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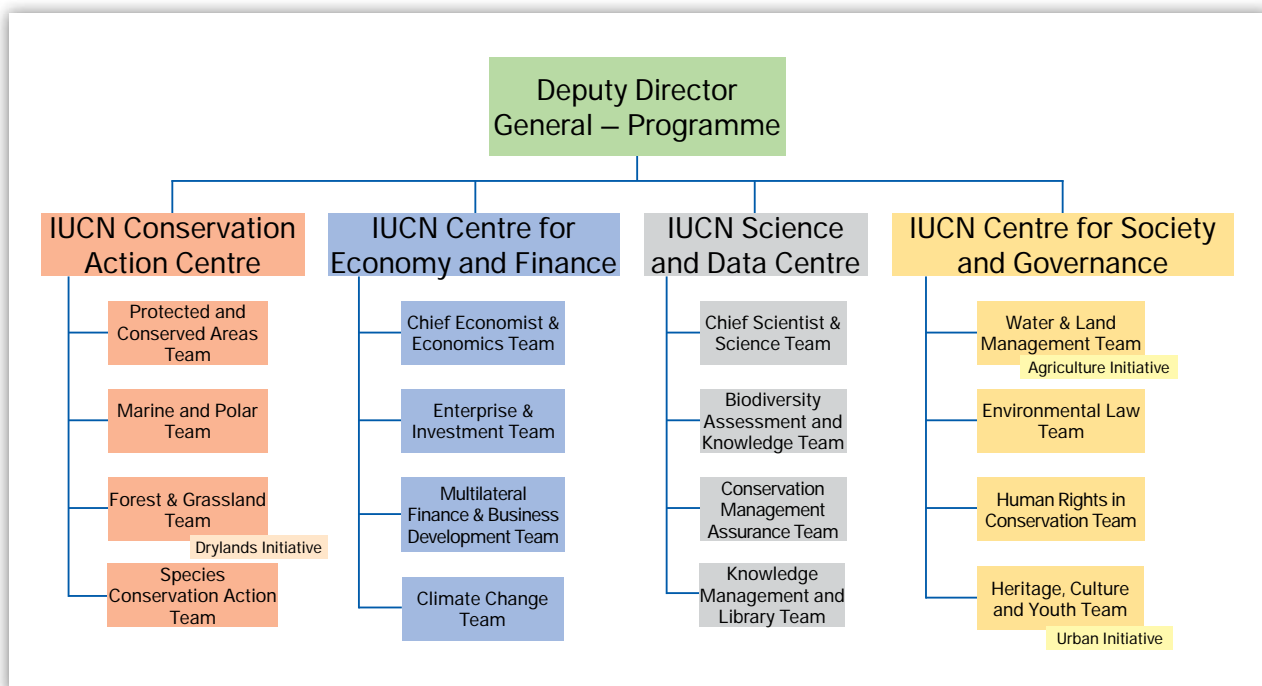
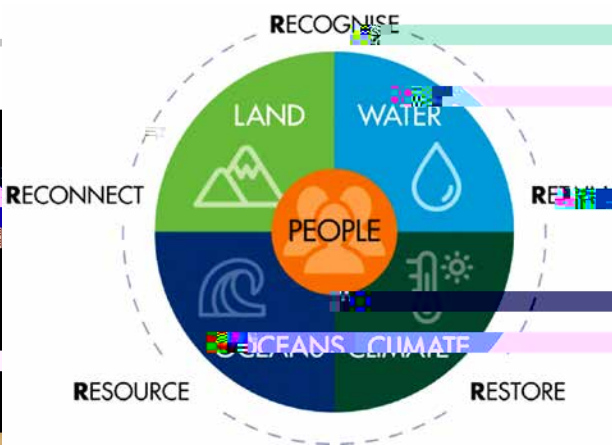
ADB	The Asian Development Bank
AMELP	Adaptive Management, Evaluation, and Learning Plan
ATP	Asia Turtles Programme
BRIDGE	Building River Dialogue and Guidance
BMU	German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and

ICUE	Institute for Construction and Urban Economics
ICEM	International Center for Ecosystems Management
IFC	International Finance Corporation
IKI	International Climate Initiatives
IMC	Indo-Myanmar Conservation
INSEE	The National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies
IO	International Organisation
IPBES	The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
IRD	Institut de Recherche et Développement
ISPONRE	Institute of Strategy, Policy on Natural Resources and Environment
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
L&L	Live & Learn Viet Nam
LOI	Letter of Interest
MARD	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
MDC	Mekong Delta Coastal Habitat Conservation
MONRE	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
MARPLASTICCs	Marine Plastic Coastal Communities
MRC	Mekong River Commission
MRF	Material Recovery Facilities
MPAs	Marine Protected Areas
MPI	Ministry of Planning and Investment
MCD	Centre for Marine Life Conservation and Community Development
MW	Megawatt
NEA	Norwegian Environment Agency
NBS	Nature based Solutions
NBSAPs	National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans
NPI	Net Positive Impact
NGO	Non-Profit Organization
NTFPs	Non-timber Forest Products
OUV	Outstanding Universal Value

PAs	Protected Areas
PEA	Political Economics Assessment
PMU	Project Management Unit
PPC	Provincial People’s Committee
PPP	Public Private Partnership
PROVN	Packaging Recycling Organization Viet Nam
SNV	Netherlands Development Organisation
TAF	The Asia Foundation
TBMF	Transboundary Management Framework
UBS	The Union Bank of Switzerland
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
USAID	The United States Agency for International Development
VNADAPT	Viet Nam Nature-based Solutions for Adaptation in Agriculture through Private Sector Transformation
VNU-CRES	Vietnam National University - Central Institute for Natural Resources and Environmental Studies
VB4E	Vietnam Business for Environment
WCC	World Conservation Congress
WCPA	The World Commission on Protected Areas
WHS	World Heritage Site
WWF	World Wildlife Fund for Nature

