



**KSWs
REDD+**



គម្រោង រដ្ឋបូក កែវសីមា

Quarterly Newsletter
A selection of highlights from our work in KSWs

Issue No. 26
January–March 2022

Sre Lvi elects all-female leading team for local committee

In January, the chief of the committee that manages the Indigenous communal land title (ICT) in Sre Lvi stepped down. With the support of KSWs REDD+ staff, ICT members held an election for all of the leading committee member roles. Mrs. Srout Phanny was elected to be the new chief of the committee, and Mrs. Chheum Khunthea will be her deputy. The new committee secretary is Mrs. Dav Sa Em. The committee includes 15 people in total, 7 of whom are women. Often these traditional village committees are led by older men, who have traditionally held positions of power in these societies. We're really excited to see these ladies selected by their community as the people best suited to manage community land, and the KSWs REDD+ team is looking forward to working with them closely to help protect Sre Lvi's cultural and natural heritage into the future.





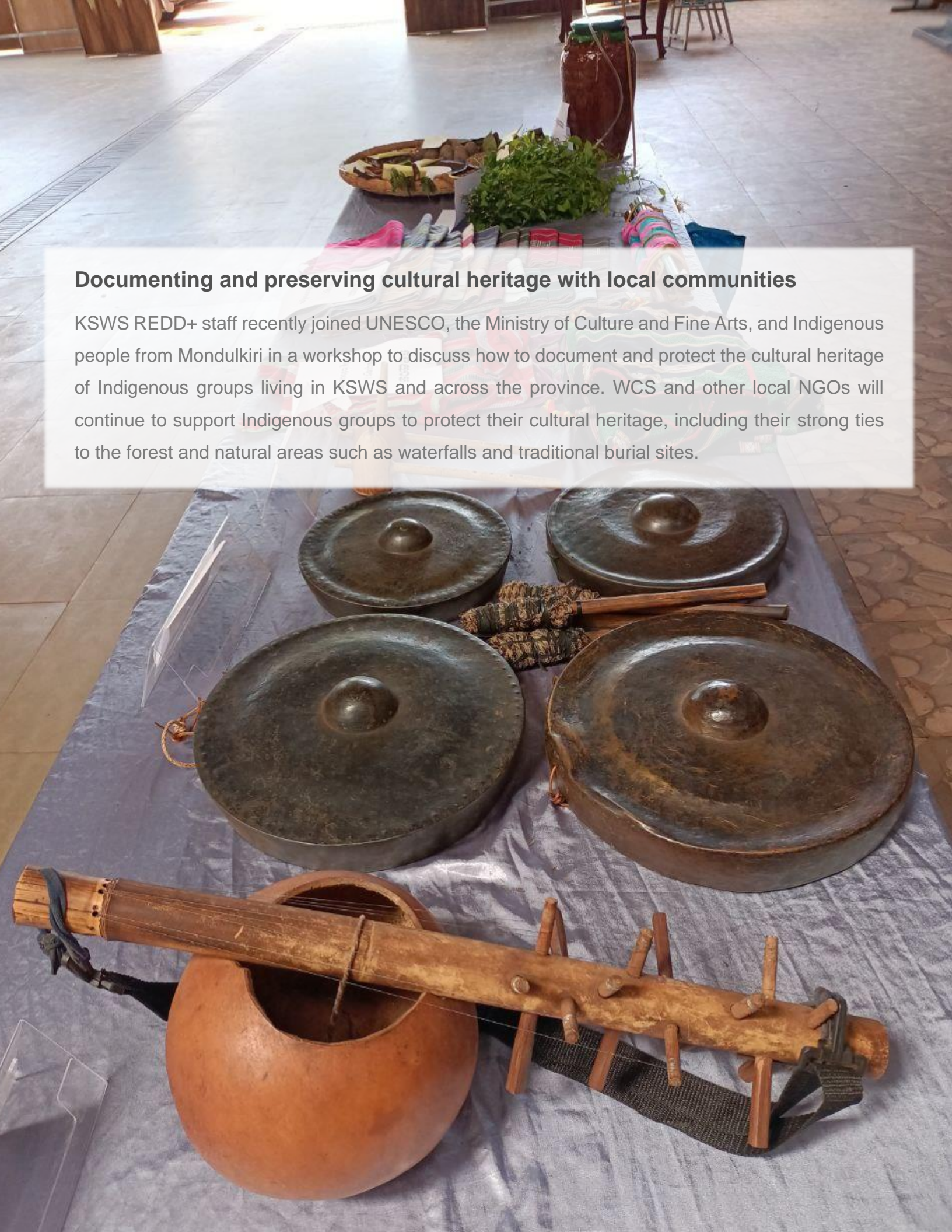
Mobile clinics continue to improve access to healthcare in KSWs

