

Southern Cardamom REDD+ Project — Verified Forest-Carbon Payments and Contested Community Impacts (Cambodia)

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Cambodia

Quality score: 33/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

Summary

Cambodia's largest REDD+ project has generated 27.6 million tonnes of Verra-verified avoided emissions across 465,000 ha of the Cardamom Mountains, but was suspended in 2023 after Human Rights Watch documented forced evictions of Indigenous Chong communities.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	3/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	2/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	0/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Governance, certification & transferability	0/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-08-08

[Wildlife Alliance / Cambodia Ministry of Environment](#) — accessed 2026-08-08

[Human Rights Watch — Carbon Offsetting's Casualties](#) — accessed 2026-08-08

[Mongabay — New report details rights abuses in Cambodia's Southern Cardamom REDD+ project](#) — accessed 2026-08-08

[Mongabay — Cambodian carbon credit project hit by rights abuse claims is reinstated](#) — accessed 2026-08-08

[Mongabay — Indigenous community calls out Cambodian REDD+ project as tensions simmer in the Cardamoms](#) — accessed 2026-08-08

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