

Participatory forest monitoring: lessons from the Seima Protection Forest

**8th Meeting of the UN-REDD and FCPF
Programme Executive Board
Venue: Himawari Hotel - Phnom Penh**

07th August 2014

Presented by: Dr. Alex Diment, Wildlife Conservation Society



Presentation content

- Introduction to the Seima REDD project
- Participatory Forest Monitoring
 - Participatory forest mapping and measurement
 - Community patrolling and forest monitoring
- Q & A



Introduction

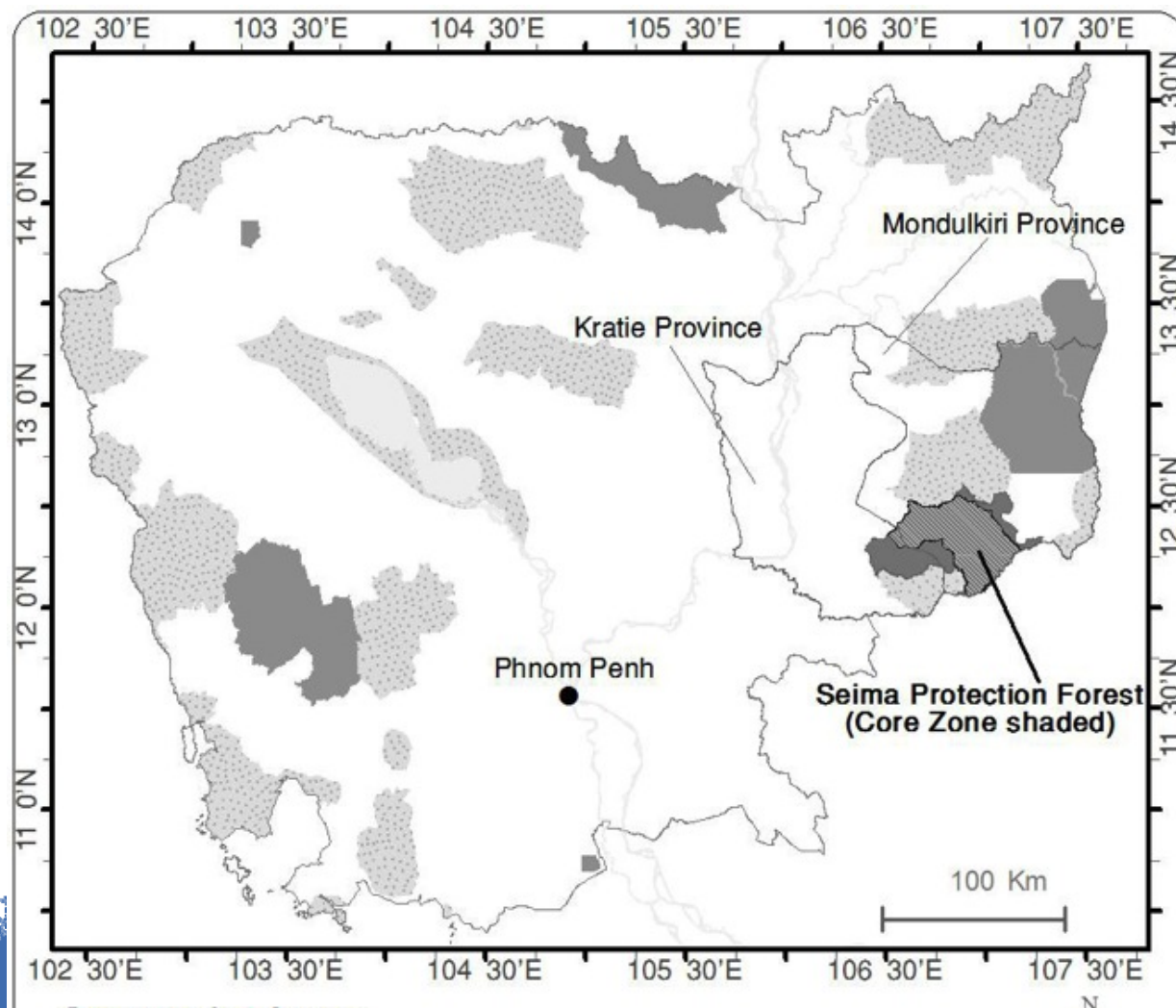


Seima Protection Forest REDD+ project

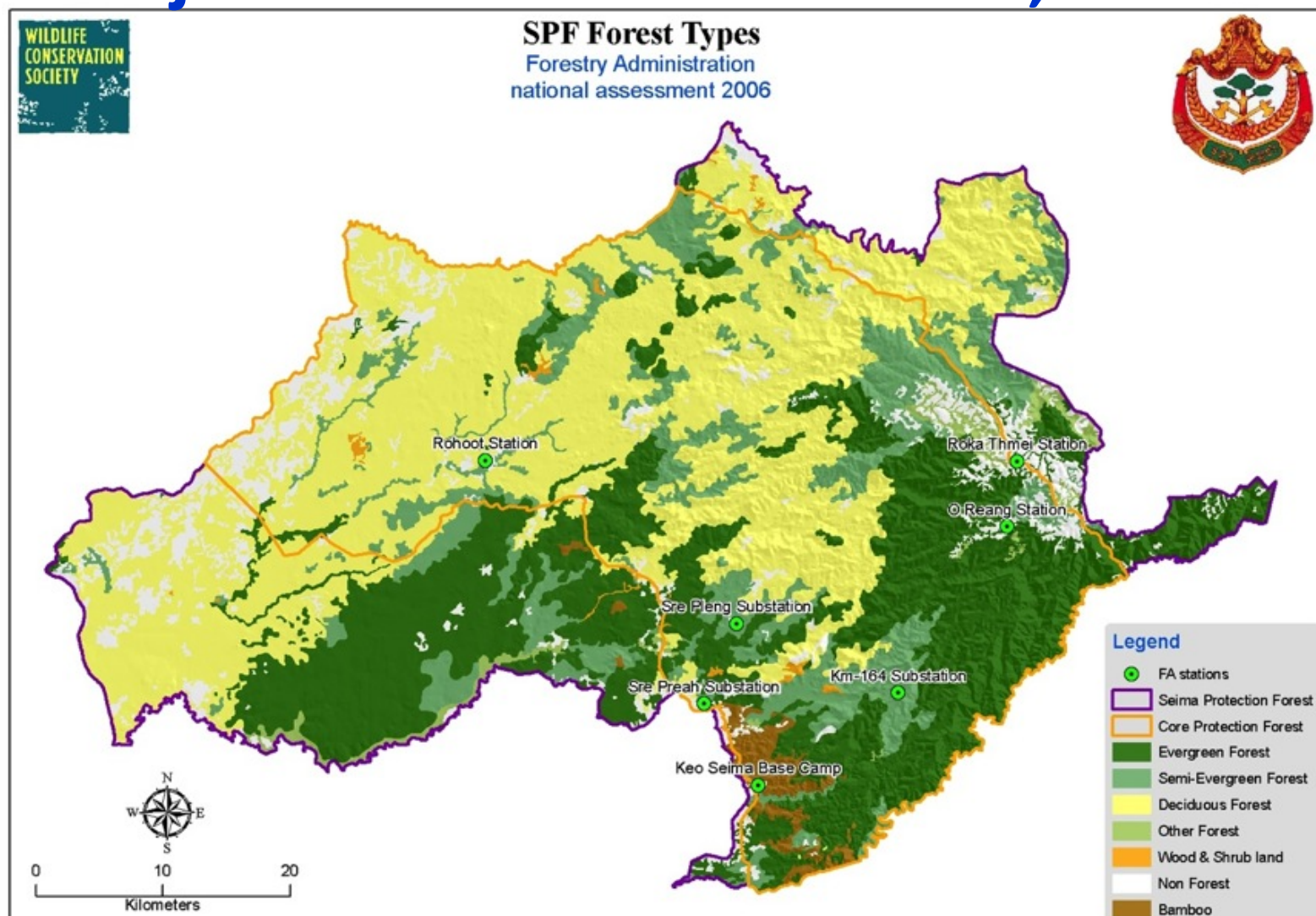
