

Keyword: climate-change

Headline: WWF: Urgent action vs climate change needed

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Published Date: May 2, 2021

Section: news

Word Count: 405

Content:

PHNOM PENH: The World Wildlife Fund, also known as World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), celebrated its 60th anniversary on Thursday with it calling for urgent action to address the global climate, nature crises and ensure a sustainable future for all.

WWF international Director-General, Marco Lambertini said together with governments, businesses and communities, there is a need to achieve more in the next 10 years than they had in the last 60 years.

“Our mission has only grown in relevance over the last six decades. Today we know we can only have a safe, prosperous, healthy and equitable future for humanity on a cared-for planet where sustainable development becomes the norm. This decade must be a turning point,” he added.

He said the Covid-19 is a wake-up call to the wide-ranging risks posed by “our imbalance and destructive relationship with nature” and thus there is a need to think and act, bigger and faster than ever before.

Lambertini stressed that everyone must come together to help the planet to cure and restore nature where people and nature can live together in harmony.

WWF has been implementing and conserving nature and wildlife for more than two decades in Cambodia with the help of the Royal Government, the local communities, key actors from development and private sectors, and other partners.

“The Cambodia’s Eastern Plains and the Mekong Flooded Forests landscapes cover several key protected areas that are globally and regionally important for biodiversity values and are home to critically endangered wildlife species such as Asian Elephant, Irrawaddy Dolphin, Indochinese Leopard, Banteng, Siamese Crocodile, and many large bird species,” said Seng Teak, WWF-Cambodia country director.

Ministry of Environment spokesman Neth Pheaktra said the ministry and WWF work closely to protect the wildlife sanctuaries in Mondulkiri in Kratie province and has got good results in terms of natural resource protection and biodiversity conservation at that wildlife sanctuaries.

He thanked WWF for its continuous technical support for the conservation, capacity building, strengthen the roles of communities of protected area by integrating alternative measures to create new job, new income and sustain livelihood for local people to cut down from their depending on the natural resource by introducing the new choice as vegetable farming, local community ecotourism base.

To mark its 60th anniversary yesterday, WWF hosted “Forces of Nature” — a series of candid intergenerational conversations between some of the biggest names in global conservation from different corners of the globe.