IUCN One Programme 2021 – 2024

For details, please see: <https://portals.iucn.org/library/node/49292>



Asia Regional Programming 2021 – 2024

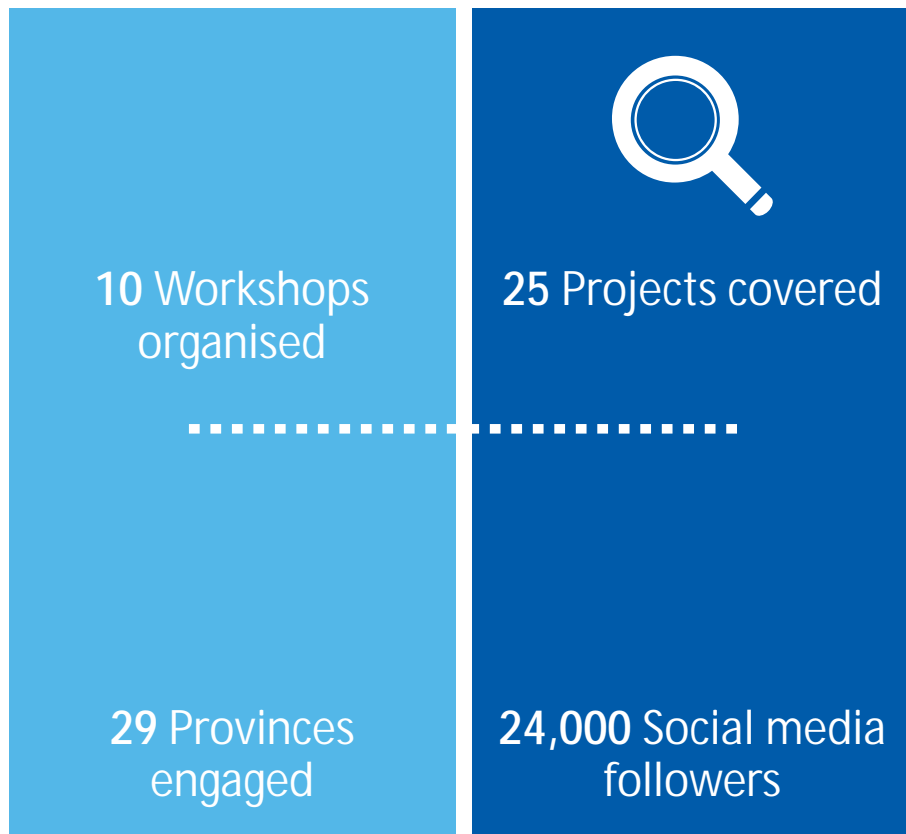
Since 2021, IUCN Asia has restructured the programme into three strategic themes and five programme areas as below, through which all country offices including IUCN Viet Nam will apply:

<https://portals.iucn.org/library/node/49292>



IUCN Viet Nam's activities in figures

Our activities in numbers



Programs areas in Viet Nam



Membership

In 2021, some members changed their management roles to new leaders such as VNU-CRES and ECO-ECO, yet the membership list stays the same with ten organisations:

1. Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) – state member
2. VNU-Central Institute for Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (VNU-CRES)
3. The Institute of Ecological Economy (ECO-ECO)
4. Centre for Marine Life Conservation and Community Development (MCD)
5. Centre for Environment and Community Research (CECR)
6. GreenViet Biodiversity Conservation Center (GreenViet)
7. Live & Learn Viet Nam (L&L)
8. Indo-Myanmar Conservation (IMC)/Asia Turtles Programme (ATP)
9. Center for Supporting Green Development (Greenhub)
10. Institute for Construction and Urban Economics (ICUE)

In Feb, IUCN Viet Nam members met virtually with Dr. Dindo Campilan, the new Regional Director of the Asia Regional Office and the Hub Director of the Oceania Regional Office who replaced the predecessor - Ms. Aban Marker Kabraji. At the meeting, members updated the new Regional Director with relevant programmes/projects, and warmly welcomed and congratulated Dr. Dindo on his new role at IUCN.

IUCN and the French government have agreed to hold the IUCN World Conservation Congress (WCC) 2020 from 3 to 11 September 2021 in Marseille. The event, originally scheduled for June 2020, was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Viet Nam members were eligible for sponsorship to attend WCC physically, yet they all decided to attend virtually due to the high risks during COVID-19 pandemic.