- The Seima Protection Forest REDD+ pilot site aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through maintaining the variety, integrity and extent of forest cover
- The project also has major co-benefits for both communities and biodiversity
- Reducing carbon emissions is also a key legal objective in the 2009 Seima sub-decree (143)



Project location – Eastern Cambodia

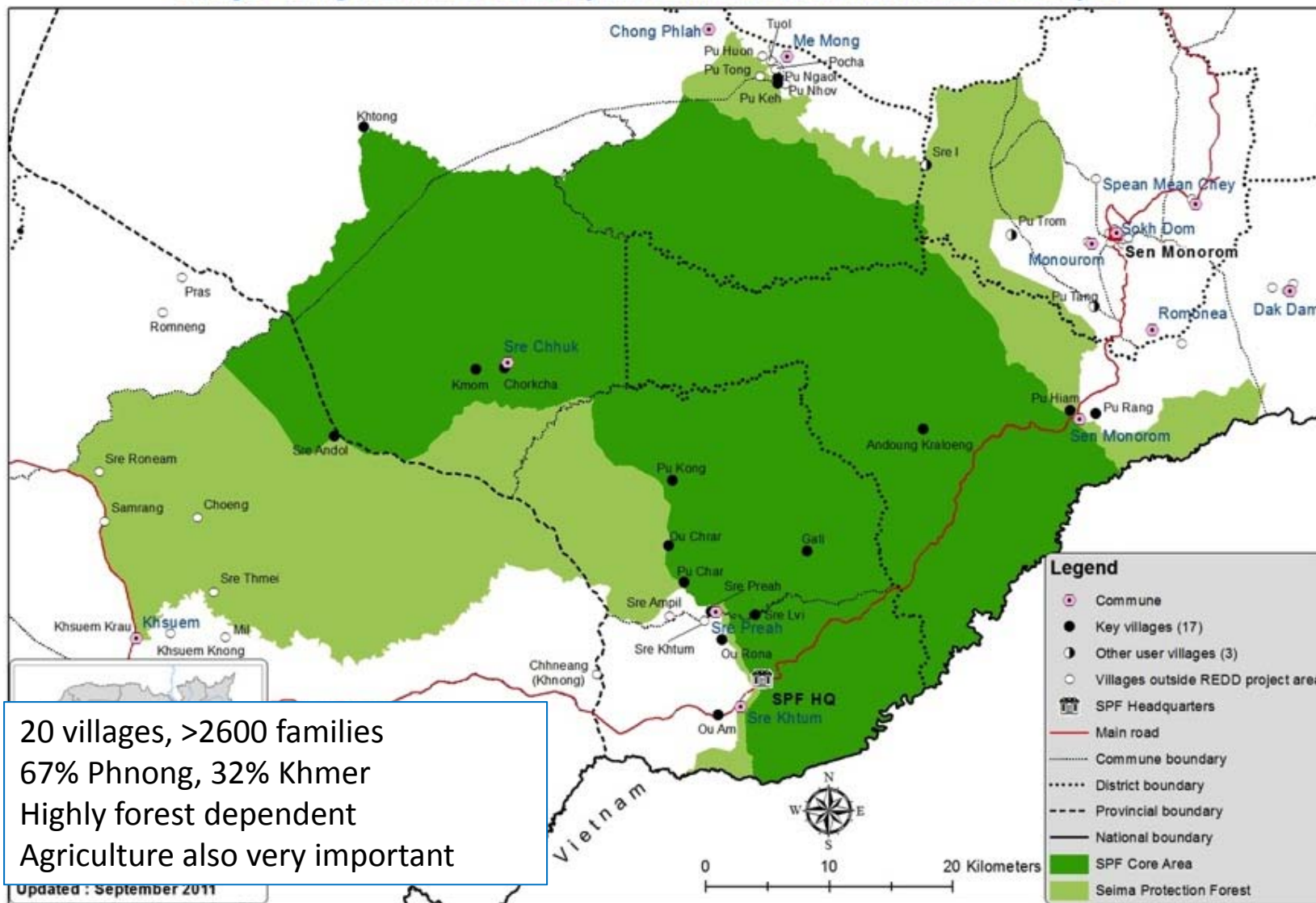


Project Area – Core Zone 180,513 ha



Participating Villages

Villages using the area covered by the Seima Protection Forest REDD Project



20 villages, >2600 families
67% Phnong, 32% Khmer
Highly forest dependent
Agriculture also very important

