



Community-Based Small-Scale
Fish Conservation Area (FCA)
Management
in the Tonle Sap Great Lake, Cambodia

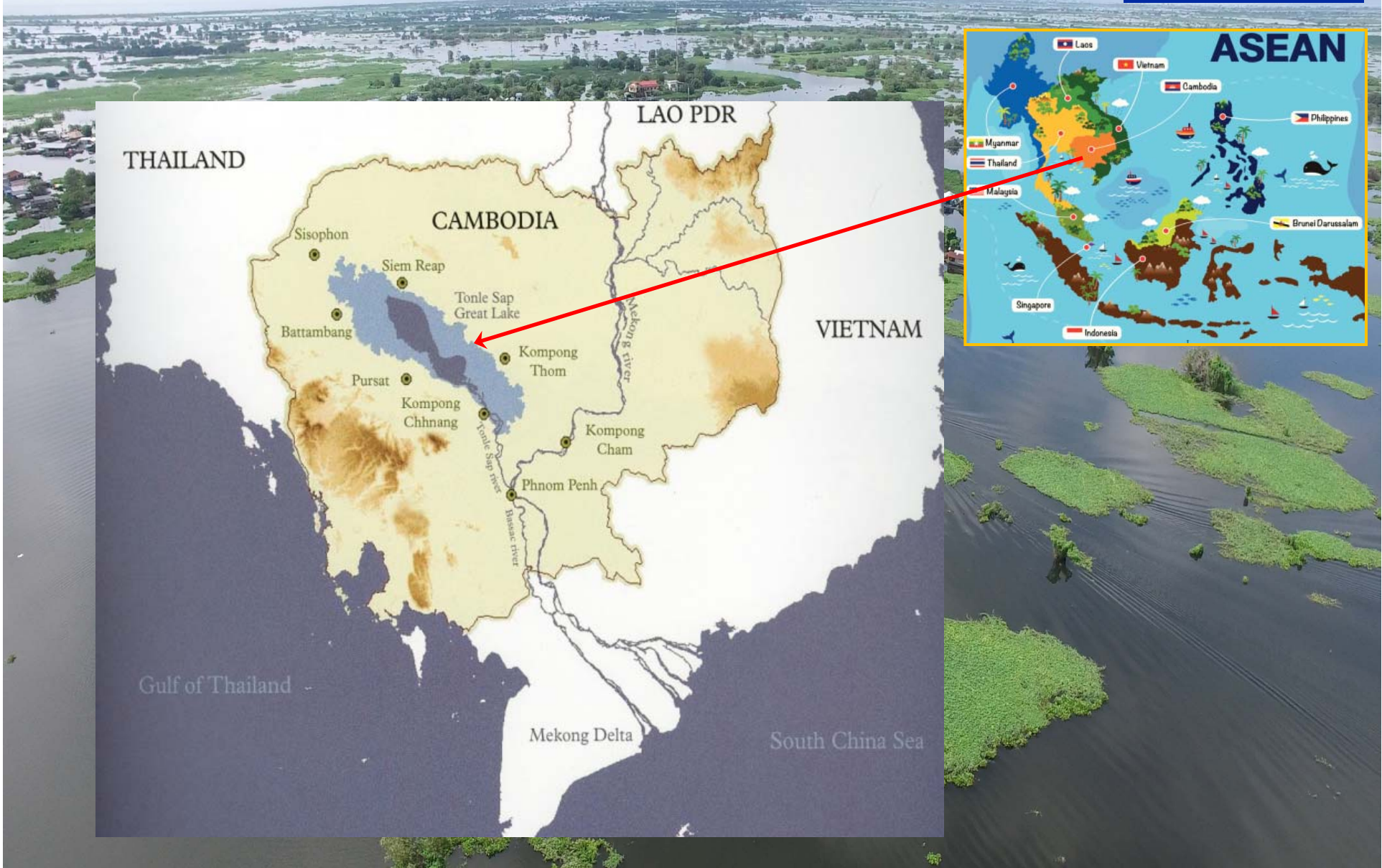
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Kingdom of Cambodia

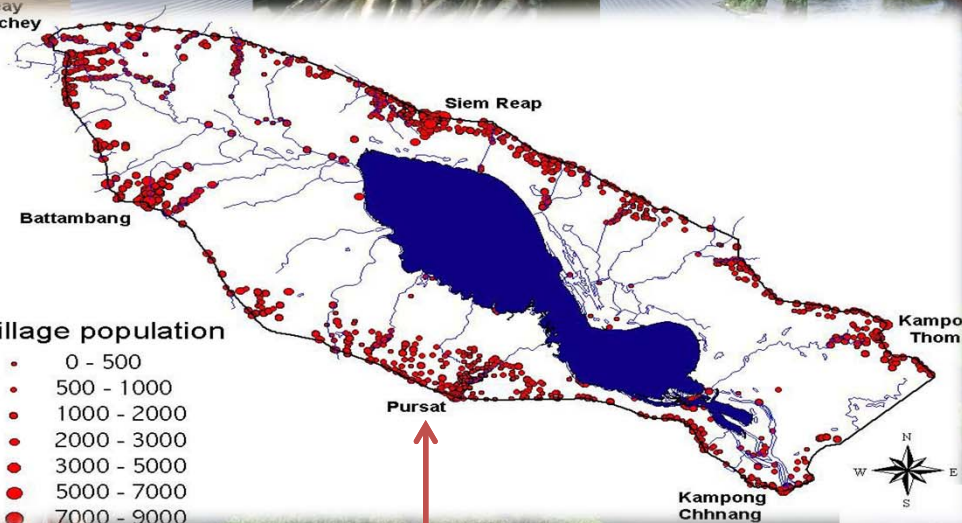




Tonle Sap is home for million fishers



Santeay
Weanchey





Main Threats to the Tonle Sap

Climate Change / Extreme Events – Storm kill fish





About EU-NSA Project

“Strengthening Capacity of Fishing Communities in Tonle Sap to Manage their Natural Resources Sustainably”