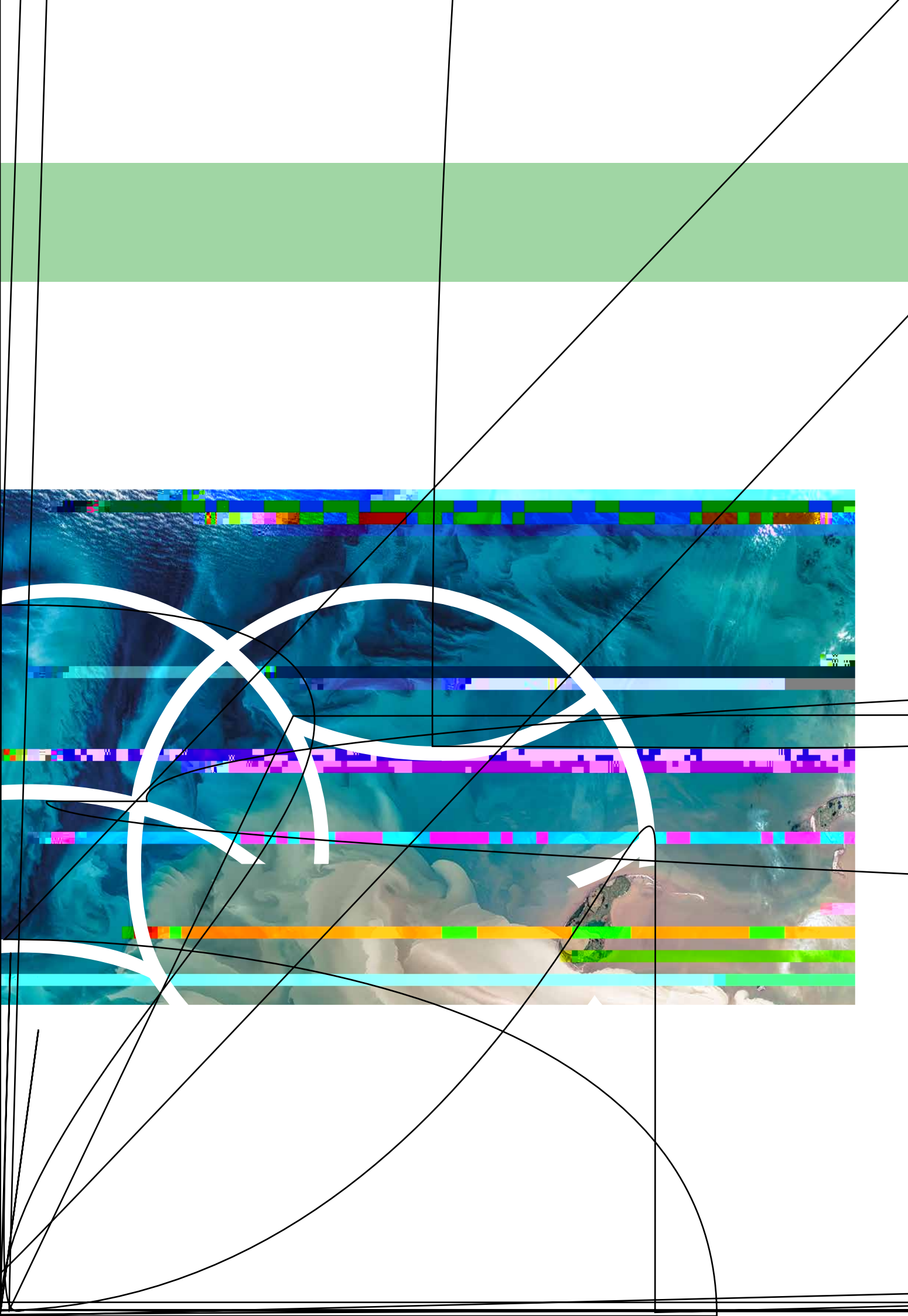
During August, IUCN Viet Nam members attended the Regional Virtual Meeting of IUCN Members in Asia organised by Prof. Ma Keping, Chair of the Asia Regional Committee and Dr. Dindo. At the meeting, candidates for the position of IUCN President, treasurer, regional councillors from South and East Asia and WCPA Chair introduced themselves and had an interactive discussion with all Asia members including Viet Nam. This is to provide more opportunities for Asia members to give comments and questions about the candidates to be able to fulfil their vote most precisely.

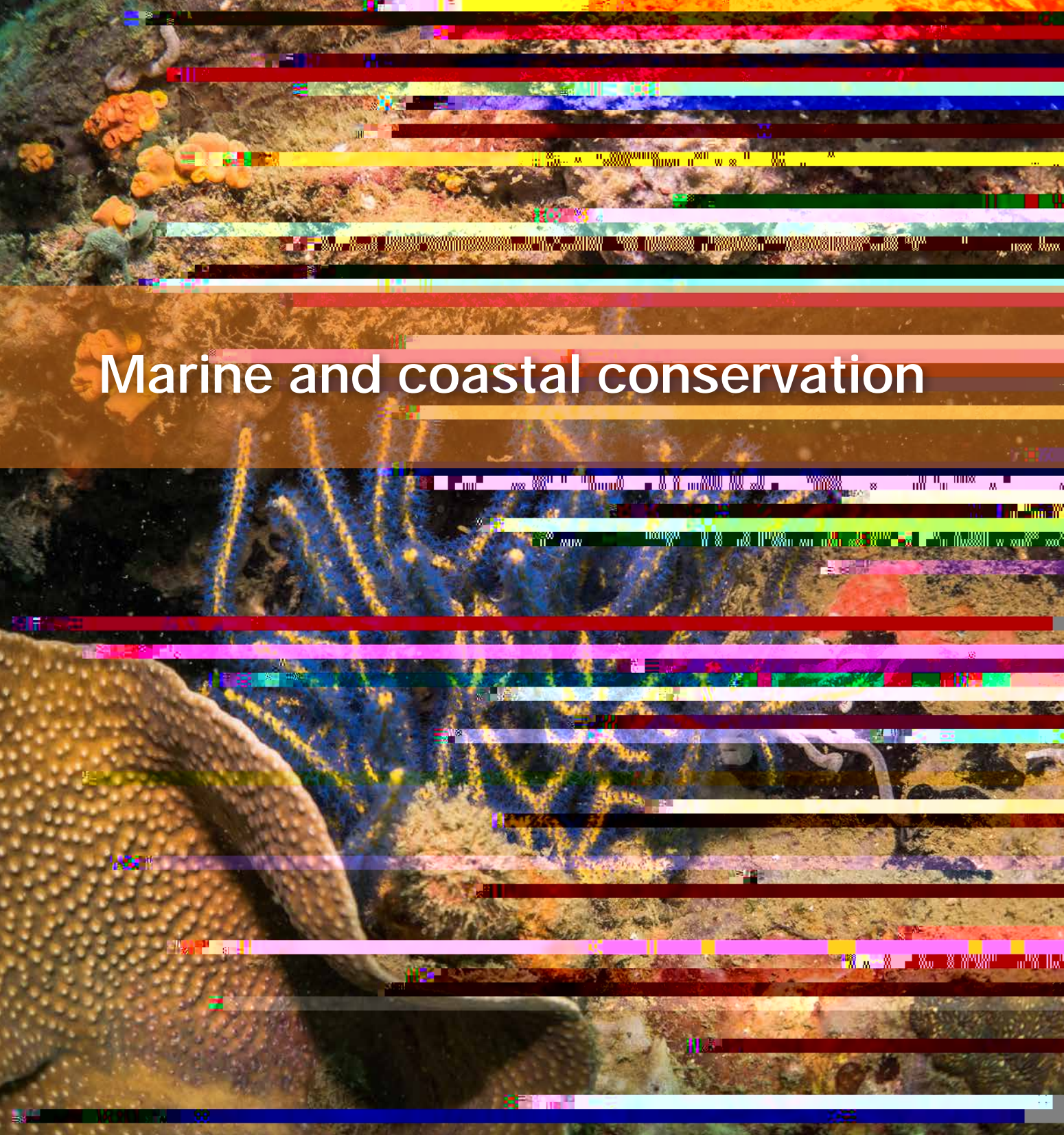
In order to prepare for Viet Nam members to join WCC and exercise their votes virtually, IUCN Viet Nam National Committee organised a briefing session in August for all members to update about WCC and reply to all questions such as registration, voting at Member Assembly, proxy voting, motions and other sessions/events, etc.