Updated : September 2011

Seima REDD+ project timeline

- 2008 Feasibility Study
- 2009 SPF Sub-decree
- 2010 Project “Start Date”
- 2009-11 Carbon surveys
- 2013, FPIC completed
- 2013, Project Design completed
- 2014, Validation

Assessing the potential for generating carbon offsets in the Seima Biodiversity Conservation Area, Cambodia

Timothy Pearson, Silvia Petrova, Nancy Harris, and Sandra Brown



Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation in Seima Protection Forest, Cambodia



Project Title	Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation in Seima Protection Forest
Version	1.0 [DRAFT]
Date of Issue	[15-Jan-2013] [not for citation or circulation]
Prepared By	Wildlife Conservation Society for the Forestry Administration of the Royal Government of Cambodia
Contact	Physical address, telephone, email, website [or FA]



Major Project Activities

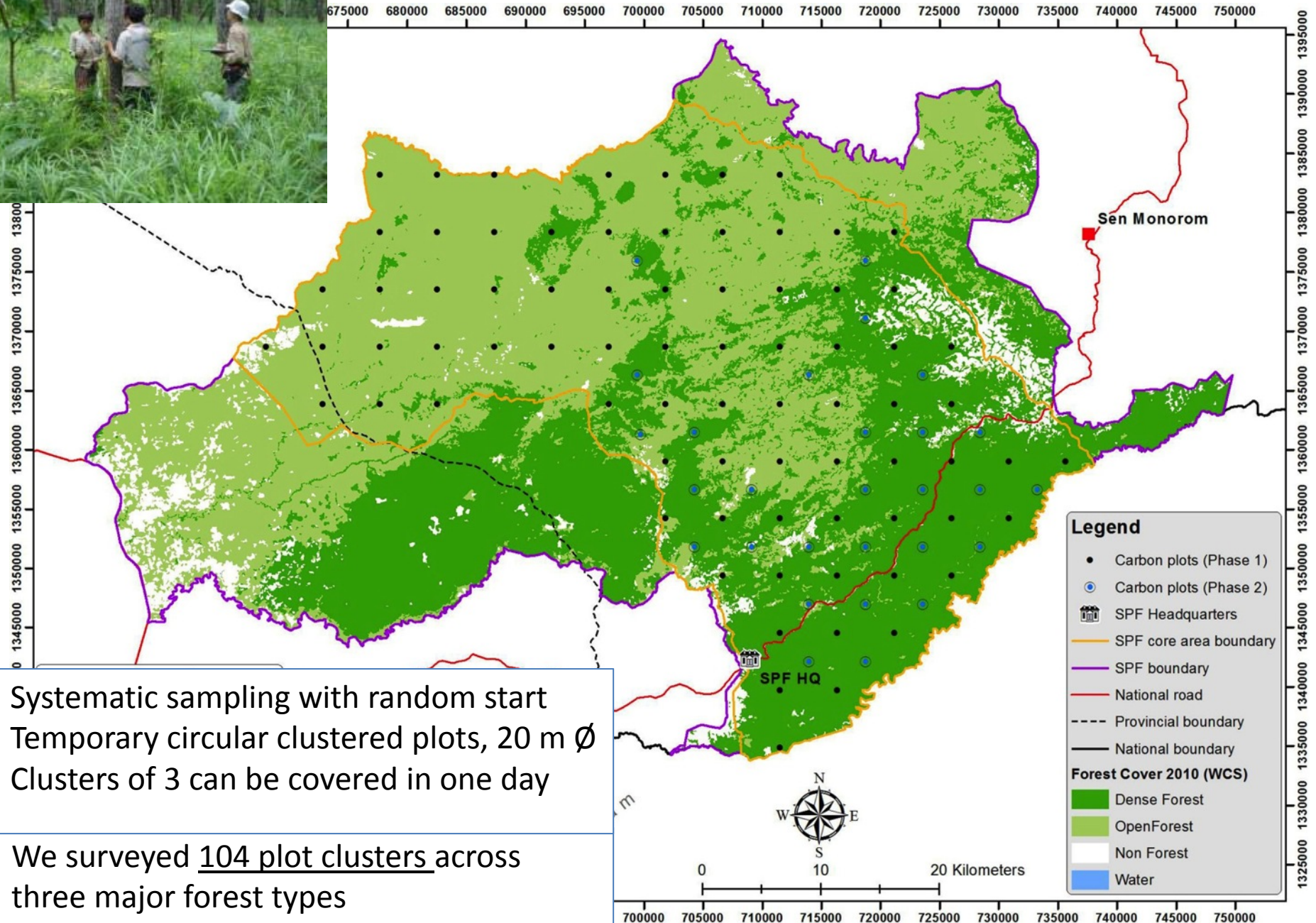
- 1: Key legal and planning documents for the Seima Protection Forest and surrounding landscape are approved and implemented
- 2: To reduce forest and wildlife crime by **direct law enforcement**
- 3: **Land and resource use** by all core zone communities is sustainable
- 4: Support for **alternative livelihoods** that reduce deforestation
- 5: Collect information and monitor long-term ecological and social trends
- 6: Effective administrative, accounting and logistical procedures are in place
- 7: Long-term social, political and financial sustainability





ឧបត្ថម្ភការណ៍ : The MacArthur Foundation ឥណ្ឌូណេស៊ី: Winrock International
 គ្រូបង្រៀន : FA, WCS and CRDT

Carbon stock surveys



Participatory Forest Monitoring



Participation in REDD+ monitoring

- The UNFCCC SBSTA methodology guidelines for REDD explicitly recognise the need for full and effective engagement of indigenous people and local communities in, and the potential contribution of their knowledge to, monitoring and reporting of activities related to REDD.
- Several studies and projects have been completed to test and demonstrate the potential for increased community engagement in forest monitoring activities.



