1. Project Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Title</td>
<td>Preventing the Mekong Irrawaddy Dolphin mortality resulting from illegal fishing practices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant code</td>
<td>2015B-012</td>
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<td>SOS Grant Type</td>
<td>Rapid Action Grant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Report Author and Contact Information</td>
<td>Mr Horm Chandet  Mekong Flooded Forest Landscape Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of Report</td>
<td>16 May 2016</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

| SOS Strategic Direction(s)    | Rapid Action Grant               |
| Project Dates                 | 15 December 2015 - 31 March 2016 |
| SOS Grant Amount (in US$)     | 25,000.00                        |
| Total Project Amount (in US$) | 58,696.98                        |
| Focal Threatened Species      | Irrawaddy dolphin (*Orcaella brevirostris*) (Vulnerable) Mekong sub-population (Critically Endangered) |
| Implementation Partners for this project | Fisheries Administration (FiA) |

2. Project Progress by Objectives / Results

2A. Report on Objectives and Results. Reporting should state if Objectives and Results have been “ACHIEVED”, “PARTIALLY ACHIEVED” or are still “IN PROGRESS”. Please reference specific products/deliverables from the approved project design and other relevant information including quantitative and qualitative measurement of chosen indicators.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective or Result</th>
<th>Status at Completion</th>
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</table>
| **Objective 1:** To eliminate Irrawaddy dolphin bycatch, and illegal poaching activities in the dolphin conservation and management areas. | **The result has been ACHIEVED**  
  - Under SOS funding, with matching funds from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), the WWF-Cambodia law enforcement unit of the Mekong Flooded Forest (MFF) landscape has increased the number of Fisheries Administration (FiA) River Guard patrolling days to at least 17 days per month for individual outpost, 16 outposts. Patrolling activities at each outpost were closely monitored using the SMART reporting system to ensure the effectiveness of law enforcement. |
• In response to the nine adult dolphin mortalities in 2015, the Urgent Enforcement Plan (see Attachment 1 to this report) for the period of six months from December 2015 to May 2016 was jointly developed by FiA and WWF-Cambodia enforcement team and used to effectively improve the law enforcement implementation in the Mekong River Dolphins’ Managerial Protection Area from Kratie to the Cambodia-Lao PDR border in Stung Treng province.

• There was no dolphin mortality in period of December 2015 to March 2016. However, there were 2 dead dolphins found in the period of April – May 2016 (one died in April, and another one in May 2016). Dolphin mortalities were reduced from nine in 2015 to only two during the first five months in 2016 (one due to entanglement in a fishing net and one probably due to natural causes – old age).

• Four dolphin calves were discovered at the core zones of the Mekong dolphins by mid 2016. Three calves recruited during the project period (one calf found in February, two calves in March, and last one in June 2016). They are being closely monitored by the River Guards.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Result 1.1: Sixty-eight FiA River Guards are complementarily equipped to prevent the use of gillnets, electrofishing and other illegal fishing gears by January 1, 2016.</th>
<th>The result has been ACHIEVED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Additional necessary equipment was provided to River Guards at 16 outposts for patrolling and enforcement purposes. The equipment included:</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 7 Walkie Talkies</td>
<td>- 7 Walkie Talkies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 21 torches and 21 headlights for night patrols</td>
<td>- 21 torches and 21 headlights for night patrols</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 7 boats</td>
<td>- 7 boats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 5 engines</td>
<td>- 5 engines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 68 river guards uniforms (provided by FiA)</td>
<td>- 68 river guards uniforms (provided by FiA)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

This equipment significantly improves the river guards’ current enforcement day and night patrolling in the Mekong River Dolphins’ Managerial Protection Area. In addition, a number of patrolling times have been increased.

