

THE KEO SEIMA WILDLIFE SANCTUARY (KWSC) at the foothills of the southern Annamite Mountains along the Cambodia-Vietnam border is a biologically and culturally rich protected area that forms part of a globally important conservation landscape. A biodiversity hotspot, KSWS is home to over 70 species listed as Globally Endangered or Near Threatened by the IUCN. It is also sanctuary to Bunong indigenous people who hold spiritual, cultural and livelihood connections to the forest.

World Hope International (WHI) works with the Department of Environment (DoE) and Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) on a long-term conservation program in KSWS to support marginalized indigenous Bunong communities living within the protected area in achieving both sustainable development and biodiversity conservation goals.



Keo Seima Wildlife Sanctuary, Cambodia



Explore the forests through the eyes of local, indigenous guides



Research Center concept



Guided tours from indigenous community and introduction to local skills, artisanship, and knowledge

Jahoo, established in 2013, is a community-driven ecotourism initiative that promotes sustainable development through ecotourism revenue and builds indigenous leadership through biodiversity and forest conservation, with the endangered southern yellow-cheeked crested gibbon as its flagship species. Jahoo now plans to upgrade its facilities to accommodate more tourists but also researchers, including the creation of an iconic research centre to expand Jahoo's action-orientated research outcomes intended to support conservation and community development programs throughout the region.

Jahoo aims to develop into a renown international field site for yellow-cheeked crested gibbon research providing unparalleled access to habituated gibbons allowing researchers to discover ground-breaking insights into this little understood ape species, whilst supporting applied conservation actions and developing capacity of Cambodia's next generation of conservationists.

WILDLIFE RESEARCH OASIS - The research centre will create new collaborations while also benefiting from established collaborations with the Royal Government of Cambodia, WCS, a network of partner NGO's such as WWF and Wildlife Alliance and international and national educational institutions.

As the project is affiliated with KSWS and connected to the WWF supported Eastern Plains Landscape which together with KSWS covers over 1,000,000 ha of protected area, Jahoo has many opportunities to share results and insights to better facilitate efforts to support wildlife conservation and indigenous community development.

RESEARCH CENTER FACILITIES - The Research Centre will provide permanent and visiting researchers with multi-purpose space suitable for quiet study, presentation, exhibition and group work. Researchers will have private access to comfortable accommodation, bathrooms, electricity and safe water.

The infrastructure will follow the conceptual guidelines of the Jahoo Master Plan in being inspired and immersed in the natural environment, respecting cultural identity through employing local skills and using locally sourced natural materials in the construction.

Opportunities for Research & Field Experience AN INDIGENOUS ECOTOURISM CENTER - Jahoo provides alternative wildlife-friendly livelihoods to discourage Bunong youth from illegal and unsustainable sources of income such as logging. Ecotourism and research jobs leverage traditional forest knowledge and skills and a profound understanding of the local area into conservation-based jobs while providing local youth with capacity building, mentoring and skills training to empower local people to make significant contributions to global conservation issues. WILDLIFE UP CLOSE At Jahoo, researchers have unprecedented access to the only wild habituated family of southern yellow-cheeked crested gibbons on the planet, other primates, such as the endangered black-shanked douc langur and myriad other species of fauna and flora in a protected area. **BIOLOGY** flourishing. **DEVELOPMENT** Through close friendships and trust globalized world. **ECOTOURISM AND SOCIAL VENTURES**

ECOLOGY AND CONSERVATION

The gibbons at Jahoo are understudies and little understood. There exists a wealth of opportunity for gaining new insights into this endangered ape that can contribute the species conservation throughout its range - not to mentionall the other primates, mammals, birds, reptiles, insects, and fauna

ANTHROPOLOGY AND COMMUNITY

developed at Jahoo with the local indigenous community, experience a wide array of anthropological study opportunities to understand, analyze and support an indigenous forest-based culture whom have undergone decades of war, displacement and are now increasingly marginalised in a rapidly

Understanding indigenous culture, animist beliefs, forest-based livelihoods and investigating how to best support indigenous governance, natural resource management and sustainable development in a conservation landscape can provide many opportunities - for the Bunong people themselves and for a better world.

