

Petição científica internacional

We are a group of scientists who have worked for many years in the Kingdom of Cambodia. Included among us is Dr Ida Theilade from the University of Copenhagen. Dr Theilade received the UCPH Innovation Prize in 2018 and was honoured on that occasion by Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II (of Denmark) for her research on Cambodian forests, as well as for her scientific technical support to the relentless efforts of Mr Ouch Leng, a Cambodian Human Right Defender and an environmentalist known throughout the world, who in 2016 was awarded the Goldman Environmental Prize for his continuous determination to protect and enhance one of the biggest South-East Asian forests.

Dr Ida Theilade has already sent an open letter to the government of Cambodia and U.S.A.I.D. as a prelude to this story that we would like to draw to your attention (<https://preylang.net/2020/06/27/second-open-letter-to-prey-lang-stakeholders/>)

Even if not actually based in the country, we feel duty bound to express our sincere concerns over a huge ecological operation intending to "improve conservation and governance of Eastern Plains and Prey Lang Landscape [the forest] to mitigate climate change and conserve biodiversity" in Northern Cambodia.

Such an operation, funded by U.S.A.I.D. (<https://www.climatelinks.org/resources/usaaid-cambodia-sfb-project-supporting-forests-enriching-lives>), is also criminalizing groups of people honestly trying to prevent rampant illegal logging. This is still occurring at this very moment. Clarifications can be found with the link below.

We now would like to invite you to access the letter and sign it, if you want, via this link to google doc <https://docs.google.com/document/d/10-U4EkLXLlq7f-O6mWNJ40OIy3UXivXrAzi8KcrpsQ/edit?ts=6025267b>

For more visibility within the worldwide scientific scene, we also encourage you to forward this google link to other scientists.

Regards,

In solidarity,

Dr Fran Lambrick, Dr Ida Theilade, Dr Courtney Work, Dr Frédéric Bourdier