Participatory forest monitoring in Seima

- Participatory forest monitoring has been tested as part of forest inventory within the **Community-based Production Forestry (CBPF)** pilot. This pilot is supporting the National Forest Program. The project aims to introduce sustainable forest management (SFM) principles in the buffer zone of a globally significant protected area.
- Participatory forest monitoring is also being developed through **Community Patrol Teams**, which have been established in 4 communities, and are now collecting data on deforestation and forest degradation.



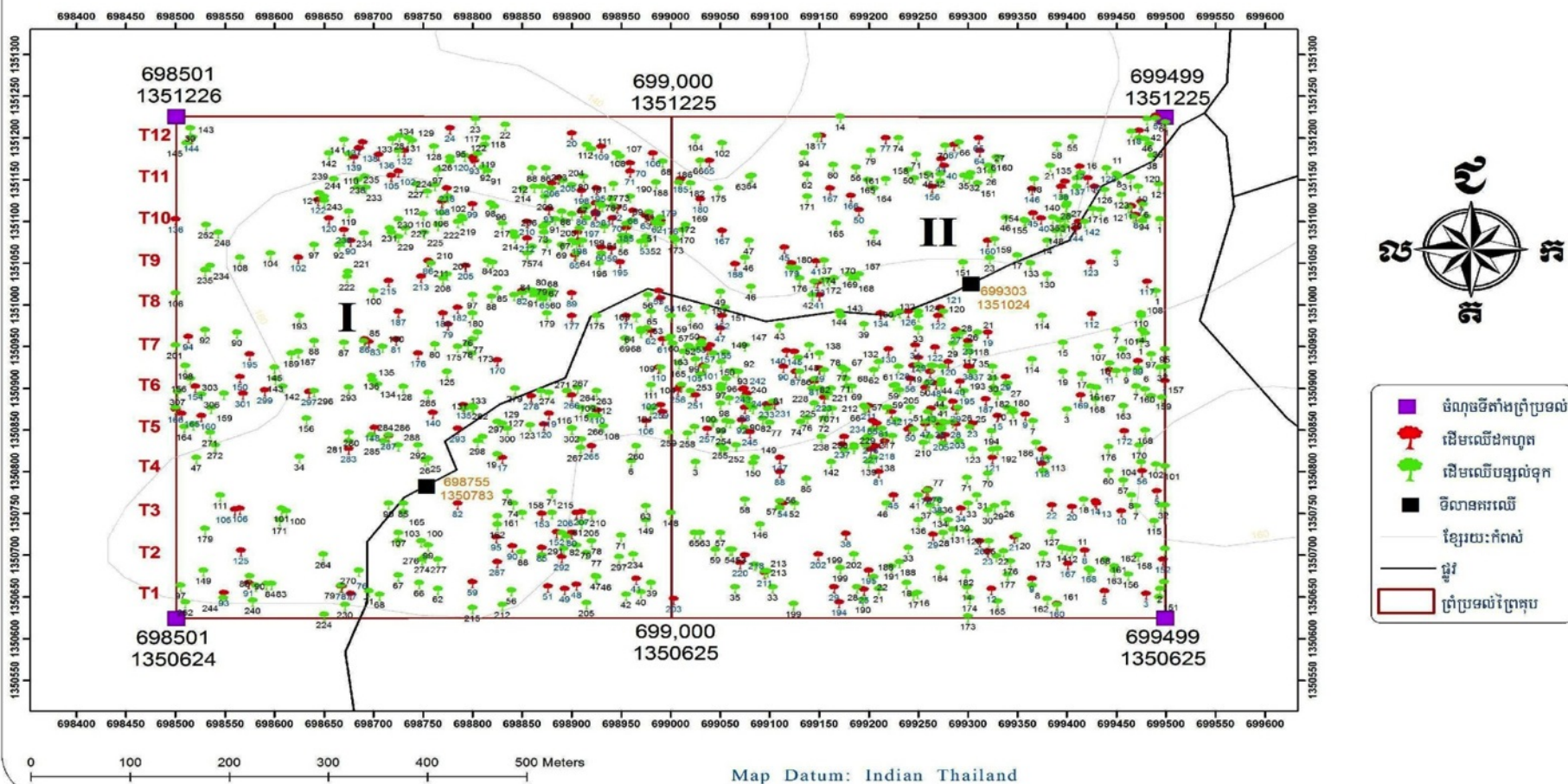
Community engagement in forest inventory



- Community members were trained on tree measurement and inventory, and involved in all forest survey activities.
- Significant training and support is required, but positive results and increased engagement and understanding within the community