*Note: One of the river guards’ outposts was closed because it was considered too close to another one. For this reason the number of outposts referred to throughout this report is 16 rather than the 17 mentioned in the proposal.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Result 1.2: 15 days of rigorous patrolling and law enforcement per month for individual outpost, 16 outposts in Dolphin Management and Protection Areas implemented from December 15, 2015.</th>
<th>The result has been ACHIEVED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Urgent Enforcement Plan for the period of six month from December 2015 to June 2016 was effectively implemented by using IUCN SOS and Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) funds to support 68 FiA’s River Guards at 16 outposts to remove gillnets and other illegal fishing gears from the Mekong Dolphins’ Managerial Protection Area from Kratie to</td>
<td>• The Urgent Enforcement Plan for the period of six month from December 2015 to June 2016 was effectively implemented by using IUCN SOS and Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) funds to support 68 FiA’s River Guards at 16 outposts to remove gillnets and other illegal fishing gears from the Mekong Dolphins’ Managerial Protection Area from Kratie to</td>
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the Cambodian-Lao PDR border in Stung Treng province, especially the core and buffer zones. The river guards were directly supported for the monthly food allowances, fuel and equipment.

- There were at least 17 patrolling days (approximately 5 to 8 hours per day) per outpost conducted while in 2015 there was only a maximum of 13 patrolling days. Results of regular monthly patrolling activities conducted by River Guards during the period of the grant at their respective catchment areas are:
  - 1006 patrolling days (both day and night patrols), in average 17 days/month for each outpost;
  - Confiscated 799 gillnets equal to 49,286m in length of net;
  - Confiscated 44 sets of Hook-Long-Lines equal to 3478m in length and equipped with 1754 hooks;
  - Encountered 11 cases of Electro-Fishing, resulting in the confiscation of 8 sets of electro-fishing gear and 8 motor-boats, 7 poachers arrested while only 6 were sent to the jail, and one written warning issued;
  - Official warnings issued to 26 fishermen who used gillnets in Protected Areas;
  - Educated 109 fishermen who used gillnets in Protected Areas.

**Result 1.3:** Effectiveness and efficiency of law enforcement is monitored by WWF and the Cambodian Fisheries Administration (FiA).

**This result has been ACHIEVED**

- A Spatial Monitoring And Reporting Tool (SMART) is used to monitor the patrolling activities of the river guards. WWF Law Enforcement Officers and two River Guard Chiefs in Kratie and Stung Treng Provinces play critical roles to support and lead the River Guards in patrolling and monitoring the effectiveness of enforcement in the landscape.

- At least two visits were monthly conducted by the WWF Law Enforcement Officers and the River Guard Chiefs at the 16 outposts along the Mekong dolphins’ range to:
  1) monitor patrolling activities, build the River Guards’ capacity, coach them on patrolling activities, and provide monthly support for food allowance and fuel, and
  2) follow up on River Guards’ activities and villages’ fishing activities, and lead and join in the patrolling.

- Four SMART reports (December-15 to March-16) on law enforcement and patrolling were developed by the enforcement team (see Attachment 2 to this report). The reports were used by the team to monitor, follow up on and evaluate enforcement work.
Two technical enforcement meetings were conducted by WWF and FiA to review the progress of the Urgent Law Enforcement Plan implementation. Innovative actions were addressed to strengthen and scale up enforcement efforts.

2B. Were any components unrealized? If so, how has this affected the overall impact of the project?

All components have been implemented and we reached the project objectives to the best of our capabilities.

2C. Please list and submit (electronically if possible) any documents, tools, products, or methodologies that resulted from this project or contributed to the results.

Attachment 1 - Urgent Enforcement Plan (December 2015 to May 2016)
Attachment 2 - SMART patrolling monthly reports (x4: Dec 2015, Jan 2016, Feb 2016 and Mar 2016)
Attachment 3 – Photographic documentation of enforcement activities

3. Species Conservation Impacts

Note: Please use this section to summarize the overall impact of your project. Present results in terms of:
- Overall impact of the project (see 3A to 3C below)
- Project activities’ impacts on species status (see 3.1 below),
- Population size and trajectories (see 3.2 below),
- Critical habitat condition and trajectory (see 3.3 below),
- Major threats (see 3.4 below), and
- Enabling conditions for effective conservation (see 3.5 below).

