IPSI Case Study Summary Sheet

Basic Information

Title of case study			
Cambodia: Paddy rice cultivation and freshwater fishing industry in the Mekong and Tonle Sap Rivers			
Submitting IPSI member organization(s)			
United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS)			
Other contributing organization(s) *(IPSI members and/or non-members)*			
Japan Wildlife Research Center (JWRC)			
Author(s) and affiliation(s)			
Japan Wildlife Research Center (JWRC); Kaoru Ichikawa (UNU-IAS), ed.			
Format of case study *(manuscript or audiovisual)*	Manuscript	Language	English
Keywords			
Rice paddy cultivation, fish, inland water			
Date of submission *(or update, if this is an update of an existing case study)*		March 2012	
Web link *(of the case study or lead organization if available for more information)*	http://collections.unu.edu/eserv/UNU:5448/SEPL_in_Asia_report_2nd_Printing.web.pdf		

Geographical Information

Country *(where site(s) or activities described in the case study are located – can be multiple, or even "global")*									
Cambodia									
Location(s) *(within the country or countries – leave blank if specific location(s) cannot be identified)*									
Mekong and Tonle Sap Rivers									
Longitude/latitude or Google Maps link *(if location is identified)*									
https://www.google.co.jp/maps/@11.895304,104.8958413,8z?hl=en									
Ecosystem(s)									
Forest		Grassland		Agricultural	x	In-land water	x	Coastal	
Dryland		Mountain		Urban/peri-urban		Other (Please specify)			
Socioeconomic and environmental characteristics of the area									
Basins of the Mekong and Tonle Sap Rivers cover approximately 40% of the total land area of Cambodia. The flood plain includes flooded forests, shrub forests and grassland. Tonle Sap Lake is a freshwater fishing ground that boasts large catches.									
Description of human-nature interactions in the area									
Local residents engage in paddy rice cultivation and freshwater fishing according to the seasonal changes in the water levels. The area has a large production volume of rice in rain-fed paddy fields but the production is unstable due to the change in precipitation.									

Contents

Status *("ongoing" or "completed")*	Completed	Period *(MM/YY to MM/YY)*	03/2012
Rationale *(why activities or policies described, or information shared in the case study are needed)*			
This study was commissioned to be included in the publication "Socio-ecological Production Landscapes in Asia".			
Objectives *(goals of activities or policies described, or of producing the case study)*			
This chapter provides an overview of paddy rice cultivation and freshwater fishing in the area.			
Activities and/or practices employed			
Literature review, field observation.			
Results			
When farming villages entered the market economy in the 1990s, the degradation of the resources rapidly accelerated. The society is now facing a significant increase in population. Abundant ecosystems around Tonle Sap Lake have long provided important resources to maintain the daily life of poor residents in villages in Cambodia. Today, however, residents are unable to find a solution to their own poverty problems by relying on the resources of the lake alone.			
Lessons learned *(factors in success or failure, challenges and opportunities)*			
Some of the challenges concerning the management of natural resources around Tonle Sap Lake are the modernization of fishing techniques, the significant decrease of flood forests and the increase in population in the area. Flood forests are cut down to be used as fuel wood for residents.			
Key messages			
The government has been promoting community fisheries as a measure to cope with issues including sustainable and fair management of fishery resources in Tonle Sap Lake, the improvement of life standards and poverty. Problems such as the decline in resources and deterioration of ecosystems are now being recognized by local residents.			
Relationship to other IPSI activities *(if the case study is related to any other IPSI collaborative activities, case studies, etc.)*			
This case study originally appeared in the publication "Socio-ecological Production Landscapes in Asia". *This Summary Sheet was produced by UNU-IAS alone.			
Funding *(any relevant information about funding of activities or projects described in the case study)*			
This study was commissioned by UNU-IAS.			

Contributions to Global Agendas

CBD Aichi Biodiversity Targets (https://www.cbd.int/sp/targets/)

The table below shows based on the self-evaluation by author(s). ● and ■ indicates the "direct" or "indirect" contributions to the CBD's Aichi Biodiversity Targets respectively to which the work described in this case study contributes to.

Strategic Goal A				Strategic Goal B					
●	■				■	■			
									

Strategic Goal C			Strategic Goal D			Strategic Goal E			
■			■					■	
									

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs)

The table below shows based on the self-evaluation by author(s). ● and ■ indicates the "direct" or "indirect" contributions to the SDGs respectively to which the work described in this case study contributes to.

■	■				■			
								
		■			■