

The summary report of result of 2nd
Training Workshop on:

“The Mechanism of Social Land Concession”

Cooperated by: Community Legal Education Center and
Human Rights Vigilance of Cambodia



The first workshop, presided over by H.E Touch Sarunn, deputy governor of Kampong Speu province and advisor to Sam Dach Char Sim, president of Cambodian Senate.



A commune councilor member returning to her community.



The panel distributing certificates at the closing ceremony of the 2nd Training Workshop.

Funded by: **NZAID** and **Oxfam GB**
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12 March 2007

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1. Introduction

This report to Oxfam GB summarizes the 2nd Training Workshop on social land concession mechanism. The comprehensive report has been produced in Khmer in order to increase awareness amongst public officers at provincial and local levels, and well as other stakeholders who operate in the Khmer language. This workshop has been coordinated by the Community Legal Education Center (CLEC) and Human Rights Vigilance of Cambodian (Vigilance), and supported by NZAID and Oxfam GB. The two days training took place on the 22nd and 23rd February at the provincial office of Vigilance in Kampong Speu and aimed to provide a comprehensive knowledge of Social Land Concession (SLC) mechanism and procedures to participants. It also provided an opportunity to test and improve training materials and guidelines, so that local communities have the capacity to initiate locally driven SLCs.

This report includes the composition of attendants, the impression of representative of CLEC and Vigilance, the atmosphere of two days workshop. This includes participant feedback, interaction of trainers and the impression of organizers. It presents the workshop results and identifies the next steps for the working group.

This summary report is based on the comprehensive report in Khmer.

2. Composition of participants:

In total, 32 people attended the workshop. Workshop participants included:

- 5 commune councilors from each three provinces;
- 3 local NGOs' expert officers from each three provinces;
- 2 community focal ;
- 2 additional community members from Kampong Speu whose community was affected by the influence of army forces ;
- 4 organizers including trainers attended.

Participants included 2 commune councilor chiefs and **5 females (3 of them are commune councilors)**.

3. Comments from the chairperson at the opening ceremony

Three people presented opening introductions on behalf of their organizations. These were the provincial coordinator of Vigilance at Kampong Speu, the national representative of Vigilance and the representative of CLEC.

Their speeches covered the long term experience of multi-cooperation framework among CLEC, Vigilance and Oxfam GB. Vigilance's provincial coordinator said that it was an honor to be involved in the workshop. Accordingly, Vigilance's national representative acknowledged our achievements since the first workshop and we wished success for our second workshop. Furthermore, he expressed his support for the other activities by the

cooperation within the framework of tri-partnership undertaken in January and February 2007.

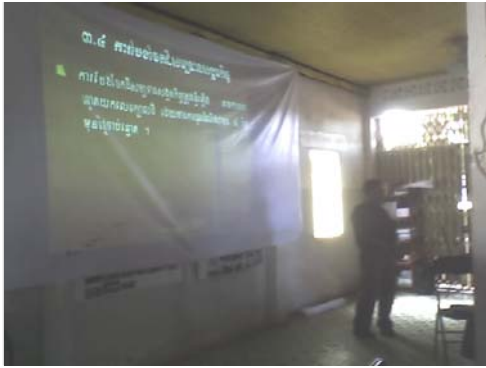
As a key speaker for opening ceremony, Mr. Huon Chundy , Program Manager of CLEC, highlighted the importance of effective partnerships with organizations such as Vigilance in CLEC 's capacity to achieve its goals to promote local communities including commune councils' initiatives to alleviate poverty and to sustain the livelihoods of the local communities along with the policy of the Royal Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia through the granting of such social land concession in accordance with the land law and the sub-decree. He also acknowledged the support of the provincial governor, especially, during the first workshop. Although the provincial representative was absent in the second workshop due to other commitment, it was no doubt that the governor was still supporting the training workshop. In the name of CLEC, he has also highlighted the contribution of Oxfam GB, without which the workshop could not have been possible. A collaborative approach was the best strategy in order to deal with the big requirement like SLC field. Finally, he asked for the particular attention of participants, on the planning and proposal writing training during the second day.

4. Interaction within Training Workshop course:

To be accounted with the distribution of certificate, trainees were encouraged to do the 'measurable test'¹ before the 2nd Training Workshop started. The result was that the trainees understood well about possible ways to find eligible land, identification of land recipients, application of land distribution, obligation of competent authority, rights and obligation of concessionaire and social land concession developed by community people etc. Unfortunately, in relation to the class of SLC programs and mechanism supported SLC;, the trainees have got more confused. The other confusion included 4 of the 32 participants understood that eligible land should be found by clearing forests. One person believed that SLC area needed to remove the poorest people. This single case may have referred to real current events such as in Phnom Penh city.

Based on these findings, the 2nd course adopted a participatory approach, in combination with a semi-lecture style (see pictures below).

¹ That is the test, which questionnaire had been designed as sample of sheet by inserting 9 questions. These questions were asking in around knowledge that was provided since first course. By the way, this test had been applied in the previous time of 2nd course.



Presentation shown by power-point...



Community urban planning of group discussion ...

As planned by trainers working group of CLEC and Vigilance, the first day of the workshop was a review session to ensure trainees had a comprehensive knowledge of the SLC mechanism. Their understanding would lead them into action for what followed (one of expected outputs).