3A. Planned Outcome(s) / Impact(s) (as stated in the project logical framework):

1. 15 days of patrolling per month allow reaching the minimum standards of law enforcement.

2. Zero poaching in dolphin conservation and management areas

3. Zero dolphin bycatch in gillnets

3B. Actual Progress towards Impacts at Completion:

- The planned objective was fully achieved by the end of the project. The project increased the number of patrolling days per outpost from a maximum of 15 patrolling days in 2015 to at least 17 days per month during the project implementation period. Regular patrolling was carried out by the River Guards in the core and buffer zones of the Mekong River Dolphins’ Managerial Protection Area.
- A significant reduction in adult dolphin mortality occurred over the project period. The mortality was reduced from nine deaths in 2015 to only two in early 2016 (January to May 2016): one dolphin probably died of old age and the other one died of gillnet entanglement.
• At least 3 new calves were born during this project period, two were found at the Kampi pool and the other one was found at the Koh Phdao Pool.
• The capacity of the river guards to carry out patrolling and enforcement was significantly improved through the provision of necessary enforcement equipment (5 boats, 5 engines, 7 Walkie Talkies, 42 torches), and regular visits and coaching by Law Enforcement Officers and River Guard Chiefs.
• As per urgent law enforcement needs, the River Guards conducted rigorous patrolling during both days and nights in their catchment areas to remove gillnets from the core and buffer zones. The efforts resulted in zero gillnets in the core zones of the Mekong River Dolphins’ Managerial Protection Area. In addition, seven poachers who used the electro fishing gears and poisonous baits were arrested. Six of them were imprisoned and the other one was warned through issuing of a warning letter.

3C. Describe the success or challenges of the project toward achieving its short-term and long-term impact objectives. How could it have been improved?

Success:
All project activities were carried out, and all Results and Objectives were fully met. The River Guards were provided with necessary law enforcement equipment and significantly improved their patrolling capacities throughout the day to ensure zero gillnets in the core zones, through regular visits and mentoring by WWF Law Enforcement Officers. The number of patrolling days were expected to be at least 15 days per month, and was increased to a minimum of 17 days per month during the period of the project. Additionally, there were four calves recruited into the population during the first six-month of 2016 while three of calves found during the project period. The mortality was reduced from nine dolphins in 2015 to two by mid 2016.

Challenges
• The Government’s recently strict measure to eradicate illegal logging throughout the country has resulted in making a big number of illegal loggers who are residing along both banks of the Mekong river in Kratie and Stung Treng provinces shift from illegal logging to illegal fishing. This causes more pressure on the Mekong that will mainly require for stronger effort in enforcing the law.
• A need for increasing a number of river guards and times for the enforcement patrol will be essential to strengthen protection of both dolphins and their prey at the complex stretch of the Mekong river from Koh Chbar village located at upstream of Sambo district up to the Stung Treng border.
• Coordination and collaboration on the transboundary fisheries biological management with the Lao PDR will need to be improved to prevent the small remaining population from extinction

3D. Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?
N/A

Note: Following the summary provided above, please use questions 3.1 to 3.5 to provide a detailed, technical response for results achieved from inception of SOS support to date. Provide responses within the context of stated project objectives, where possible. Attach annexes if necessary. Depending on the project, not all questions may be applicable.
3.1. SPECIES POPULATION - Did you stabilize or improve the conservation status of a species or important species population

a. Global or target population:

The important support from the IUCN Save Our Species has resulted in significantly reducing gillnet use and illegal fishing practices at both the core and buffer zones of the Mekong Dolphins’ Managerial Protection Area. The results from the current enforcement patrol have not only stabilized the population of the Mekong dolphin, which was estimated at 80 individuals in 2015, up from previous estimates thanks to a reduced number of mortalities (from 9 in 2015 to two by mid-2016) and what appears to be stable recruitment of calves (from 12 in 2015 to 4 during the first six months of 2016). This is likely to be around one percent of the global population of Irrawaddy dolphins, and is one of only three freshwater sub-populations of the species, all of them are considered as Critically Endangered with numbers at fewer than 100 individuals each.