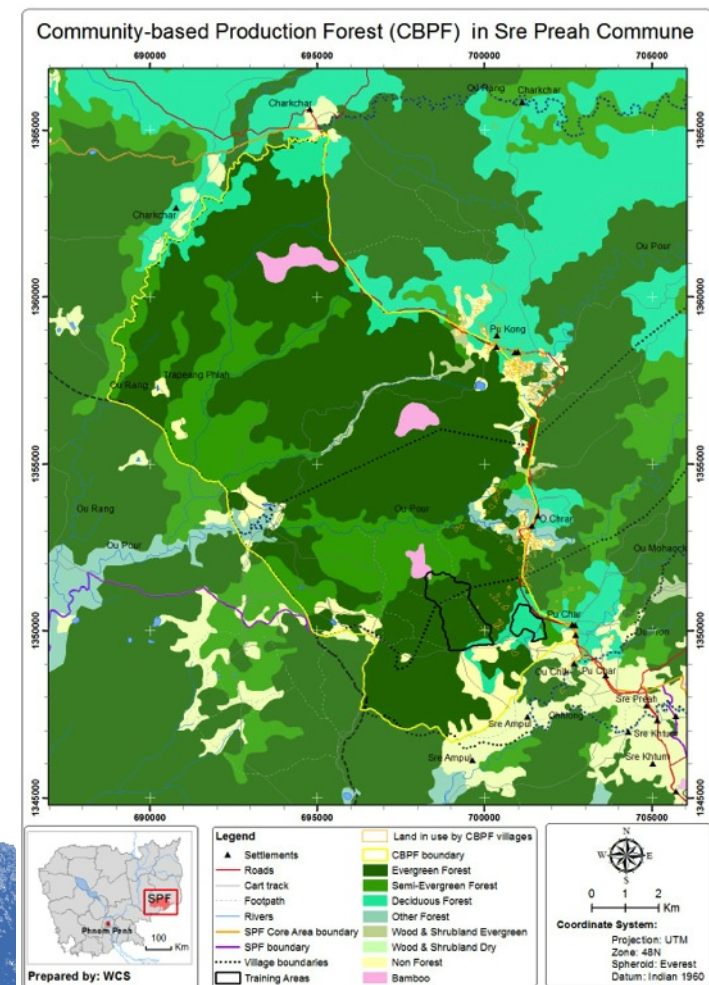


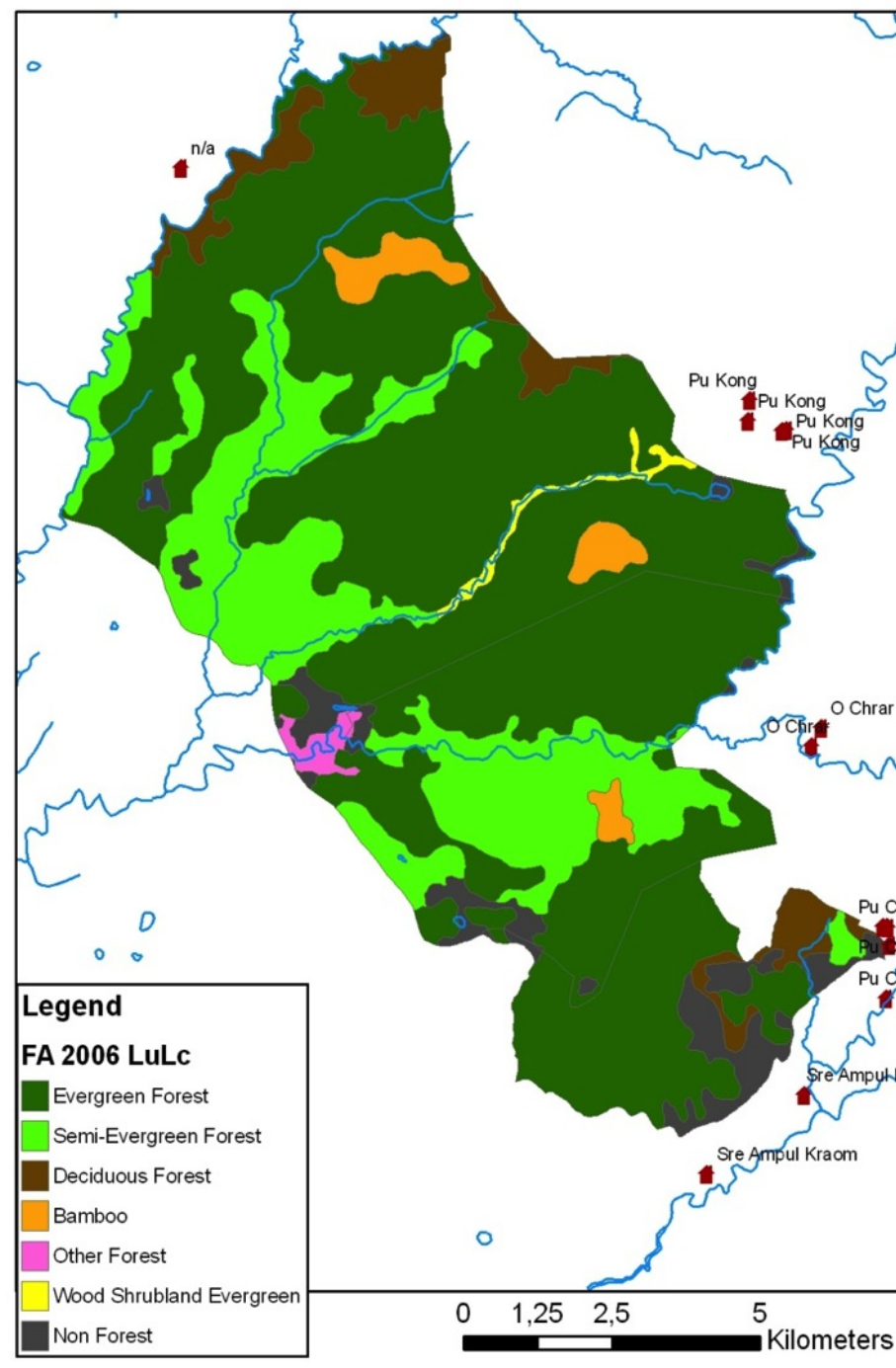
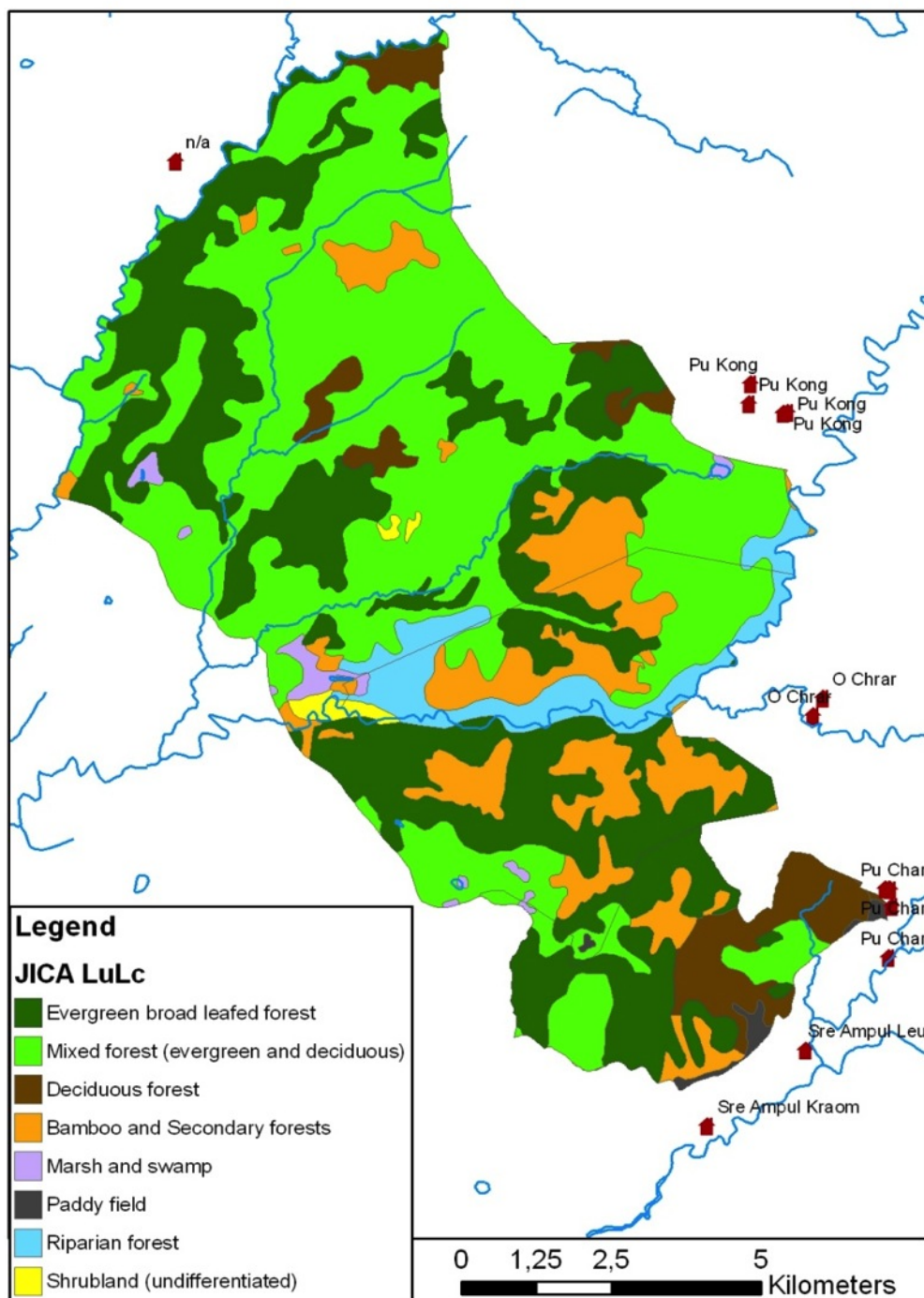
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នៃព្រៃសហគមន៍ផ្តល់ផល ឃុំស្រែព្រះ ស្រុកកែវសីមា ខេត្តបន្ទាយសិរី (៦០ហិ.ត)