On the second day, training was provided on planning and proposal writing by a competent trainer². There were two questions. The first asked Why do we need to have social land concession. The second asked What are we going to do in order to get social land concessions. In response to the first question, trainees suggested that planning is needed in order to; resolve the problem of landlessness, find the data of rural poor, demonstrate the increase of community people, set up the specific goals and find the solution to reduction of rural poor etc. In response to the second question, participants suggested making a list on landless and rural poor, writing the proposal on landless for submitting to commune council, advocating in order to get consent from the authority and identifying eligible land by participation of local people (see picture No.3). So it means that participants have understood more regarding the demand and the way to get SLC; however, they still need to be oriented form experienced trainer in order to writ a formal proposal.

Another two more questions for class interaction:

- (1) Why we need to have social land concession?
- (2) What we are going to do in order to get social land concession?



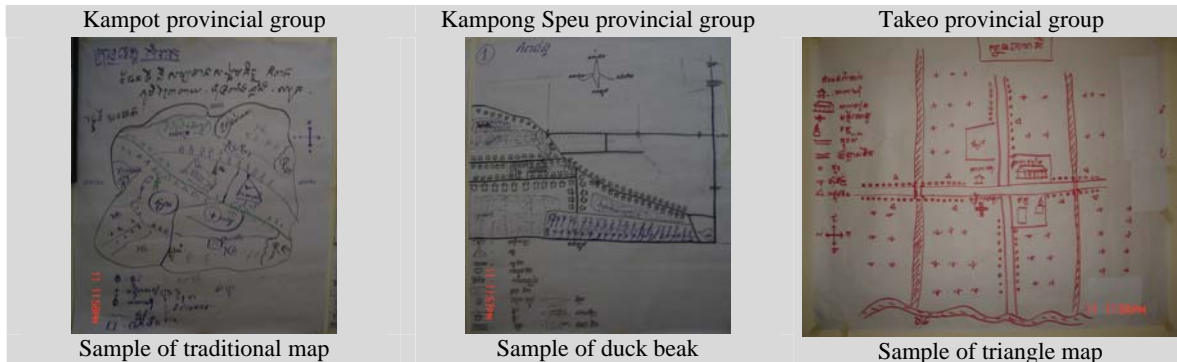
Mr. Buy Kin Srieng

“It is not him who understood well about eligible land and land demanded by sharing idea form local people it may give chance him to lead trainees prepared the proposals as a sample of each provinces”...

After a semi-lecture during morning time, 3 provincial based group discussions were set up in order to develop a sample proposal for submitting to their commune councilors. There were 8 concepts regarding the planning tools including identifying the problem of

² Mr. Buy Kin Strieng, free lance consult, specialized on rural development

target groups, understanding of common issues, determining the goal to be achieved, determining the starting point of project, application process, managing the budget, funding support and risk preservation etc. Regarding the application process, community urbanism also needed to be covered (see picture No.4).



5. The impression of chairperson and trainees representative in closing ceremony step:

During the last step of training workshop course, a representative of each of the 3 provinces expressed their thanks to all trainers and organizers. At that time, they also expressed their intention for the next steps including a review of their sample proposal for submission to their each own commune councils.

Certificates were then distributed to all trainees. Then the national representative of Viligance, Mr. Kin Sovann said thank you for all, especially to the trainers and organizing group. Before the closing ceremony he inquired about the next step, relating to the sample of proposal drafted by each provincial group. CLEC's representative said that CLEC will meet with the contact person of each 3 provinces in order to provide technical support to improve the drafted proposals and to consult with commune councilors as to whether the draft could be applied. CLEC will approach organizations such as Oxfam GB and other institutions to enable the extension of training activities.

The 2nd training workshop was closed at 17:30 in Mach 23rd 2007 successfully.

6. Summary of results and proposed next steps:

The second training workshop was extremely successful despite the absence of the provincial governor and his representative. 32 certificates were distributed to trainees. Three sample local social land concession (LSLC) were formulated as the first draft for each three provinces. The representatives of all provincial groups have made strong commitments to pursue their proposal. Furthermore, all attendants wanted organizers to conduct more training courses including at a community level. They also wanted support to get the approval from the provincial land use and allocation committee (ideas got from evolution sheet; unfortunately, it just in Khmer version). Vigilance expert officers for each province intend to assist community people in future training.

The workshop was also attracting the attention of one soft media; RFA had broadcasted the issues of struggle over land occupied by rural poor and landless in Orral district (Kampong Speu province) in the early morning of February 26th 72007. These struggles were not referred to legal senses any more; so that, this kind of workshop was very helpful for promoting local community and local authority to be obey law.

Thus it is very important that CLEC identifies the proposed ideas for the next steps as following:

- Continue to observe and consult with the relevant commune council for their attention with the drafted proposal of LSLCs;
- Provide technical support for improving LSLC proposal of first draft; and
- Revise reading and teaching manual for applying within the national wise.

Regarding budget expense and adjustments, CLEC has referred to the contribution of Oxfam GB; finally, in order to respond to the demands of the LSLC program, CLEC seeks ongoing support from Oxfam GB.