b. Indicate type and level of improvement or decline within the context of the following parameters:

(i) number of individuals (use quantitative assessments, if available, otherwise state increasing, decreasing, or remaining the same over project period, with justification and methods);

Population estimation of the Mekong Irrawaddy Dolphins has been made based on Mark-Resight analysis of photo-identified individuals of which 80 individuals excluding 12 calves were received in 2015. Each estimate can only be carried out every three or four years because this modern model for analysis mainly requires for combination of the datasets of the dolphin photos from several years. Three calves were recruited during the first five months of 2016 while two adults died, one of them probably of old age.

(ii) population trajectory over a 5 year period from monitoring date as increasing, decreasing, or remaining the same (with natural ranges of variation taken into consideration; give quantitative estimates, if available).

The Mekong dolphin population was estimated at 80 individuals in 2015, with a 95% confidence interval of 64–100. Average annual population growth rate is estimated at 0.98 with an average annual decline of 1.6% per year between 2007 and 2015. Earlier studies suggested an annual decline of 7% between 2004 and 2007 and 2.2% between 2007 and 2010. It is therefore probable that the rate of population decline is slowing. Average annual survival is estimated at 0.98 (95% CI 0.90-0.99), or 2.4% mortality per year. Recruitment is estimated at 0.8% per year. Prior to 2013 recruitment was estimated to be zero. We now have evidence of limited recruitment but it is still lower than the mortality rate.

3.2. IUCN RED LIST STATUS - After project implementation, can the species globally be considered for a change of Red List status, either positive or negative? If shifts of status within a category are
The sub-population is currently listed as Critically Endangered, and though this project seems to have reduced the rate of decline and should keep reducing it in the future, there is not yet a justified reason to change the population’s IUCN status:
The population is very small and still well below the threshold of 250 individuals in a single population (CR C2a(ii)), possibly fewer than 50 mature individuals (CR C2a(i) and D), and previous unpublished population viability assessments suggest a high likelihood of extinction in the next three generations (CR C2e). Although this project has reduced the threat from bycatch, declines could still be expected from other risks, most notably proposed hydropower developments within the population’s range (examples are the Don Sahong hydropower project and the pipeline Sambor hydropower project), sugar cane plantations and factory processing, as well as the mining of sand and gold. WWF Cambodia’s new 5-year strategy will take into consideration these threats and will develop mitigation measures.

3.3. CRITICAL HABITAT - Did your project improve the quality or condition of a threatened species’ critical habitat within the project target area? Present in terms of the following parameters, where relevant:

(a) the total area (that is, the suitable habitat available to the target or global population);
Under the Sub-Decree of the Mekong Dolphins’ Managerial Protection Area, the target area consists of 776.30 Sq Km; out of these, 146 Sq km are located in the Stung Treng Ramsar Site. In addition, the Mekong Fisheries Biodiversity Conservation and Management Area consist of 373 Sq Km, part of which is located within the dolphin area. There was increased enforcement and more measurements were taken in this area, but during the grant period patrolling activities were also conducted in areas that were considered as being potential enforcement areas. As a result of this project, 776.30 Sq Km are protected. The map below illustrates the different zones mentioned in the text.
(b) condition (note, this must be defined for suitability for each target species; for example, degree of fragmentation, edge effects, impact of invasive species, etc.); and

The patrolling has improved the condition and connectedness of the habitat by removing threats and
barriers to movement, such as gauntlets of nets stretching nearly the whole width of the river during certain seasons. This is discussed in more detail in terms of removing direct threats below.

(c) estimated trajectory (that is, increasing, stable, decreasing) of critical habitat required by the population of the target species within the area addressed by the project.

