

## Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) Cambodia Program

### JOB DESCRIPTION

Name :  
Position : Indigenous Community Title (ICT) Officer, Keo Seima  
Project : Keo Seima REDD+ Project  
Duty station : Senmonorom Town, Mondolkiri Province  
Expected Travel: Regular travel to field (80%)  
Report to : Indigenous Community Title (ICT) Team Leader

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#### **Organization Background:**

The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) is a US non-profit, tax-exempt, private organization established in 1895 and based in New York, that saves wildlife and wild places by understanding critical issues, crafting science-based solutions, and taking conservation actions that benefit nature and humanity. With more than a century of experience, long-term commitments in dozens of landscapes, presence in more than 60 nations, and experience helping to establish over 150 protected areas across the globe, WCS has amassed the biological knowledge, cultural understanding, and partnerships to ensure that vibrant, wild places and wildlife thrive alongside local communities. The WCS Country Program in Cambodia, is a relatively large, vibrant program with long-term programs in four major forested and/or wetland landscapes: Eastern Plains, Northern Plains, Major Rivers, and Tonle Sap.

#### **Position Summary:**

The Indigenous Community Title (ICT) officer, Keo Seima will support the Indigenous Community Title (ICT) Team Leader work with PDoE to map land use in KSWs in accordance to WCS policy following the Keo Seima 2021 Strategy: a new, significantly-expanded, 5-year KSWSMP, REDD+ funded landscape strategy, that builds on nearly 20 years of WCS support to communities and government in the Eastern Plains Landscape. Keo Seima Wildlife Sanctuary (KSWs) consists of nearly 300,000ha of lowland and hill semievergreen and deciduous forest. It supports globally significant primate and bird populations. Nearly 30,000 people live on the edge of or inside the protected area, many of them ethnic Bunong. Following the loss of forest to the south and west, KSWs is now located on a deforestation frontier. The protected area has been a REDD+ project for ten years, generating and selling a significant volume of carbon credits. The challenge now is to prevent deforestation and maintain the integrity of KSWs in the face of mounting threats. The Keo Seima 2021 Strategy has been developed to achieve this goal, by motivating and inspiring government, local communities, and civil society to value and protect KSWs.

WCS has an Indigenous Community Title (ICT) team that is conducting land inventory and supporting Communal Land Title (CLT) by indigenous communities in KSWs. The ICT officer will need to work under ICT team to ensure that land use of CLT members is documented and discussed. The ICT officer will support the ICT Team Leader to work closely with PDoE, authorities and ICTs to help them liaise with the Ministry of Environment, and Provincial State Land Management Committee to map, display, verify and agree on rights to occupy and use the plot/s of land for agriculture or residential purpose.

## **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Assist the ICT team to register all remaining indigenous communal land titles in KSWs.
- Assist the ICT team to fulfil the legal requirement of the indigenous community land titling process.
- Assist ICT Team Leader, ensure mapping is done in a manner that befits WCS policies, with no payments, by members whose plots are being mapped. Ensuring members whose plots are being mapped understand clearly why the mapping activities are being done and understand the process.
- Assist ICT Team Leader, ensure all mapping documents, meeting notes, maps are entered into WCS database and filed in WCS, PDoE and the Provincial State Land Management Committee. Support the collation and maintenance of records of information from field teams on project achievements and challenges to facilitate timely reporting and visibility.
- Collect GIS data from the field and provide this to WCS GIS team.
- Ensure that all activities are implemented in accordance with WCS standards and REDD+ agreements.
- Coordinate with the WCS Community Team to empower ICT communities to know their rights under commune land title framework and provide regular training in internal rules and relevant law and policies.
- Strengthen ICT communities to work with local authorities and relevant government institutions to implement land use plans, internal rules, and legally defend their land against large-scale land grabs and be a witness at court proceedings when necessary.
- Collate and file all relevant indigenous community land title documents of indigenous communities in KSWs in hard copy and store in KSWs database.
- Other work related to community outreach and natural resource management, identified in agreement with Project Manager and Technical Advisor.
- Attend or organize meetings/training and conferences when requested.
- Develop and maintain good communications with key stakeholders including organizations under sub-grants of Lot 6 and the private sector.
- Other duties as requested by your manager.

## **Reporting**

- Assist ICT Team Leader, prepare monthly, quarterly, and annual technical reports on ICT work as needed.
- Prepare monthly reports, timesheets, and diary work plan.

## **Main qualification**

- Preferred graduate with degree on CBNRM, rural development, agriculture, law, and environment
- Desirable, experiences in community based natural resource management particularly supporting ICT, Land Use Mapping and CPA in project area.
- Understand and has knowledge concerning national legal instruments and has worked in land tenure security and local community rights.
- Deep interest and commitment in promoting biodiversity conservation and land governance for local community and indigenous people in protected area.

## **ABILITY**

- Ability to handle multiple tasks and assignments simultaneously required.

- Spending long periods of time in remote locations in the jungle
- Living and staying with communities
- Work overtime when required.
- Working on own initiative with minimum supervision and staying on tasks
- Travelling by motorbike or on foot
- Work in close collaboration with government agencies such as Provincial Department of Environment (PDoE), sub-national authorities at provincial, district and commune levels.
- Maintain excellent communication with and encourage strong participation of local staff.