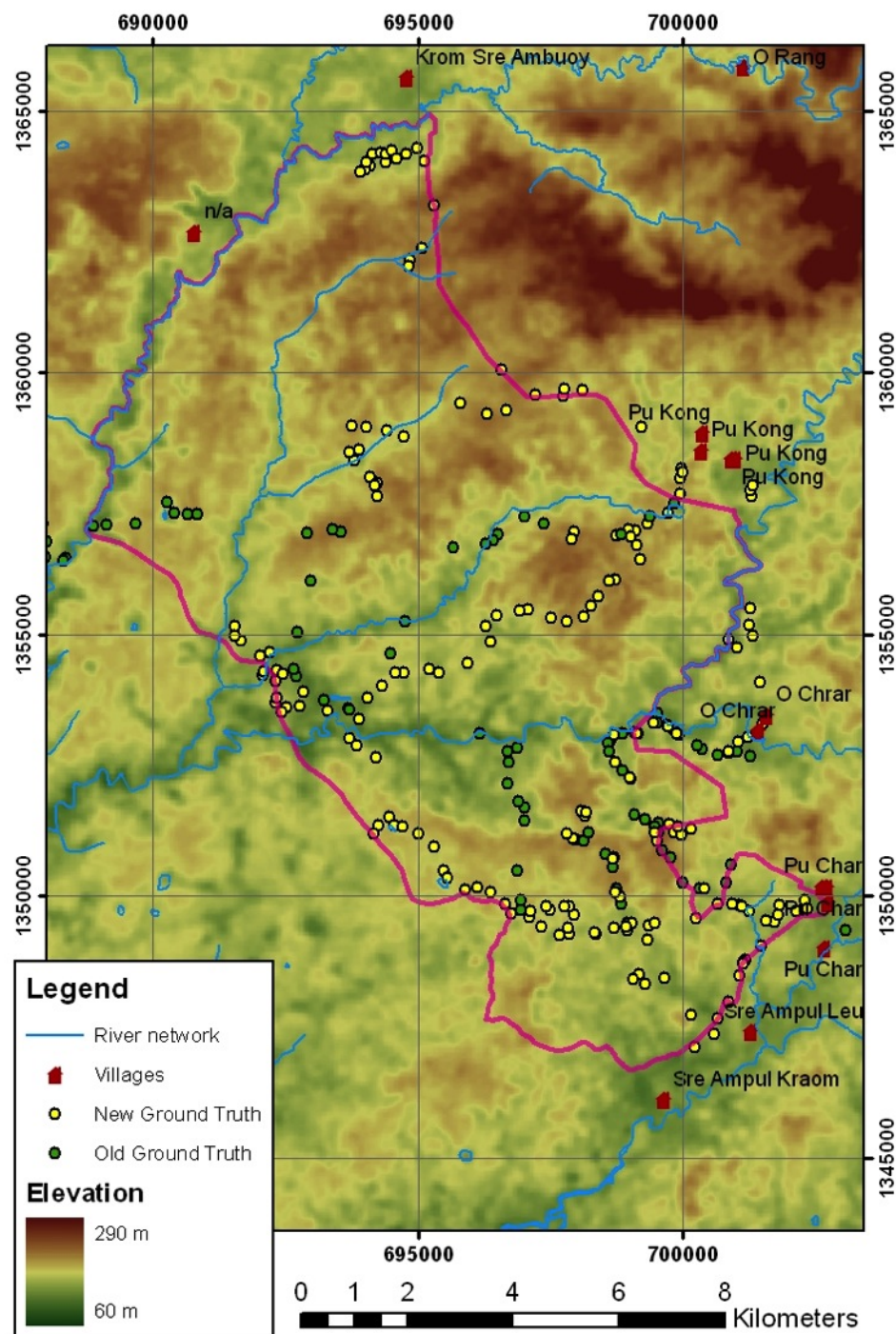


Forest type mapping

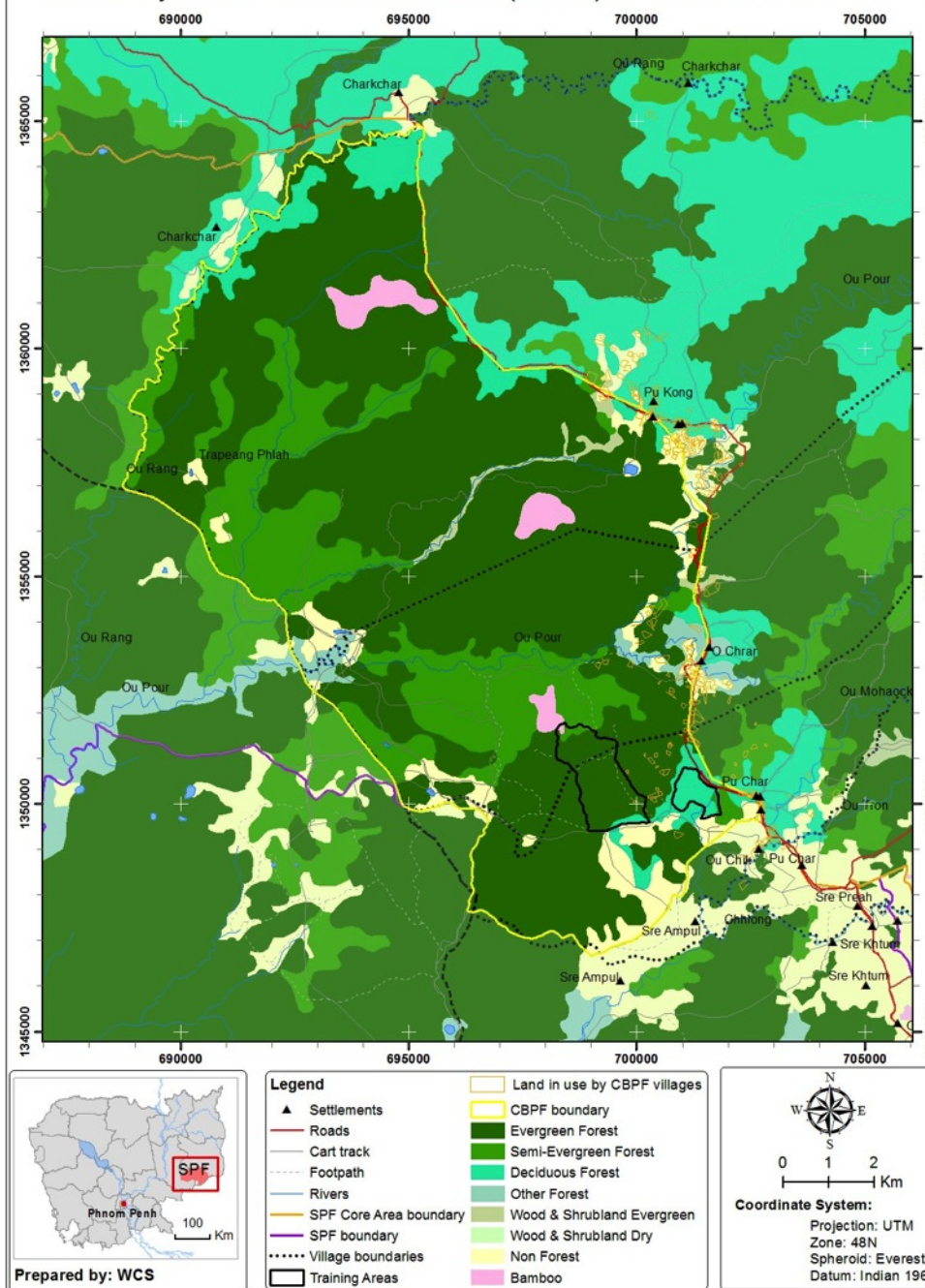
- Remote-sensing for forest /non-forest mapping is challenging, in areas of open forest habitat
- In particular, mapping of different forest-types from remote sensing images is often unreliable
- Forest mapping is important for both existing and future carbon stock estimates





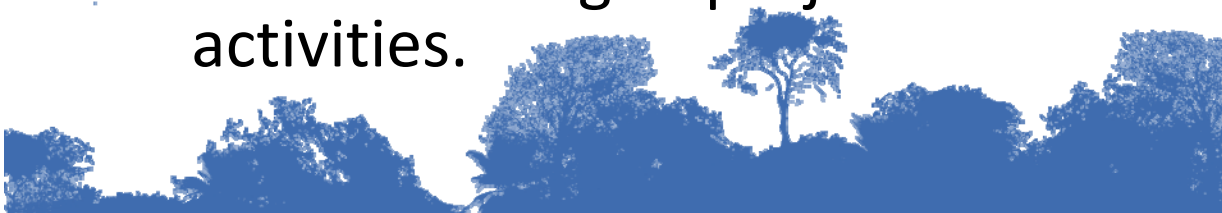


Community-based Production Forest (CBPF) in Sre Preah Commune



Participatory forest mapping

- Local communities are well-suited to helping with forest mapping and ground-truthing activities
- Local and traditional knowledge on forests, trails and place-names is invaluable
- Community participation supports increased engagement, involvement and understanding of project activities.

