensure the efficient use of resources.

Grievance mechanism:

CEPA will provide the contact details list of the key project staff at two levels including Provincial Coordinator, management team level and list of donor as CEPF team from national to the regional level to the local communities and key stakeholders to get feedback or grievance mechanism for any concerns related to the broodstock zone management. The guideline, purposes and process of using the contact details provided will be explained and shared to the public. Here are the following contact details for the grievance mechanism:

• CEPA:

 Mr. Vy Phalluy, Provincial Coordinator, Stung Treng Office address: Phum Spean Thmor, Krong Stung Treng, Stung Treng Province. Tel: +855 97 999 8079; email: vy.phalluy@cepa-cambodia.org; and

- Mrs. Luy Rasmey, Executive Director, , Phnom Penh office address: #45 , St. 371,
 Sangkat Toek Thla, Khan Sen Sok, Phnom Penh, P.O Box: 1486, CCC Box: 357, Tel: +855 77 435 726; email: rasmey@cepa-cambodia.org
- The Regional Implementation Team:
 - Mr. Lou Vanny, IUCN Cambodia Program, Room 592, 5th Floor, Phnom Penh Center, St. Sothearos, Sangkat Tonle Bassac, Phnom Penh, Tel. +855 12 703 033, Email: Vanny.lou@iucn.org.
- CEPF:
 - CEPF Executive Director, Email: cepfexecutive@conservation.org

16. Monitoring and Reporting:

This section will describe any plans to involve project stakeholders (including affected communities) or third-party monitors in the monitoring of project impacts and mitigation programs. Describe how and when the results of stakeholder engagement activities will be reported back to affected stakeholders as well as broader stakeholder groups.

- Create the youth's groups for nature in target Cfis (Oct-Nov, 2020)
- Provide capacity building to youth groups on (1) ecosystem services, (2) the pros and cons of the conservation and how to mitigate the risk from the disadvantage of the conservation. (Jan-Feb, 2021)
- Support Youth to conduct "Mekong Fish Voice campaign" (April-May, 2021)
- Coaching youth groups to be activist to build awareness to CFi members (Jan-March, 2021)
- Conduct awareness raising campaign for community from the ground to improve the common understanding on conservation conceptual and its benefits to their livelihoods.(Jul-Aug, 2020)
- Support to conduct annual assembly of CFis (Nov-Dec, 2020 and Nov-Dec, 2021)
- Set up two zones of broodstock conservation and management (Feb-March, 2021)
- A dissemination workshop on broodstock zones conservation and management (November, 2021)
- Conduct trainings for key stakeholder on (1) Effective Collaborative Management, (March, 2021)(2) Leadership and Management, (March, 2021)(3) Lobby and Advocacy, (Feb, 2022)(4) Effective communication and conflict transformation (Feb, 2022)
- Organize co-management workshop to have clear roles and responsibilities of each actor to involve in the fishery resources management and conservation through agreed action plan. (6 quarterly)
- Support CFi network at district and provincial level to take part in the public platforms from subnational to national levels. (8 Quarterly, 2020-2022)