The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) contributes to the Partnership for Forestry and Fishery project phase 2, implemented by a consortium of four NGOs, led by World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF). The three other consortium partners are: Non-timber Forest Products Exchange Programme (NTFP-EP), the Centre for People and Forests (RECOFTC) and the Culture and Environment Preservation Association (CEPA). The project supports rural communities to secure their access to forestry and fishery resources, to improve income and food security through enhanced production practices, and to advance public dialogue on sustainable natural resource management in four least-developed provinces in the northeast of Cambodia. The project receives contributions from IUCN Netherland, BMZ and the Belgium development cooperation.

**BACKGROUND**

Income from farming and natural resources remains fundamental to the livelihoods, nutrition and food security of 65 percent of rural Cambodians. Recent economic development has been accompanied by economic land concessions, hydropower dams and mining, particularly affecting the livelihoods of poor rural households who depend on fisheries and forestry. In response, the Government has enacted environmental policy reforms, enabled multi-stakeholder dialogue with the private sector to improve value chains for forest products, fish and eco-tourism, and made international commitments to sustainably manage Cambodia’s environment. NGOs play an important role as intermediaries between authorities and communities to provide capacity building and strengthen inclusive natural resource planning and management, while effectively addressing livelihood needs of rural households through enhanced production practices.

**APPROACH**

PAFF phase 2 combines the expertise of each organization: WWF on multi-stakeholder and landscape platform management, NTFP-EP on livelihood development and RECOFTC and CEPA on strengthening natural resources management groups. The coordinated and programmatic landscape approach creates synergies, outreach and links to national and provincial platforms. It enables communities who depend on forestry and fisheries to respond better to the challenges and tensions created by rapid economic growth and environmental degradation. Through enhanced production means, poor households will have diversified income from natural resources and alternative sources of food.

**STRATEGY FOCUS**

The programme aligns with the National Programmes for Community Forestry, Fisheries and Protected Areas and aims to transform the goal of increasing the “balance between development and conservation” of the National Strategic Development Plan (2014-2018) into concrete action. It responds to the Government’s
green growth initiative for securing international funding for sustainably finance conservation.

PAFF phase 2 contributes to stronger interaction between authorities, communities and the private sector in the sustainable use and conservation of forestry and fishery resources. It strengthens the knowledge of the actors about sustainable natural resources management, as well as their capacities to implement policies, set up small-scale economic activities, and conduct inclusive development planning and policy dialogue.

OVERALL GOAL AND EXPECTATIONS

Working with Government, private sector, civil society and rural communities, PAFF’s contribution to improving stakeholders’ implementation capacity, knowledge and participation in development processes at national and local level will empower rural households to claim and secure their access to natural resources, as well as strengthen sustainable management and thus improve their income and livelihood resilience.

Overall goal: Rural and indigenous communities and households increase their incomes and improve their resilience to economic and natural shocks by engaging in sustainable community-based livelihood approaches that protect their eco-systems and reduce pressure on their communal natural resource base.

This translates into the following outcomes:
1. 370 NRM groups have secure rights to their natural resources
2. 35 community-based enterprises increase their income through sustainable forest and fishery-related enterprises and strategies.
3. National and local enabling policy conditions support secure community rights over natural resources and the development of sustainable NRM groups.

GEOGRAPHICAL AREA AND TARGET GROUP

The direct beneficiaries are poor rural households, indigenous communities, authorities at sub-national and national level and private sector actors. The programme will add two neighbouring provinces (Preah Vihear, Kampong Thom) to its current intervention zone (Kratie, Stung Treng). This expansion and a strengthened programmatic focus on capacity building allow

KEY RESULTS FROM PAFF PHASE 1

In close collaboration with local authorities PAFF successfully supported the development of 30 forestry and fishery communities reaching 5,300 households (16,000 people, 48% female). There were 18 community enterprises established to process and market honey, bamboo and fish, and to promote eco-tourism. Links with private sector actors along value chains were strengthened. PAFF supported capacity building of provincial authorities in landscape planning, management and financing. PAFF partners contributed to natural resource management reforms, such as the community fishery sub-decree, environmental and natural resources code, agriculture land law and eco-system mapping of biodiversity conservation and management areas.