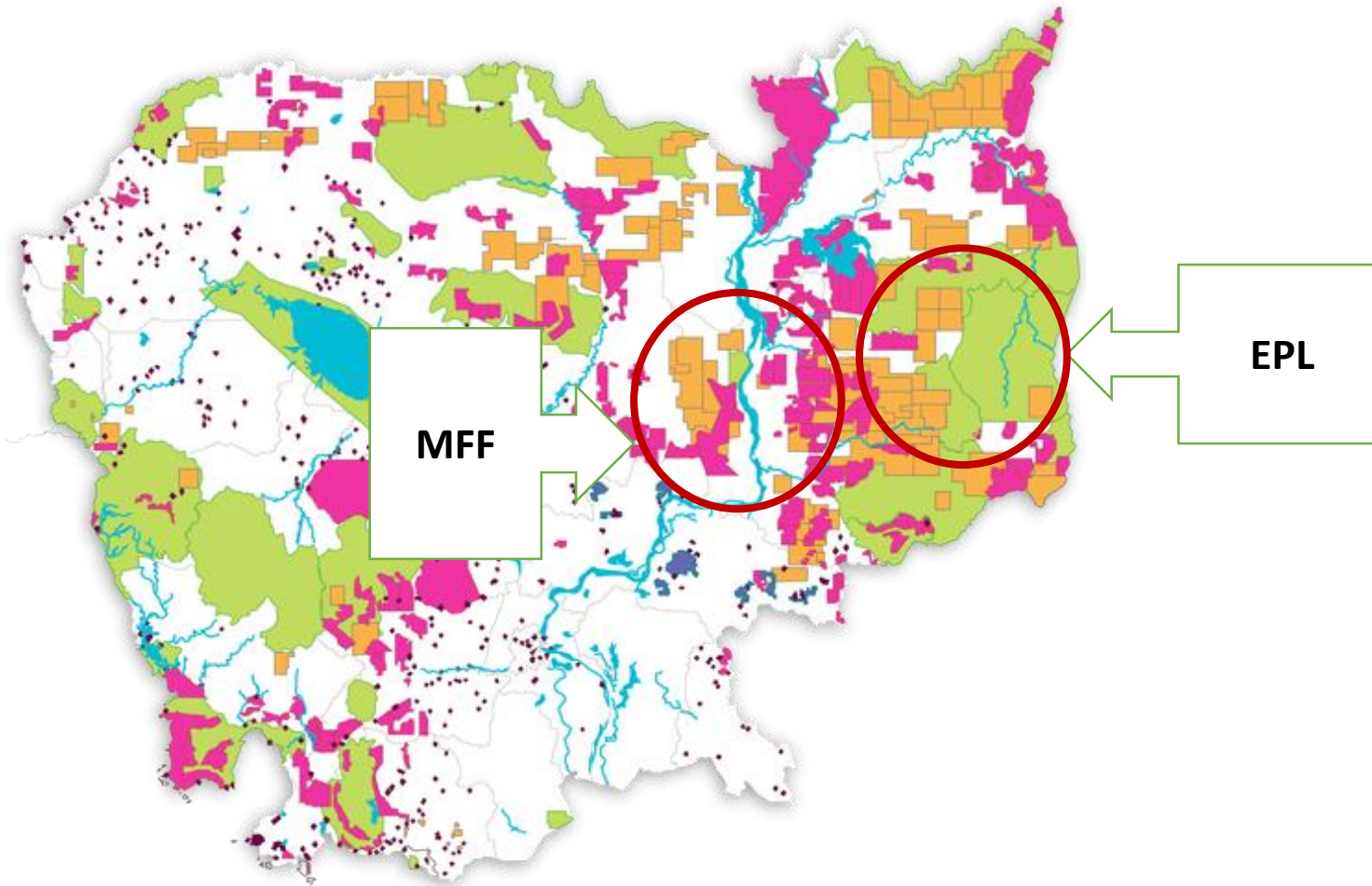


# Communities and Biodiversity in Cambodia



- Major development problem in Cambodia is **Economic Land Concessions**:
  - ✓ Several million hectares of forest are granted for agricultural (pink) and mining (orange) concessions
  - ✓ People lose their land access and livelihoods
  - ✓ WWF works in the 2 landscapes where this threat is the most prominent: **Mekong Flooded Forest and Eastern Plains Landscape**