At IUCN WCC in Marseille, IUCN Viet Nam National Committee motion titled "Supporting the Lower Mekong River Basin countries with the transboundary management of water resources, ecosystems and biodiversity" was officially adopted and became IUCN WCC 2020 Resolution 013 (<https://portals.iucn.org/library/resrec/search>).

IUCN WCC Res 013, when it is adopted, it becomes the responsibility of all members from Viet Nam National Committee as well as IUCN Viet Nam Secretariat to implement or contribute towards its implementation.

All Viet Nam members completed their duties as IUCN members including the vote for new IUCN





Marine and coastal conservation

Ha Long - Cat Ba Alliance

In February, the government submitted the nomination dossier to UNESCO to expand the Ha Long Bay WHS to include the Cat Ba Archipelago. Expanding the property to include the archipelago, which forms part of the same marine ecosystem but is located in another province, has been an IUCN recommendation since HLB was inscribed in 1995. As part of the USAID-funded Ha Long - Cat Ba Alliance, IUCN supported the OUV research in the archipelago that forms the basis of the nomination dossier, on how the intermittently submerged caves function as “species factories”.

Political Economics Assessment (PEA) study

During September, IUCN led a USAID seminar on the political economy of environment and climate change, built on the PEA study that IUCN did for the Australian Embassy in 2020 in collaboration with the Asia Foundation (TAF), including case studies on rice reform in the Mekong Delta, solid waste management, and forest quality.

This seminar stimulated a lot of discussion, particularly on our analysis of arguments and entry points, on the need to reduce focus on laws and ministries (which have dominated our work in the past) and spend more time building alliances to address politically difficult decisions and on the fact that there are differences in perspective between different parts of the state (CPV, central government, provinces, state-owned enterprises, etc.).

Marine Plastic and Coastal Community (MARPLASTICCs)

The action plan on marine plastic waste management in the fisheries sector (2020 – 2030)

MARD issued the Decision 687/QĐ-BNN-TCTS in February to approve the action plan on marine plastic waste management in the e managemenor (2020 -0.6 15.8 (o)4 (.tm.5 (y88h-0.2618g3pa-))7go

Media training on EPR

In June, IUCN collaborated with the Department of Legal Affairs, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment to hold an online training workshop on EPR to disseminate correct and clear information about EPR and its draft decree. Thirteen journalists from newspapers, radios and televisions attended the training including Viet Nam Television Channel, VOV2, VNExpress, Cong Thuong Newspaper, Tuoi Tre, Xay Dung, Environment and Natural Resources,...

A quick survey before and after the training workshop showed a significant increase in the understanding on EPR from attended journalists: 25% “No knowledge” about EPR before the training was decreased to 0% after the training, and 25% “Moderate high knowledge” about EPR was increased to 60% after the training. This is a considerable change in the knowledge of journalists towards such a new complicated topic as EPR.

For more information, please see: <https://www.vb4e.com/en/media-contributes-to-promote-epr-communications-in-viet-nam/>

Advocacy on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) draft decree

In November 2020, the National Assembly promulgated the Law on Environmental Protection Law (LEP) with radical changes in environmental management thinking. Development policies are institutionalised in Nature-based approaches, not sacrificing the environment for economic development. The 2020 LEP has also issued two Articles on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) including Article 54 (Recycling Responsibility) and Article 55 (Collection and Disposal Responsibility). In January 2021, IUCN and DLA/MONRE organised a consultation meeting about new articles about EPR for vehicle & motorbike sector, one of six product categories applying EPR. The objectives are to introduce EPR, to explain why EPR is needed, how does it work as well as



Wetlands and water conservation

Mekong WET: Building Resilience of Wetlands in the Lower Mekong Region through a Ramsar Regional Initiative

In April, IUCN met Loc Troi Group to discuss continued collaboration on flood-based agriculture in the upper delta. In the 2020 flood season, Loc Troi, Viet Nam's second largest rice processor and exporter, purchased the entire 30-hectare crop of floating rice from our Coca-Cola funded demonstration in a flooded high dyke located in the buffer zone of Lang Sen Wetland Reserve.