- **Project Duration:** Four Years from Jan 2013 to Dec 2016
- **Financing:** Funded by European Union (EU)
- **Project Partner:** IUCN in partnership with FACT to implement the project activities in 3 Pilot sites.





Project Concept





FCA zoning criteria & key steps

Small-scale FCA zoning criteria:

1. Ecological important
2. Small size <100 ha (100-200 ha, located in open space)
3. As close as possible to village center
4. Less disturbance area from human activities

Step 1

- Introduce FCA Zoning to community
- Local consultation with local stakeholders

Step 2

- Consultation with provincial stakeholders
- Approval at Sub-national and erect temporary boundary poles with participation from local key stakeholders

Step 3

- Submit for approval from national Fisheries Administration (FiA)/Ministry of Environment (MoE)

Step 4

- Start building FCA Boundary poles and posting signboards



Apply Global Principles & Approaches

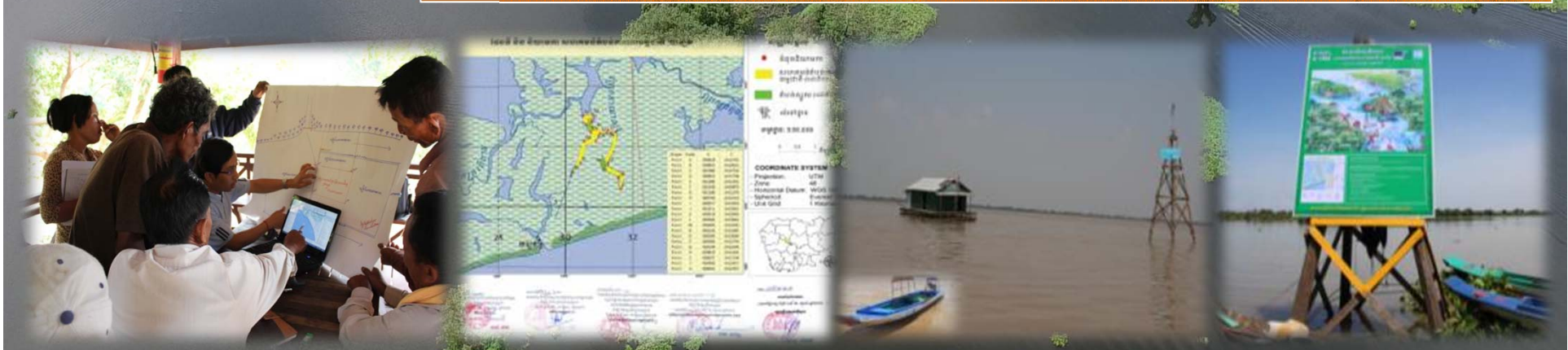
In the process, we have applied several the global principles and approaches:

- Ecosystem-based Approach
- Common pool resource management principle
- Bottom-up and highly participatory approach



Key Interventions

- Successful established 3 Fish Conservation Areas
- FCA boundary demarcation and signboards
- Developed patrol plan for protecting the FCA
- Fish habitat improvement via Fish Attraction Device
- Training CFi committee on Participatory M&E
- Developed CFi by-law and Management Plan





Key Impacts

- Increased awareness on benefits of FCA management for local community
- Increased public awareness (both local and outsider) on FCA
- Increased fish stock around and inside the FCA
- Improved food security for local community
- Improved livelihoods of local fisherfolks
- Built capacity and confident for CFi committee





Links to the SDGs

- Addressing the challenges of climate change (SDG 13),
- Working to reduce rural poverty and food insecurity (SDG 1 & SDG 2), and
- Working to build on the sustainable development and ecosystem conservation objectives (SDG 17).





Sustainable FCA Management Model

Strict protection of FCA

Fees finance FCA patrols, build capacity and confidence

Fish stock recovery

Increased core funding to community

Increased membership, fish catch & improved livelihoods





Steps toward the Sustainable Financing





Conclusion

- It's demonstrated that in the complex socio-ecological system of the Tonle Sap, ecosystem based intervention through establishing FCA can result both ecosystem conservation objectives and local livelihoods benefits
- In short term → Generating → Physical, Economic, Social & Governance conditions → Effective manage FCA → both conservation and livelihoods benefits in longer term.
- With proper co-management, conservation, securing sustainable financing, and due care of the ecosystem services, contested fisheries can be effectively managed by local communities resulting improvements in both fisheries and the underlying aquatic ecosystems.



Thanks for your kind attention !

EU-NSA Project video link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ysSDWDT E1eo>.



Photo credit: Sorn Pheakdey/IUCN Cambodia