



PHOTO: © CHAN PHALKUN

PEOPLE & WILDLIFE FROM  
**THE CAMBODIAN NORTHERN PLAINS**



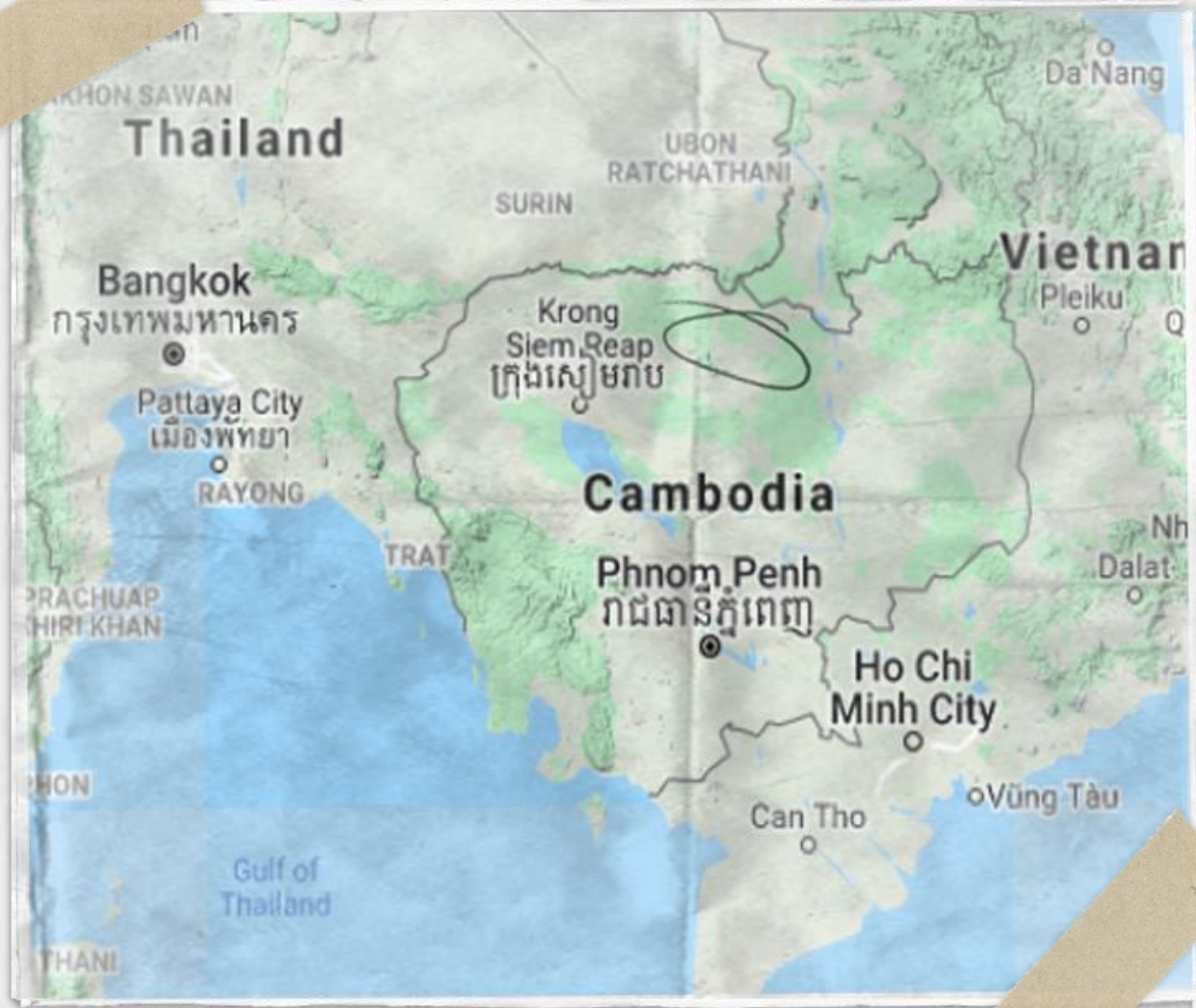
**POSTCARDS**

FROM THE

**FIELD**

**GALA 2020**





# The Northern Plains

An area of unique open forest and grassland located in Northern Cambodia close to the Thai and Lao borders.

