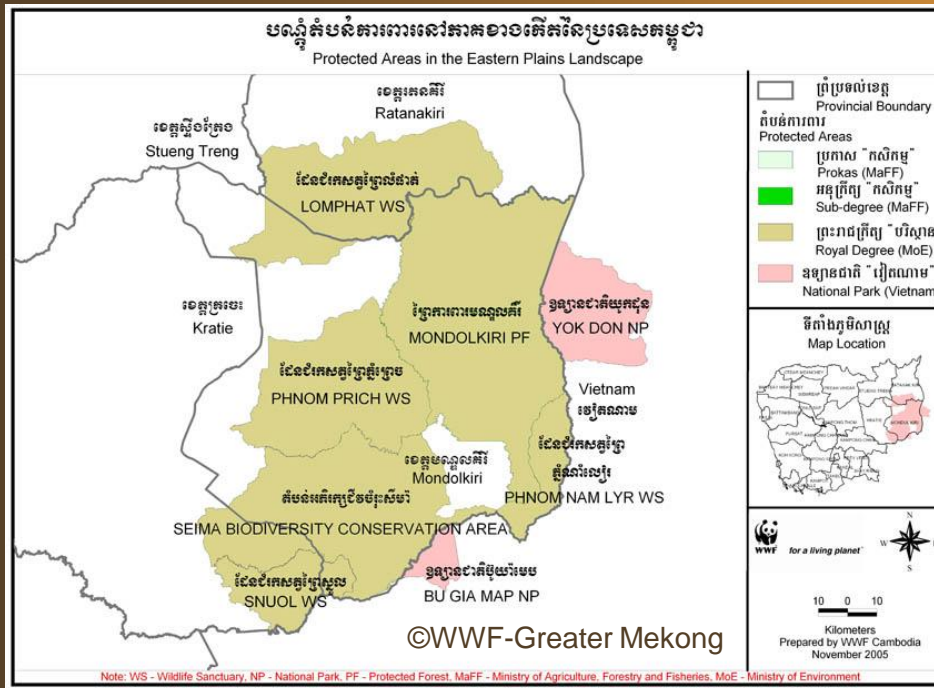




Mondulkiri Wild Honey From Forest to Market

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Eastern Plains Dry Forests Landscape, NE Cambodia



- *Bunong* indigenous communities in 8 villages
- Subsistence farmers and forest dwelling communities
- One of the poorest groups in Cambodia
- 87 Bunong traditional honey collectors – can collect up to 4000 liters in one year
- Indirect Beneficiaries – 1,141 individuals

Other partners:

- NGOs: CEDAC, NTFP-EP
- Private sector
- Provincial government



Bees, Honey, and Forest Conservation Links

- Eastern Plains is largest intact Dry Forests habitat in SE Asia
- Development pressures mean conservation must prove economic benefit to local communities
- To earn an income from honey, collectors need to protect the forests (especially large nesting trees) and maintain floral diversity



Results

- Adoption of sustainable harvesting methods and proper honey handling by official honey groups
- Support for community mgmt of forest incl. % income for forest mgmt and patrolling
- Increased income from honey marketing – from \$2/L (2007) to \$5/L (2008-09)
- Production increase 2008 - 2009: 400 - 1800 litres
- Official launching of *Mondulkiri Wild Honey Brand*



Lessons learned

- Recognition of direct economic values from forest has inspired participation from the community
- Links with experts and technical assistance to similar initiatives from other projects in South East Asia critical
- Partnerships with other social enterprise NGOs very important

Next steps

- Community participation in park patrol and reporting of illegal activities
- Lobbying for collection areas to be awarded as Community Protection Forest – est. 10,000 hectares
- Secure user rights to ensure development pressures do not convert forests
- Research to establish sustainable harvest volumes
- Replicate to other communes and therefore increase beneficiaries
- Improve quality to meet market standards
- Increased involvement of community in packaging and marketing