

# Keo Seima REDD+

## Cash For Communities (C4C)

### OVERVIEW

Initiated in 2010, the Keo Seima REDD+ project covers **166,983 hectares** and plays a dual role: it serves as a biodiversity sanctuary and as a tool for community development in the project area. Around **20,000 community members** from **20 villages** benefit in multiple ways—land tenure rights, natural resource management, vocational training, alternative livelihoods, and a share of the revenue from carbon credits.



### C4C PAYMENTS & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The ground-breaking Cash for Communities (C4C) program has delivered **over \$1 million USD** directly into community-led projects from 2018 to 2023. The phased allocation is as follows:

- **1st Phase** (2017/2018): \$238,554
- **2nd Phase** (2021-2022): \$200,000
- **3rd Phase** (2022-2023): \$600,000, with funds distributed based on performance metrics - forest cover, community's contribution against deforestation, and overall community development.

These C4C funds have been instrumental in bolstering community development initiatives including:

- **Education:** School material procurement, scholarships, infrastructure enhancements, etc.
- **Healthcare:** Mobile health clinics, maternal care provisions, etc.
- **Infrastructure & Sanitation:** Clean water systems, infrastructure development, and more.
- **Income Generation:** Projects like livestock groups, vegetable growing, ecotourism, weaving, etc.
- **Natural Resource Management:** Initiatives such as community patrols and afforestation.

Funds are allocated based on collective decisions made by community members in collaboration with local officials. Once agreed upon, these plans are then integrated into the wider strategies for both the commune and district.

### C4C ACTIVITIES



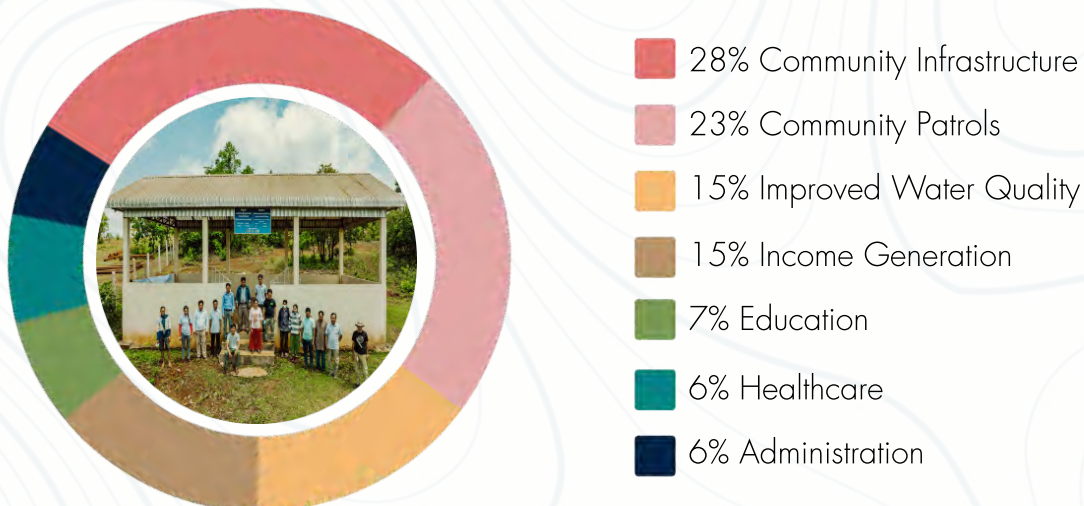


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## ALLOCATION OF FUNDS: COMMUNITY INVESTMENTS

Across all three phases of C4C cycles, the distribution of funds across the 20 villages provides a clear insight into community priorities. Infrastructure received **28.17%**, underscoring the emphasis on creating lasting growth. Meanwhile, **22.82%** allocated to community patrols emphasizes the collective commitment to safeguarding the sanctuary's natural habitat. Allocations for water provisions (**14.85%**) and income-generating activities (**14.36%**) showcase a blend of addressing immediate needs and future planning. While education and health got smaller portions, their significance in shaping the community's long-term prospects is undeniable. Together, these funding decisions not only address current challenges but also pave the way for future stability and progress.

### PHASE THREE C4C FUNDING CYCLE



## COMPREHENSIVE IMPACT AND SUPPORT

The funding has a tangible impact on people's lives, confirmed by independent social impact assessments:

- **2,268** people have improved access to clean water.
- **2,242** individuals now have better healthcare.
- **662** students have enhanced educational resources, **54%** of whom are girls.
- Increase in Basic Needs Scores, indicating decreased poverty rates.

The Keo Seima REDD+ C4C program is part of a broader benefit-sharing mechanism that includes support for ecotourism, sustainable agriculture, and community savings groups. With plans to scale up direct cash payments year over year, we're not just changing lives today, we're investing in a more equitable and sustainable future for all.

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