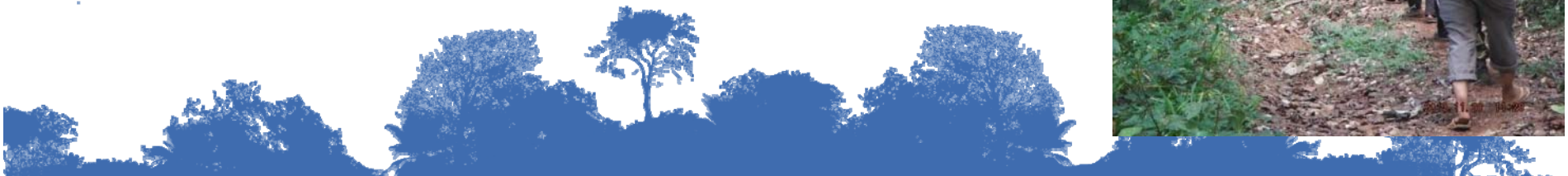


Community patrols and forest monitoring



Community patrolling in Seima

- Community patrolling is now being piloted in four villages within the Seima Protection Forest
- Over 150 local people are involved
- Patrols aim to protect the natural resources in the areas of traditional forest use
- Patrols record forest degradation and deforestation at local level



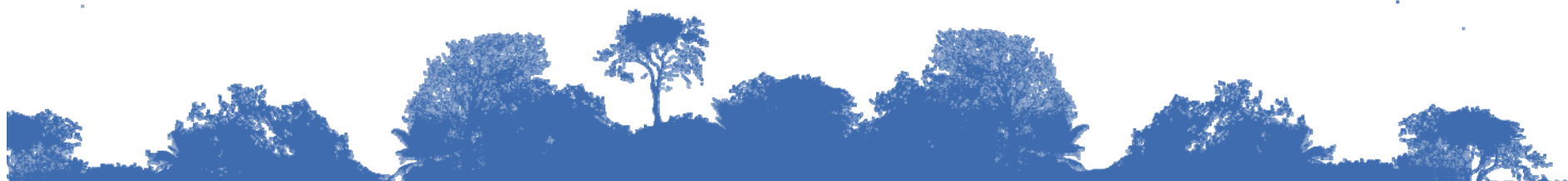
Community patrols monitoring threats to forests

- Geo-referenced photographs of forest degradation and deforestation can be used as a monitoring and evaluation tool on the success of REDD+ interventions
- SMART monitoring will be rolled out to community patrols, which will support data collection and monitoring



Conclusions

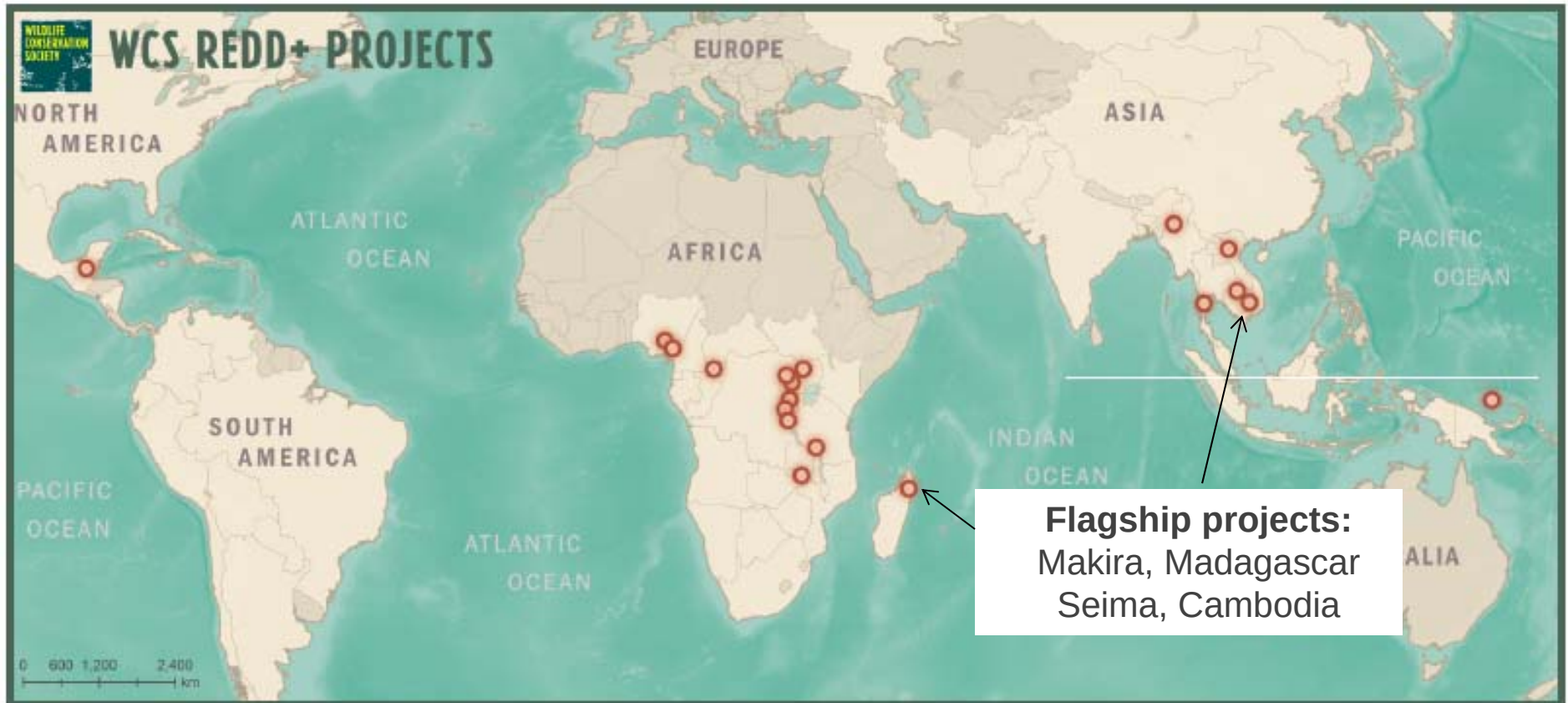
- Participation in forest monitoring is important to support involvement of local communities and other stakeholders
- Community involvement in forest monitoring has the potential to increase understanding of forest management
- There are significant training and quality-control requirements; forest mapping can be a good starting point
- Community patrols can be a useful tool for participation in forest monitoring and forest protection
- Communities may lose interest if there is no response to clear information on deforestation and forest degradation.





WCS is a world-leader in REDD+ implementation

14 countries, 19 landscapes



WCS REDD+ activities

- Voluntary market projects
- Subnational demonstration
- National capacity-building
- Informing global policy



Thank you for listening

Qs & As