The Loc Troi General Manager committed to collaborate with the Mekong WET project to expand the area at Lang Sen to 200 hectares in the 2021 flood season and a long-term expansion plan. Loc Troi's interest in floating rice is linked to their long-term strategy, which is aligned with Resolution 120 on de-intensifying rice production and moving up the value chain. Loc Troi's strategy includes expanding its source of clean/organic rice to 450,000 hectares in Mekong Delta. Expanding investment in floating rice helps to break pest cycles enabling both the flood season and dry season rice crops to reduce or eliminate pesticide use.

For more information, please see: <https://open.iucn.org/projects/P01600>

Building River Dialogue and Governance (BRIDGE)

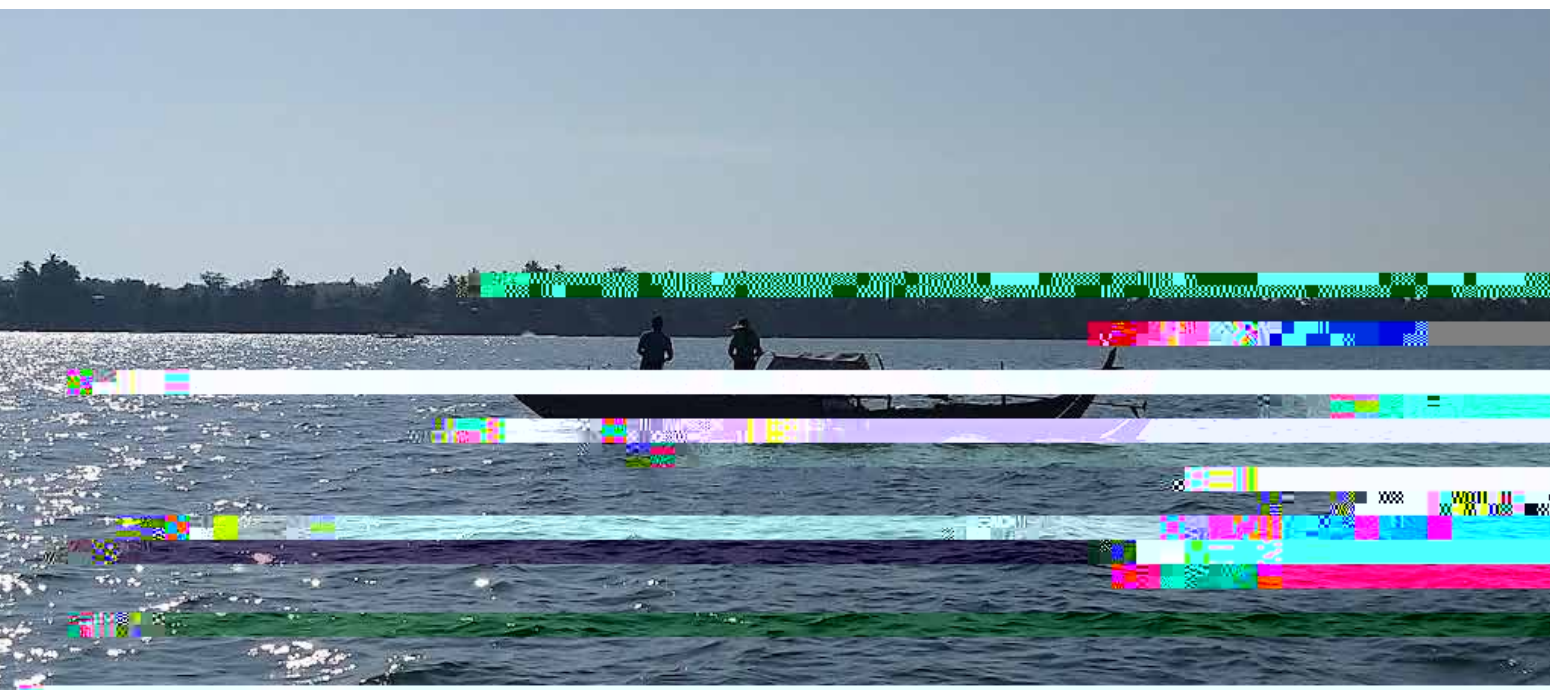
Mekong-U.S. Partnership Track 1.5 Policy Dialogue

In March, IUCN helped to facilitate the first of the Mekong-U.S. Partnership Track 1.5 Policy Dialogue conference series organised by Stimson and IUCN with State Department funding. This MPD conference was online; the next five will take place over the next two years. This event included sessions on NBS, non-traditional security threats, energy and infrastructure, and water governance. Participation ranged from 70-200 and the quality of the discussion was excellent. Of special interest was the report of the Thai government in strengthening the Mekong Agreement, which Viet Nam has long advocated.

For more information, please see <https://open.iucn.org/projects/P03899>

Sekong Dam A

In December 2020, IUCN delivered a letter from the Director General to the Prime Minister expressing concern about the Sekong A dam, which is being built by Song Da 6, a Vietnamese state-owned company, in southern Lao: <https://www.iucn.org/news/viet-nam/202109/viet-nam-should-save-sekong-its-own-benefit>.





Protected & conserved areas



IUCN Green List

Recommendations for Van Long's Green List site

In early 2021, Ninh Binh Provincial People's Committee decided to upgrade a road that bisects the Van Long Wetland Nature Reserve, Viet Nam's (and Southeast Asia's) first Green List site

Viet Nam Nature-based-Solutions for adaptation in agriculture through private sector transformation (VN-ADAPT)

On October 22, IUCN joined the kick off meeting for the €15M IKI VN-ADAPT on globally important agricultural landscapes/EBA/business engagement, which SNV will lead with IUCN, ICEM and UNEP as partners. IUCN has expected that the preparation phase will start in February 2022 and the implementation phase will be in October 2022.

