

Review of: "“Saving the Forest” with a REDD+ Project: Socio-Ecological Repercussions on Indigenous People in Cambodia"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Qeios review: "Saving the Forest Saving the Forest with a REDD+ Project: Socio-Ecological Repercussions on Indigenous People in Cambodia"

This manuscript is in excellent shape, although there are a few misspellings and examples of inappropriate word use, detailed below. However, the primary improvement that might be considered would be the inclusion of specific examples or related references for seven of the themes that are provided.

Theme 2: Could a specific example of indigenous Bunong villagers facing threats and dispossession be included?

Theme 3: Complicity and sometimes corruption are noted"—could a specific example be included?

Theme 4: Again, a specific example of "Indigenous communities and activists opposing land grabs and deforestation..." would be useful.

Theme 5: Top-down conservation practices and disregard for vernacular knowledge: Could something be referenced from the literature on ethnoecology? In the book, *Kayapo Ethnoecology and Culture* (2002), which focuses on Brazil, Darrell Posey cites the quote by Manuela Carneiro da Cunha (1987: 13), that 'the Indian question today is centred around disputes over mineral and natural resources on Indian soils and subsoils'. Those who lobby for the exploitation of these resources have the entire capitalist machine in their favour and, consequently, are very powerful. Native peoples, by virtue of their low numbers (approximately one per cent of the Brazilian population) and cultural, social, and political differences – as well as being marginalized by a system that officially considers them 'relatively incapable' – are markedly disadvantaged..."

Theme 7: From authoritative to paternalistic attitudes. The article, published on 25 March 2021, in the *Guardian*, entitled "Indigenous peoples by far the best guardians of forests – UN report," refers to Latin American forests.

Theme 8: Perhaps the inclusion of the Guardian reference to the UN Report on indigenous people and forestry would also be good here.

Theme 9: "For instance, committee leaders are suspected of prioritizing their personal interests, such as securing money from the REDD+ disbursement they received. The perpetuation of these committees is therefore associated with inter-

and intra-village rivalries.” A specific example here?

Finally, could a brief discussion of the terms “carbon colonialism” and “green colonialism” be included in the manuscript’s conclusion?

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Minor corrections:

Theme 1: “skepticism” misspelled, also in Theme 9

Theme 2: “suspected of exaggeratedly gratifying the REDD+”—perhaps clarify meaning

Theme 4: “been trialled” => put on trial

Theme 6: “observations on what happen” => happens

Conclusion: A deprivation [that] took the form of dispossession because their living territory started to shrink and the size of their land for cultivating had to be reduced or could not be extended as before. Perhaps revise?