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VIDEO: © WCS

*Footage of the now extinct Kouprey*

## The History

First visited by the New York Zoological Society in 1952. The only film footage ever taken of the now extinct wild cow the Kouprey. Then lost to the Indochina War and the Khmer Rouge for 30 years.

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PHOTOS: © WCS CAMBODIA

*Camera trap shots of the Giant Ibis*

## Rediscovery of the Giant Ibis

WCS Scientists returned to the area in 2000 and rediscovered the critically endangered Giant Ibis using camera traps.

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PHOTO: © WCS CAMBODIA

# Northern Plains Biodiversity and Conservation

Now it is known to hold 50 species of global conservation concern, and comprised of 500,000 hectares of four protected areas.

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PHOTO: © MARDY SEAN / SVC



PHOTO: © PHANN SITHAN / WCS





# The Phnom Penh Post

## Concerns over poisoning of giant ibises in Preah Vihear

By Sochan | Publication date 21 April 2020 | 21:57 ICT



WCS country director Ken Serey Rotha said poachers had used carbofuran – a poison used to kill mice – to kill the birds, which could poison people or other animals if they are eaten. WCS

The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) has expressed concern for the impact on birds, domestic animals and even humans after three giant ibises died of poisoning in Chhaeb district in Preah Vihear province.

WCS country director Ken Serey Rotha told The Post on Tuesday that wild animal hunters had used carbofuran – a poison used to kill mice – to kill the birds.

He expressed concern that the poisoned animals could poison people or other animals if they are eaten.

"Vultures, as we know, eat dead animals. If a vulture eats the poisoned animals it will be



April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020

Three Giant Ibis poisoned, part of an increase in poaching potentially due to Covid-19.

People and Wildlife  
Need our Support







PHOTO: © ELEANOR BRIGGS / WCS

How can we help People and Wildlife?

We need to Engage Communities in Conservation

Eco Tourism

Wildlife Friendly Agriculture







PHOTO: © SVC

*SVC Guides at Angkor Wat*



## Sam Veasna Conservation Tours

Sam Veasna Conservation Tours brings tourists from all around the world to see Giant Ibis and other endangered birds.



**10K**

*Eco Tourists  
Hosted*



**7**

*Birding and  
Wildlife Guides*



**\$100K**

*Invested in  
Communities*



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SAM VEASNA CONSERVATION  
TOURS







PHOTO: © CHAN PHALKUN



Rice Harvest in Tmat Boey  
Farming Village

## Wildlife-Friendly Forest Farmers

The **IBIS Rice** initiative buys organic jasmine rice at a premium rate from wildlife-friendly farmers who commit to the following principles:



Zero-Logging



Zero-Poaching



Zero-Pesticides







PHOTO: © PHANN SITHAN/WCS

*Cambodian Farmers are  
Protecting the Giant Ibis*



## Our Impact So Far

Through IBIS Rice, we are proving that food production doesn't have to cost the earth. Thanks to our wildlife-friendly farmers, we are helping to reverse the extinction of the Giant Ibis while improving farmers livelihoods.



**1,500**

*Wildlife Friendly  
Farmers*



**75%**

*Deforestation Rate  
Reduced*



**4.5M**

*Kilograms of  
Paddy Purchased*







PHOTO: © THIDA LEIPER

*An Opportunity for Investment?*



**Coming to a shelf near you!**







PHOTO: © ELEANOR BRIGGS/WCS

Thanks to everyone with us on  
this journey near and far,  
particularly the villagers of the  
Northern Plains and our long  
standing friend and supporter  
Eleanor Briggs.

From the WCS Cambodia Team

Saving Wildlife and People