In July, BMU sent an email confirming that our €15M proposal Viet Nam Nature-based Solutions for Adaptation in Agriculture through Private Sector Transformation (VN-ADAPT) was selected for the IKI Vietnam bilateral call. It will focus on the Mekong Delta and Central Highlands, our two focal agricultural landscapes.

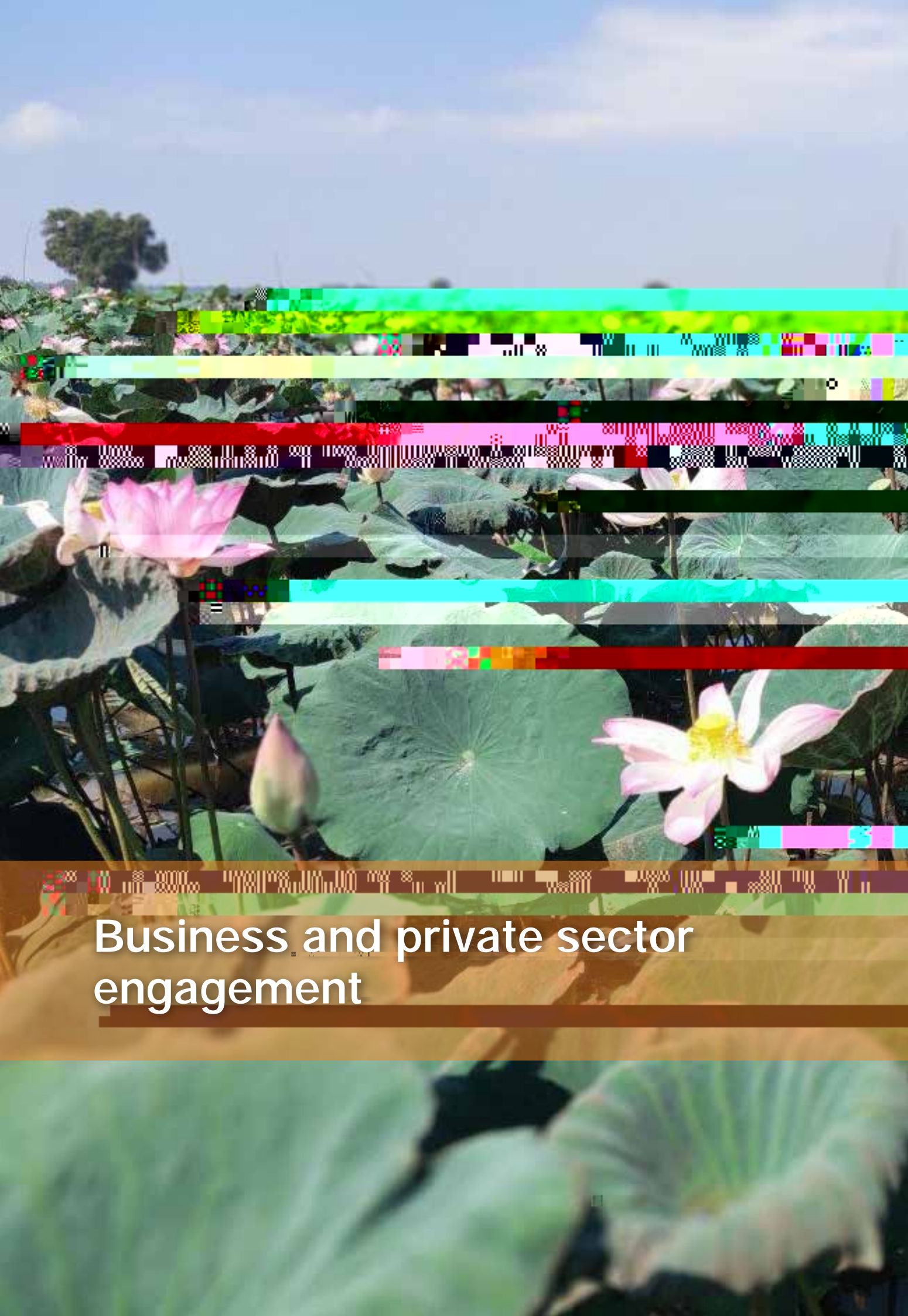
Mekong Delta Climate Adaptation and Sustainability Project

On March 13, IUCN attended the third Mekong Delta Conference in Can Tho to review progress with implementation of Resolution 120, which was chaired by the Prime Minister. IUCN and other DPs presented a joint statement that was delivered by the World Bank. The statement included two IUCN examples of NBS that the government could commit to, flood-based agriculture and integrated mangrove shrimp, which would simultaneously reduce biodiversity loss, disaster risk, groundwater extraction, and land subsidence.

The event was not without controversy when in front of the Prime Minister, a former MARD vice-minister blamed MPI of rejecting his plan to build a huge ring-dyke around the delta. Such vocal support for large-scale structural solutions is a reaction to MPI's resistance to pouring ever more concrete and preference for cheaper/low-risk NBS.

In August, following on from the input to the Mekong Delta Integrated Master Plan, IUCN was invited by MARD and the World Bank to help design the Mekong Delta Climate Adaptation and Sustainability Project. The \$350M IBRD loan will support a transformation to a more resilient agricultural landscape in line with Resolution 120, which set policy directions to shift out of intensive rice and to adapt to floods and salinity through EBA.

The new project will support investments in NBS and other agricultural practices that restore ecosystem services in the freshwater and coastal parts of the delta. Over the next three months, IUCN led a team of nine experts from research institutes and universities to review concept proposals from the delta's 13 provinces.



