

STUNG SEN WETLAND is located in the southeastern edge of Tonle Sap Lake within Phat Sanday Commune, Kampong Svay District, Kampong Thom Province, Cambodia. Stung Sen wetland is one of the three core areas of the Tonle Sap Biosphere Reserve. It is also one of the Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBA KH019) in Cambodia.



WHAT IS RAMSAR CONVENTION

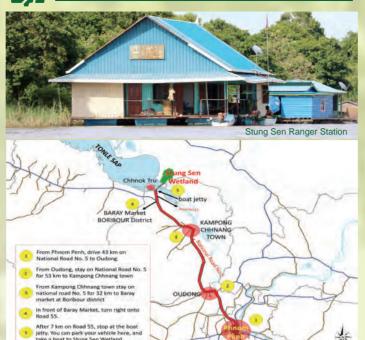
The Convention on Wetlands, also known as the Ramsar Convention (Ramsar, Iran, 1971), is an intergovernmental treaty which provides a framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources. Cambodia ratified the convention on 24th December 1996, and the convention entered into force on 23rd October 1999.

- Ramsar site: A wetland that meets at least one of the criteria for identifying Wetlands of International Importance.
- Towards a New Ramsar Site: The Stung Sen wetland meets Criteria 2 (rare and endangered species), 3 (biodiversity), 4 (life cycle & refuge), 6 (>1% of waterbird population) and 8 (fish spawning ground & others).

(For more information, visit the Ramsar website at http://www.ramsar.org)



ACCESS TO STUNG SEN WETLAND





CONTACT INFORMATION

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STUNG SEN WETLAND

LIVING IN HARMONY WITH STUNG SEN WETLAND



RICH IN BIODIVERSITY

HYDROLOGICAL SYSTEM: The Stung Sen wetland, a part of the Tonle Sap Lake, is strongly influenced by the water exchange between the Mekong River, the Stung Sen River and Tonle Sap Lake. Annual flooding cycle causes significant fluctuation in water level, which results in high aquatic productivity and supports unique faunal and floral communities.

UNIQUE VEGETATION: The hydrological cycle supports Stung Sen wetland's unique seasonally flooded vegetation, including gallery forest along the Stung Sen River, shrubland and grassland.

SPECIES: There are at least 9 mammal species, 79 bird species, 4 turtle species, and 94 fish species. The wetland is habitat to globally endangered species including Silvered Langur, Hairynoised Otter, Lesser Adjutant, Yellow-head Temple Turtle, Mekong Giant Barb, Striped Catfish, and Isok Barb (Birdlife International Cambodia Programme, 2016).

HABITAT AND REFUGE FOR A RANGE OF BIOTA: The site also provides significant benefit to various biodiversity as important spawning grounds and migratory pathways for several fish species, feeding grounds for a number of waterbirds, and habitat for many mammal species.

ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

Local residents of Stung Sen wetland are heavily dependent on aquatic resources, including water, food, and income generation through fishing and agriculture, provided by the Stung Sen wetland.

The wetland also provides other services such as climate regulation, carbon sequestration, groundwater recharge, water purification, erosion protection, sediment deposition, and flood and storm control.

It is also a site with extensive ecotourism potential.



Setting fish traps









Silvered Langur (Endangered)



THREATS

THERE ARE SOME **THREATS** TO THE STUNG SEN WETLAND.

HABITAT DEGRADATION: Wildfire, burning and cutting of forest for agriculture and access for hunting and fishing.

HUNTING AND TRAPPING: Bird poisoning along lakeshore, killing endangered otters for skin, hanging hooked lines and sound trapping for endangered birds.

OVER HARVESTING OF NATURAL RESOURCES: Illegal fishing and year-around fishing including spawning seasons.





Tonle Sap Lake

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FOR WETLAND CONSERVATION

Grey-headed Fish Eagle

Fish Habitat

Community Boundary

An important measure for wetland conservation is designating biodiversity-rich areas as protected areas (such as a Ramsar site) while allowing their "wise use" by various stakeholders with appropriate wetland management.

Wise use of wetlands: It is crucial for people to use the wetland in a sustainable manner so that its ecosystem functions and services are maintained.

Various stakeholder involvement: It is important to engage all stakeholders, including local residents, local authorities, relevant institutions and NGOs, to make better decisions, share benefits, and promote collaboration among them for wetland conservation.