

PROCEDURE OF GREEN CONTRACT APPLICATION IN ASEAN PEATLAND FOREST PROJECT – VIETNAM COMPONENT

The contract has been applied in pilot sites of U Minh Thuong National Park (Kiên Giang Province) and U Minh Ha National Park (Ca Mau Province)

By Dr. Le Phat Quoi

- 1. Organize a meeting to inform the community livelihood development programme supported from APHP. Participants including National Park, commune leaders, Project national expert. A record was made with agreement of the three parties:**
 - a) National Park Manager and communes will be responsible to select households who will be able to participate in the livelihood development project; *and*
 - b) A selection criteria applied for households participate in the livelihood development project is based on household livelihood condition.

- 2. Organize a meeting to inform and discuss with households on in the livelihood development programme.**
 - a) Introduce the function and values of peatlands, and introduce objectives of APHP implementing in South East Asia region, especially in peatlands of U Minh area;
 - b) Important role of community-based management of peatlands, particularly forest fires in the dry season;
 - c) Introduce the livelihood development project supported from APHP, and responsibilities of households participated the project;
 - d) Suggestions on agricultural production models are applied in the project. All households will think of and chose agricultural models appropriate for each household.

- 3. Organize a meeting on signing the Green Contract.**

Participants: National Park Managers, Commune leaders, APHP national expert, and households selected.

 - a) Information and explanation of the content of the Green Contract to households;
 - b) Households and national park manager together discuss the content and terms of the Green Contract;
 - c) After together agreeing to all the terms of the Green Contract between the parties concerned, households will fill up their information on the Contract, including work plan and types of production models that they have chosen; *and*

- d) Then, national park manager and households will sign the Contract under certifying by local government (communes).

4. Organize a technical training on agricultural production.

Based on the models of productions selected by households, a technical workshop will be held to raise production skills for households participating in the livelihood development project.

Trainers: Experts of Provincial Center for Agricultural Extension.

5. Disbursement of project funds

There is a contract between APHP Management Unit – Vietnam Component and the U Minh Thuong national Park who is considered as a partner in pilot site of peatland project and will be responsible to cooperation for implementing the activities of the local community livelihood development programme. Project fund of livelihood development activities is therefore transferred to U Minh Thuong National Park who will be responsible to transfer the project budget to households participating in the livelihood development project.

Based on the work-plan of each households described on the Green Contract, project funds will be transferred to households in installments according to the needs to develop a production model. Basically, project funding is transferred to households is divided into 3 times.

6. Monitoring and evaluation

To have a solid basis in the transfer of project funds to households, park's staff will have to monitor and evaluate the application of the agricultural models applied the households.

Monitoring and evaluation is usually carried once a month. The results of the monitoring and evaluation of activity of livelihood development project will be aggregated and reported to project national experts.

7. Workshop on evaluation of project activities and experiences sharing

After one year of the project implementation, a workshop on project evaluation and sharing of experiences of applied agricultural production models will now be held.