Business and private sector engagement

Flood - based livelihoods in support of water retention strategy of the Mekong Delta



Floating rice and lotus-fish mix model

In January, IUCN visited the project site in Long An in the Mekong Delta to monitor the results of the 2020 flood season in a high dyke outside the Lang Sen Wetland Reserve. In the 2020 flood season, farmers allowed the Mekong flood waters to enter the 150-hectare dyke that is normally used to grow high-yield rice. This is part of our strategy to show farmers that they can make more money from flood-friendly livelihoods than from high-yield rice. Farmers grew a mix of floating rice, lotus and fish. Profits from lotus-fish were 3 times higher than from just rice crop. High-yield rice and profits from floating rice-fish were 1.5 times higher. These results follow a high dyke demonstration in Dong Thap, which showed highly profitable outcomes from snakehead fish culture.

Lotus silk production

The project also had its first successful test by An Giang traditional silk-worn fabric weavers who were able to successfully weave lotus fabric from the thread that was produced by women in the 2020 An Giang lotus demonstration sites. The lotus thread produced by local women is being sold at over \$1,000/kg. By demonstrating that lotus fabric can be woven locally, there is now greater confidence within government that the more added value can be captured by the communities.

More information, please see:

<https://www.iucn.org/news/viet-nam/202104/iucn-supports-weaving-lotus-fabric-contributing-climate-change-adaptation-and-livelihood-improvement-mekong-delta>



Advocating for Nature-based Solutions to Address the Coastal Squeeze in Mekong Delta



With the financial support from the UBS Optimus Foundation, this project aims at increasing mangrove cover along 200 km of the lowest and most vulnerable coastlines of the delta. This requires the application of system thinking that adopts a holistic approach to coastal planning and investment. Key to success is forming a group of Vietnamese champions that will interface with government decision-makers.

IUCN's role is to provide resources and a platform for the champions to engage government over a 3-year-period (November 2021 – November 2024). IUCN will commission the champions to carry out joint studies of the coastal squeeze and hybrid-NBS so that new knowledge is internalised. Champions will engage their own institutions and the media to move these issues into the public domain.

For more information, please visit <https://open.iucn.org/projects/P04081>

Viet Nam Business for Environment (VB4E)



Small grant programme for CSOs and business on biodiversity conservation and sustainable development

VB4E partnered with GreenViet and GSI through the EU-funded project “Establishing a funding foundation for biodiversity protection and environmental sustainability in Da Nang City, Vietnam” called for the application of small grants on biodiversity conservation and sustainable development. VB4E play the role to provide technical inputs for application screening, M&E and promote business participation in this process. Three out of four selected grantees mobilising business participation and funding. The below is the list of selected proposals:

Establishing Zero Waste Community in An Hai Bac ward, Danang based on the community garden in Morrison street

Promoting the experiential learning activities in environmental education at secondary schools in Da Nang city

Piloting biodiversity conservation in West Truong Son through the implementation of the forest garden model in coffee farming

Strengthen partnership in promoting the development of ecological public space models in Hue City

In addition, one of the above grantees “Strengthen partnership in promoting the development of ecological public space models in Hue City” has successfully mobilised crowd funding through Momo electronic wallet – owned by M-Service Company with the total budget of US\$8,700 from 105.618 contributors.

Coral reef monitoring programme to propose effective management measures in Cat Ba National Park

IUCN collaborated with Cat Ba National Park and TH food chain joint-stock company to implement the project “Coral reefs monitoring in Cat Ba National Park”. Monitoring activities were conducted at three strictly protected areas namely Van Ta, Gio Cung and Ba Dinh.

The activity aimed to conduct the survey, evaluate the coral coverage and hard species composition and indicator species at the abovementioned areas. The first survey was conducted on September 21 and the second survey was finished in November 2021. The second survey result shows the health condition of coral reefs in Cat Ba is at medium level. The coral reef types are low and not diversified, no change compared with the previous survey.

The indicator species is low presence, especially there was no presence of herbivorous fishes. Coral bleaching has almost disappeared due to low sea temperature. The results from monitoring activities would help the expert team in releasing some advice for effective management and coral conservation at Cat Ba National Park in the coming time.

More information, please see: www.vb4e.com and <https://open.iucn.org/projects/P03414>