N/A

3.4. DIRECT THREATS - Did your project stop or reduce important direct threats to a threatened species within the target area? Please state if the direct threats are for: (i) the target species; (ii) its critical habitat, or both. Present in terms of the threats:

(a) intensity (that is, high, moderate, low with criteria tailored to threat);

The intensity of gillnet fishing, and therefore the threat of dolphin bycatch was reduced through regular monthly patrolling activities conducted during the period of the grant by river guards in their respective catchment areas at the 16 outposts, and at core and buffer zones of dolphin conservation and managerial areas. The results were:

- 1006 patrolling days (both day and night), on average 17 days/month for each outpost
- 799 confiscated gillnets equal to 49286m of net
- 44 sets of confiscated Hook-Long-Line equal to 3478m and equipped with 1754 hooks
- 11 cases of Electro-Fishing discovered, resulting in the confiscation of 8 sets of electro-fishing gear and 8 motor-boats, 7 poachers arrested, 6 sent to the jail and one issued a written warning
- Official warnings issued to 26 fishermen who used gillnets in Protected Areas
- The education of 109 fishermen who used gillnets in Protected Areas

(b) distribution (that is, widespread, common, localized); and

The threat of gillnet bycatch used to be in the whole 56 km stretch of the Mekong Flooded Forest, and the 37 km stretch of the Ramsar site in Stung Treng, but through this project we've been able to protect the 776.30 Sq Km of the Dolphin Management and Protection Areas, reducing the threat in 70% of the 180 km stretch of Irrawaddy dolphin habitat in the Mekong river, based on SMART reports and observations. The reduction in the distribution of illegal fishing has resulted in gillnet fishing, which was previously widespread, now being a rare occurrence in core dolphin areas and instead localized in places rarely used by dolphins.

(c) area affected over time (that is, expanding, decreasing, stable using defined boundary) of 1-3 major, direct threats to the target species within the projects’ target areas.

The areas affected by illegal fishing appear to be decreasing, and the instances of gillnets being found in core zones of dolphin areas now appear to be zero.

3.5. ENABLING CONDITIONS - Did your project contribute to improving, no impact on, or worsening enabling conditions that facilitate successful conservation for threatened species? Present in terms of the degree (that is, favorable, neutral, unfavorable) to which local socio-economic, political, and cultural conditions (that is, ‘enabling conditions’) contribute to the probability of success for
conservation of the target species with the project area. Protected area tracking protocols are required, where applicable (consult with the SOS Secretariat on the appropriate PA tracking tool to use). Applicable metrics include:

(a) legislative tools associated with species’ protection (poor, fair, good, very good);

“Very Good”
The legislative conditions for dolphin protection and management in the Mekong are certainly very good. Those include the Law on Fisheries, the Sub-Decree on the Mekong Dolphins’ Managerial Protection Area, the Sub-Decree on types of Fisheries and Endangered Fisheries Products that provides full protection to the 55 endangered fisheries species, including the Mekong Irrawaddy dolphin, the Proclamation on the measure to protect the Endangered Fisheries Species and the proclamation on the Creation of the Mekong Fisheries Biodiversity Conservation and Management Area that its management plan is currently under the development. After the abolishment of the Dolphin Commission of the Council of Minister in 2013, the role and responsibility for protection and management of this species has been formally transferred to the Fisheries Administration (FiA) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries; significantly positive outcomes have been received since then. This is due to a well-functioning management structure from the Central FiA all the way to the sub-national level. The provincial FiA also has more staff to support the implementation of law enforcement and monitor the effectiveness of these efforts.

(b) financing for conservation (poor, fair, good, very good – based on available resources for conservation, sustainable financing mechanisms are developed and in place, public-private partnerships, positive benefits for community livelihoods, etc.);

“Good”
The funds were extremely helpful to secure on-going enforcement activities during a period of fund shortage. However, dolphin conservation is expensive to support, requiring a combination of law enforcement and community outreach as well as the development of alternative livelihoods. Although some funding is available through ecotourism and the national government, this has been insufficient to support adequate patrolling. In addition to this, the banning of gillnet fishing in dolphin areas impacts the livelihoods of many residents who previously relied upon gillnets as a cheap and efficient means to catch food and supplement their income.

