



WILD BEE CONSERVATION & HONEY COLLECTION PROJECT BRIEF

September 2025

Transforming community livelihoods and protecting Cambodia's natural resources.

PROJECT AT A GLANCE:



EASTERN PLAINS
LANDSCAPE,
CAMBODIA



Nov 2022 – Oct 2025



OBJECTIVE:

Engaging local and Indigenous wild honey collectors in Monduliri province, this project aims to foster sustainable collection practices and biodiversity conservation through a community-led social enterprise model and capacity-building.



WHY HONEY COLLECTION MATTERS

Wild honey is one of Cambodia's most important non-timber forest products (NTFPs), providing livelihoods for Bunong Indigenous communities living in and around protected areas in Mondulakiri province. In a 2023 study, WWF-Cambodia found that 18 community protected areas generated US\$18 million in income annually from harvesting NTFPs, one-third of which came from wild honey.

By enhancing sustainable harvesting practices, honey marketing approaches and product quality, wild honey collection can better support communities and ecosystem protection. This project targets eight community protected areas with 1,478 households, the majority of which are Indigenous. By training these communities in harvesting methods, WWF-Cambodia ensures direct participation in sustainable natural resource management and access to ecosystem services.

PROJECT MILESTONES



JULY 2023

Following advocacy efforts by WWF-Cambodia, the Ministry of Environment includes sustainable wild honey collection into Cambodia's national guidelines for NTFP extraction, collection and processing in community protected areas.



AUGUST 2024

A social enterprise model for selling Mondulakiri Wild Honey is successfully piloted.

A scientific test confirms the health benefits of natural chemicals in Mondulakiri Wild Honey, particularly Leptosperin and Proline, allowing for greater market promotion to exported countries.



SEPTEMBER 2025

Membership in the Mondulakiri Wild Honey social enterprise has grown to 670 honey collectors, increasing from 449 collectors in 2023.

CONTRIBUTING TO WWF'S GREATER GOALS:



SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS AND COMMODITIES



FOSTERING COMMUNITY FOREST GOVERNANCE



SECURING COMMUNITY-BASED LAND TENURE

Up to **13,300 kg**
of **raw wild honey** can be
sustainably collected by Mondulakiri
Wild Honey members

US \$70,000
mobilized by Mondulakiri Wild
Honey members to **purchase honey**
product for sale in 2026

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Join us in supporting communities and ecosystems
through sustainable honey harvesting.

Thank you to
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