IUCN - INSEE partnership



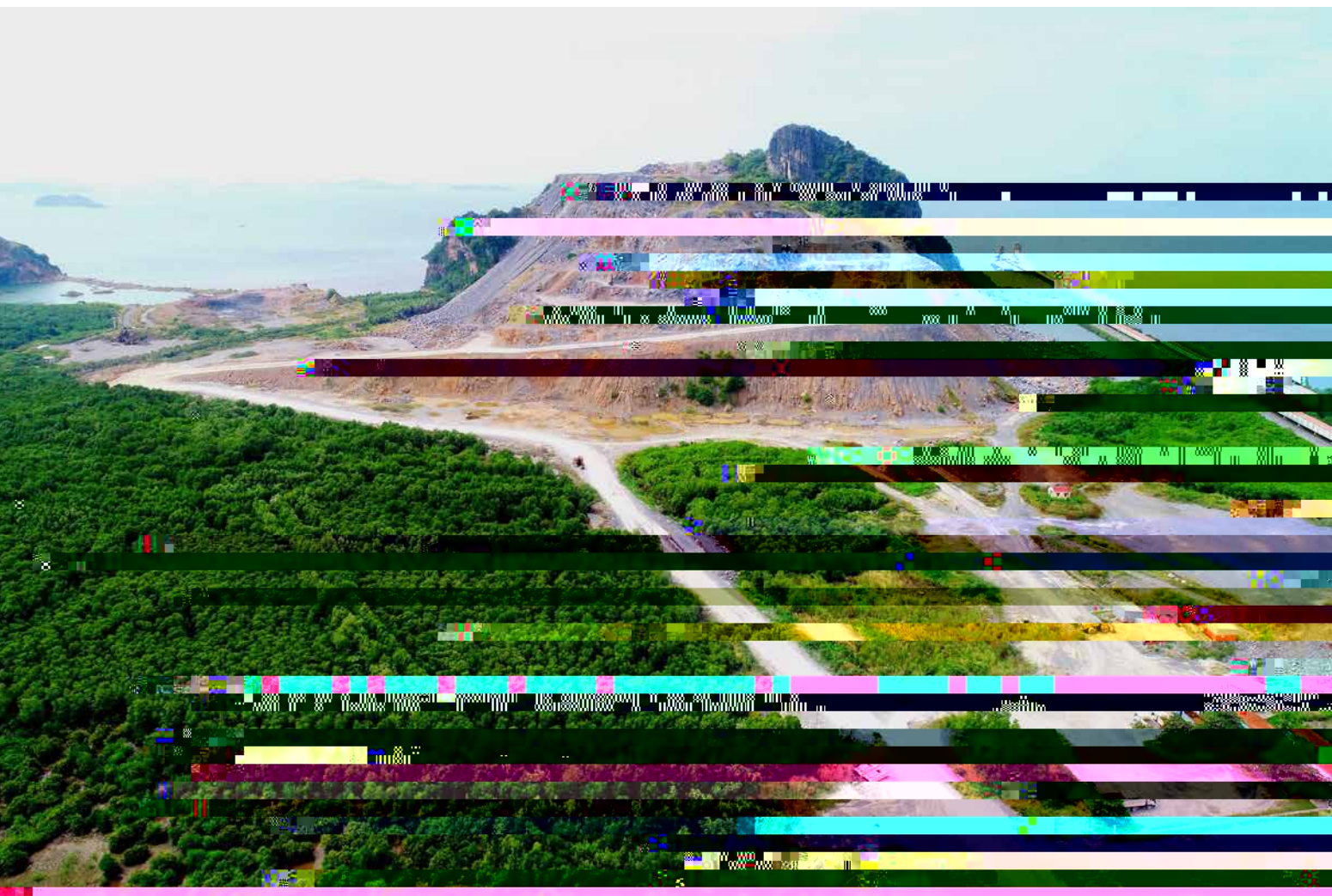
Early this year, IUCN discussed with the INSEE CEO and senior staff to review the 2020 results and plans for long-term cooperation. INSEE has chosen Net Positive Impact as its 2030 target and invited IUCN to play the role of challenger and supporter to achieve this goal. NPI implies the use of biodiversity offsets. These have been defined in Viet Nam and are being designed in Cambodia.

In June, IUCN signed a 3-year-agreement with INSEE Viet Nam to assist the company achieve biodiversity net positive impact (NPI) by 2030 through biodiversity offsets outside its Hon Chong plant and biodiversity conservation measures inside and adjacent to its plants.

The main areas of collaboration under the new agreement are to (1) secure the Phu My Wetland Nature Reserve as an offset for the wetland inside the Hon Chong plant that is being dug out for clay; (2) establish the Kien Luong Karst Nature Reserve as an offset for the karst hills that are being quarried to provide limestone for the cement plant.

Next steps include a joint meeting with Kien Giang provincial leadership to secure political support for the Phu My and proposed karst hill nature reserves, which will serve as proposed offsets, and a biodiversity survey of the CMIC plant in Kampot, Cambodia. Kien Giang and Kampot are home to the Mekong Delta Limestones, which may contain the world's largest number of CR endemics.

For more information, please see <https://iucn.org/ur/node/18423>



IUCN – PROVN Strategic Partnership

Planning Framework for Businesses on Plastic Waste Reduction in Hoi An (2021-2023).

IUCN in collaboration with the People's Committee of Hoi An City and the Hoi An Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Hoi An Chamber of Commerce and Industry).

Photo credit

Cover photo: A MPA staff participated in a training by IUCN on advanced diving skills © Vietdivers

Page 7: Jake Brunner, Head of IUCN Indo- Burma, Acting Country Representative © IUCN Viet Nam

Page 12: Ms. Razan Al Mubarak was elected as the new IUCN President during 2021 WCC © IUCN

Page 14: IPBES report was translated into Vietnamese by IUCN Viet Nam © IPBES

Page 15: Dr. Andrew Wyatt – Deputy Head of IUCN Indo-Burma presented about IUCN’s work on transforming rice production in the Mekong Delta © IUCN Viet Nam

Page 16: Coral reef in Phu Quoc MPA © Vietdivers

Page 17: Mr. Tran Dinh Luan – DG of DFISH gave an opening remark at the MDC project launch in Ha Noi © IUCN Viet Nam

Page 18: The Boat deck in Binh Thuan province was covered with full of plastic waste © Hung Lekima

Page 20: Floating rice in Long An, Vietnam © IUCN Viet Nam

Page 21: Peaceful moments of Sekong river © IUCN Viet Nam

Page 23: Delacour Langurs in Van Long Nature Reserve © Nguyen Manh Hiep

Page 25: A farmer in a coffee plantation in the Central Highlands of Viet Nam © Alisher Sharipau, Hanns R. Neumann Stiftung

Page 27: Lotus field in Dong Thap Province © Eco-Eco Institute

Page 28: Silk products from lotus fibers in the buffer zone of Lang Sen Wetland Reserve © IUCN Viet Nam

Page 30: Planting trees at Huong Vinh Village Cultural House, Hue Province © Think Playgrounds

Page 30: Exhibition “River Talk” on plastic waste pollution at Decathlon shopping mall © IUCN Viet Nam

Page 31: Coral reef in Cat Ba National Park © IUCN Viet Nam

Page 32: Khoe Ia karst hill, Kien Luong, Kien Giang Province © INSEE Viet Nam

Page 33: Businesses signed commitment on waste reduction at a consultation organised by IUCN and other partners © IUCN Viet Nam

Back cover: Phu Quoc Island, Kien Giang Province, Viet Nam © IUCN Viet Nam



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