(c) wildland or protected area management effectiveness (poor, fair, good, very good – based on PA tracking tool indices applied to target area); and

“Good”
A robust management system was established which meets the requirements for minimum training. A little more time is needed to be certain that the management is sufficiently effective, and data is being collected to apply a Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) or similar metric. That being said, progress to-date is considered positive.
(d) existence of robust conservation strategy or Action Plan for the species or critical habitat (poor, fair, good, very good – based on important features such as priority areas identified and ranked, representation analysis complete, thresholds of habitat and species population size and condition identified, conceptual model and conservation action plan developed, actions prioritized and results chains elaborated, monitoring program).

“Very Good”
A robust and up-to-date conservation strategy for dolphins is in place, with conceptual models, action plans and results chains for dolphin conservation having been built into a five-year WWF Cambodia strategic plan. The project enabled the development of a full package of enforcement strategies, action plans and tools. A second dolphin awareness action appraisal was conducted and the report is under development to show the different aspects and effectiveness of our public awareness work in the dolphin conservation areas (this will hopefully be finalized in July 2016).

4. Lessons Learned

Describe any lessons learned during the design and implementation of the project, as well as any related to organizational development and capacity building. Consider lessons that would inform projects designed or implemented by your organization or others, as well as lessons that might be considered by the global conservation community.

a. Project Design Process:
   
   Note: Please describe what aspects of the project design contributed to its success or caused any shortcomings

The project was designed to respond to the threat from illegal fishing, which is considered the main threat causing dolphin mortality. It has helped to reduce the mortality of dolphins and maintain the dolphin population. The four-month project was developed as an urgent response to a period of fund shortages in order to ensure the continuation of enforcement activities for dolphin conservation.

There is a need to continue supporting the scaling up and sustenance of enforcement activities. The government does not allocate sufficient resources to support enforcement work, and illegal fishing activities are likely to restart and increase if patrolling intensity is reduced. There is a need to find sustainable funding sources as a part of future activities.

b. Project Implementation:
   
   Note: Please describe what aspects of the project execution contributed to its success or caused any shortcomings.

The project was implemented in partnership with the Cambodian Fisheries Administration (FiA). This partnership began before the project was initiated and was key for its implementation. WWF also worked in close partnership with the provincial governors office in both the provinces of Kratie and Stung Treng in order to support and influence enforcement activities for the protection of dolphins and fisheries.
Both FiA and the provincial governor offices have a strong commitment to overcome the illegal fishing in the stretch of the Mekong targeted by the project.

c. Other lessons learned relevant to the conservation community:
N/A

5. Additional Funding

Provide details of any additional funding that supported this project and any funding secured for the project, organization, or the region, as a result of the SOS investment in this project. Use the following categories:

(i) Project co-financing (Other donors or your organization contribute to the direct costs of this project)
WWF Cambodia used co-financing from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) funded programme, as well as WWF Netherlands funds to support enforcement activities. SDC is involved with funding a project called the “Partnership for Forestry and Fisheries (PAFF)”. This is a three year joint program of NTFP-EP, WWF Cambodia, RECOFTC and CEPA, spanning from 2015-2017. The programme is led by NTFP-EP, and focuses on sustainable forestry and fisheries and the sustainable use of NTFPs and fisheries to support livelihoods, enabling policy conditions in Kratie and Stung Treng provinces for integrating ecosystem services into local development planning and decision-making frameworks. WWF Netherlands acts to support dolphin research and awareness outreach for dolphin conservation.

