Goal: To rehabilitate the degraded forests in the project sites to a status well stocked with HVT species and high value NTFPs and/or multifunction, and the project site recognized as a training site for forest rehabilitation.

Objectives: Eight (8) hectares of restoration demonstration plots and 50 hectares of restoration areas fully established as designed in community forests in the project sites.

Expected Outcome
Two pilot sites with two different management objectives have been selected. It is expected that, a total area of 50 hectares of degraded forests in the two pilot sites will be restored using different methods of forest restoration. Improvement of the capacity of local communities and staff from local Forestry Administration on forest restoration. Strengthen the capability of the central and local FA staff, local CF communities on forest restoration for biodiversity recovery and livelihood improvement. Knowledge and skills that have been learned from this project can be applied in other parts of Cambodia with similar site conditions. The demonstration plots are expected to motivate stakeholders to participate in forest restoration. Wider public and stakeholders will also be benefited through the sharing and dissemination of the knowledge and experience developed from the project.

Expected Major Outputs
Output 1: Community nursery established in each pilot site
Output 2: Models of forest restoration plots established in each pilot site
Output 3: Knowledge and experience on multi-functional forest restoration published and disseminated to relevant stakeholders and general public.
Project Activities

Nursery establishment

Seedling production

Nursery experiment

Establishment of model restoration plots

Training on nurserying

Phenology studies
Lessons Learned

- Site restoration is a long process.
- Research is more meaningful to the community if this is conducted in a participatory manner. A participatory action research is proven to be effective in raising their interests in the restoration efforts. Although the community learn from the technical aspects of forestry, they also share their local knowledge.
- The effort of restoring the indigenous species has brought promising results. For instance, Pinus species that are very susceptible to damping off if grown in nursery has been overcome by the use of wildlings.
- Although the economic benefits of site restoration may take years, the project has contributed to the effective conservation of the community forests by making the community more aware of its value. As a result, the community forest continuously provides a stream of income of the community members who depend from the forest for NTFPs.