# Resin Collection in Protected Areas

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- Resin is one of the most important NTFPs collected by rural communities in Cambodia. It is used as a raw material in the manufacturing of varnish, cheap soap, leather making, and sealing wax, as well as for caulking boats and in torches for lighting houses in the village.
- Resin is extracted by making a small cut in the tree which is set alight to induce resin flow. Around Mondulkiri Protected Forest, for example, resin tapping is an important economic activity for more than 40% of the people.
- WWF is working with local communities to get more income out of their NTFP collecting and has also implemented educational campaigns spreading knowledge on sustainable practice of resin tapping.



# Wild Honey and Sustainable Community Livelihoods

- Honey collection has been an activity among forest communities for a long time because of its medicinal value. Honey hunting was mainly used for household consumption, but has now become a commercial activity due to the increasing demand for honey products in the province and the high prices of around 3.75-5 USD per litre.
- Communities are organised in groups, provided with capacity building, and receive help to publicly promote their achievements. To enlarge and secure contribution of forest honey collection to community livelihoods, honey collectors are trained in harvesting and processing techniques that are both sustainable and hygienic.

WWF has now expanded these activities to the formation of the Cambodian Wild Honey Network. This network will help strengthen the bargaining power of honey collector groups, let more honey collectors learn and understand about sustainable honey harvesting, and thus allow for more areas of forest to be protected.





# Rattan

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- Rattans are climbing palms that are extensively used for making baskets and furniture. Rattan is an important commodity in international trade and generates a significant amount of foreign exchange.
- Forest encroachment and land conversion as well as over harvesting has put pressure on rattan resources, and rattan is now mainly located in protected area forests. Additionally, ineffective supply chains and unsafe production methods threaten the survival of rattan, its management and the future of the rattan industry.

WWF's rattan project works throughout the three Greater Mekong region countries of Lao PDR, Vietnam, and Cambodia to promote systems of sustainable rattan harvest and production. In Cambodia, the project has also initiated the foundation of the first Rattan Association of Cambodia.



# 1. Rattan: Identification

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- In its first phase (2006-2008), the project focused on the identification, growth, and ecology of key species, on the dynamics of the rattan market as well as on the development of a community-based sustainable harvest and production system.
- Previously, lack of botanical knowledge had constrained development of the rattan industry, especially in the selection of the right species for processing and trading.
- In addition, the project set up community based model approach that promotes sustainable management and use of rattan resources, so that forest ecosystem where rattan are present are conserved





## 2. Value Chain and Green Production



- Lack of market information and inappropriate forest and trade policy have slowed down development of the rattan sector in the past.
- The project is to work with all stakeholders of the rattan value chain and to produce green and clean rattan products. This approach includes:  
Continuous field research on growth and yield of specific rattan species.
- Development of rattan cleaner production techniques.
- Implementation of community based sustainable rattan management and production approaches
- Carrying out a market chain analysis with 20 communities across the country.

# 3. Expand Sustainable Supply and Production

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- Funded by IKEA, WWF's Rattan Project intends to expand the existing sustainable rattan supply and production chain with the aims of supplying 1,500 ton of sustainably managed raw material for production by 2014.
- The main objectives are to: Secure rattan forests and plantation resources under sustainable management plans that support local livelihoods and are able to supply sustainable and green products to rattan processors.
- Increase the knowledge on rattan industry, conservation, and ecology by implementing a forest biodiversity impact monitoring system in order to support development of the rattan industry.
- Secure legal support through the collaboration of national policies about the rattan supply chain in Cambodia and abroad