(ii) Grantee and Partner leveraging (Other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this SOS funded project.)
The Fishery Administration has contributed their own funds from the government to support the River Guards’ monthly allowances, uniforms and equipment for enforcement purposes. There are also the profits from dolphin-watching eco-tourism, and the provincial governor of Kratie Province has additionally contributed USD 500 per month to the provincial FiA to support patrolling activities for fisheries and dolphin conservation.

(iii) Regional/Portfolio leveraging (Other donors make large investments in a region because of SOS investment or successes related to this project.)
The SOS investments helped the WWF Cambodia MFF Programme get additional support from WWF Switzerland, who has funded the dolphin conservation programme for several years.

6. Sustainability/Replicability

Summarize the success or challenge in achieving planned sustainability or replicability of project components or results. Summarize any unplanned sustainability or replicability achieved.

Mekong dolphin conservation is built on a relationship between WWF, the Fisheries Administration
(FiA), local NGOs, and local communities. This relationship has been built on mutual support and trust: FiA supporting WWF though incremental improvement of legislation as well as committing to allocate state budget to enforcement; WWF supporting FiA with technical advice; and WWF supporting local communities and local NGOs to provide alternative livelihoods. This project allowed the MFF Program to keep on-going activities of law enforcement during a period of funding shortfalls.

The MFF programme has developed strong networking ties with development partners to secure funding support for dolphin conservation, and networks with NGOs and tour operators to mobilize funds for the conservation of this precious species. This includes profits from dolphin watching at eco-tourism areas, as well as the provincial governor in Kratie allocating USD 500 per month for conservation activities.

Dolphin law enforcement requires cooperation with other activities—livelihoods, outreach, and research—to provide what has for a long time been a weak or missing link in dolphin conservation. It also goes hand in hand with other conservation efforts for fisheries, turtles and terrestrial wildlife in the area, creating an atmosphere of law enforcement to protect many species.

### 7. Safeguard Policy Assessment

Provide a summary of the implementation of any required action toward the environmental and social safeguard policies within the project. This should be extracted from the responses provided in the Safeguards Aspects for SOS grants form submitted with past interim reports. Attach any additional document required.

This SOS grant is part of a larger dolphin conservation effort that has been underway for many years. We have developed effective ways to mitigate the impacts of improved enforcement of fishery laws and dolphin conservation regulations in associated projects. We have built cooperative relationships with local and international NGOs working in the MFF landscape such as NFTP-EP, RECOFTC, CEPA, FLO, NRD and CRDT to help indigenous people and other groups diversify their livelihoods from NFTP and agriculture so that restrictions on fishing would be mitigated. WWF will continue this work with local communities on environmental and social safeguards over the next 5-year (2015-2020) programme. WWF Cambodia has also developed gender and CSOs strategies.

Please see the attached Safeguards Aspects Form for more details.

### 8. Additional Comments/Recommendations

A number of outstanding needs remain before the enforcement strategy can be fully implemented, such as the clear demarcation of dolphin core zones to ensure local fishermen are aware of where they can and cannot fish, and can be compliant with the dolphin Sub-Decree.

There is also an urgent need to coordinate and collaborate with the Lao PDR to make a joint effort to implement relevant actions and recommendations concerning the protection and management of the trans-boundary sub-population of the Mekong Dolphins. This refers to setting up a trans-boundary fishery management committee, and protecting dolphins both on the border and further downstream.
from unilateral hydropower developments in Lao.

Due to a lack of resources from the Cambodian government, there is a need to continue supporting the scaling up of existing enforcement activities.

Existing Memorandum of Understanding between the Cambodia’s FiA and the Department of Livestock and Fisheries of the Lao PDR should be urgently implemented to manage the transboundary aquatic biodiversity and ecology, especially the transboundary Mekong dolphin

9. Information Sharing and SOS Policy

SOS is committed to transparent operations and to helping Civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned, and results. Final project completion reports are made available on our website, www.saveourspecies.org and publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

Please include your full contact details below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Mr Horm Chandet</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MFF Landscape Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization name and Mailing address:</td>
<td>World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)</td>
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