Thanks to ongoing collaboration with CIAI—the Italian Centre for Aid to Children—and the provincial health authorities, residents in remote KSWs villages continue to receive regular medical check-ups and access to consultations with a doctor or a nurse, funded by REDD+ benefit sharing. The most recent clinic in Pu Tang was attended by 68 people who came to check their health or get advice from a medical professional. Travel to medical facilities is difficult in some of these villages, so people often don't seek medical help until they're seriously ill. These regular clinics help people to treat illnesses early, before they have developed into chronic issues.

Community prepares for CPA management plan development

Residents of Pu Nhav village have been learning how to develop a management plan for their new community protected area (CPA), O Mphek Lvie, which was officially recognized by the Ministry of Environment at the end of last year. The plan will outline how the community will look after the CPA in coming years to ensure that the forest is protected and that residents can continue to access natural resources. During the training, attendees learned how to use a technique called participatory rural appraisal to collect information about natural resource use, wealth and income, and seasonal forest use. A management plan for the CPA will be developed by residents, taking into consideration the information that they will collect from all CPA members using the participatory rural appraisal technique.





Documenting and preserving cultural heritage with local communities

KSWS REDD+ staff recently joined UNESCO, the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts, and Indigenous people from Mondulkiri in a workshop to discuss how to document and protect the cultural heritage of Indigenous groups living in KSWS and across the province. WCS and other local NGOs will continue to support Indigenous groups to protect their cultural heritage, including their strong ties to the forest and natural areas such as waterfalls and traditional burial sites.



European Union delegation visits KSWs to learn about REDD+ success

In January, a delegation from the European Union in Cambodia visited KSWs to learn about the REDD+ project. The delegates stayed at Jahoo in Andoung Kraloeng village and were able to spend an enjoyable morning watching the yellow-cheeked crested gibbons that the community have habituated there. The delegation also visited Pu Tang to find out about the community activities that are supported by the REDD+ benefit sharing fund. Community members and KSWs REDD+ staff were happy to share the experiences, challenges, and aims of the REDD+ project, particularly in relation to community development and forest conservation.

Dry-season biodiversity monitoring underway

The KSWs REDD+ biodiversity monitoring team is currently undertaking a line transect survey, which takes place every two years and is used to track the population trends of some key species in KSWs. The team walk on the same straight, marked lines through the forest for each survey and record all of the wildlife that they come across. These surveys have taken place for more than ten years and have confirmed that [populations of some key primate species in KSWs are stable](#). Some animals are too shy for the team to be able to see during the line transects, so remote cameras are placed in the forest at the same time. This means that the team can also record those species that prefer to keep their distance from humans, such as the male sambar in this photograph. Sambar are classified as [Vulnerable](#) on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. They are usually active during the night and at dusk and dawn.





Preparing for new school term in KWS

Funds from REDD+ benefit sharing have been supporting preparations for the new school term that began this year. Villages used some of their benefit sharing income to support school enrolment drives, where the school principal, local authorities, village focal point, and currently enrolled students travel through villages sharing information about the date of enrolment for the new term and explaining to parents how important it is to ensure that their children attend school. Villages also supported back-to-school packs for all children in grades 1 to 6 to ensure that they have the equipment they need for the classroom, including notebooks, pens, pencils, erasers, hand soap, face masks, and alcohol hand gel. Completing primary education is an important way that children in KWS can access a greater range of employment and housing options as they grow up, ensuring that they are not disadvantaged by their remote rural location.

Young women lead the way during land use inventory

Several villages are currently carrying out inventories of land to identify who owns each parcel and what the land is used for. Residents have received training in using GPS and datasheets to record and map this information. Young women were especially encouraged to join the working groups in each village. The female-led working groups are currently gathering information on community-owned land parcels and collecting signatures from those using each land parcel. This information is used to create maps recording current land use in each village, which can help to avoid future disagreements between land users and protect against outsiders inappropriately claiming land.



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



CAMPAS PROJECT

