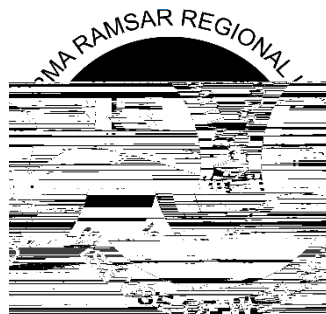
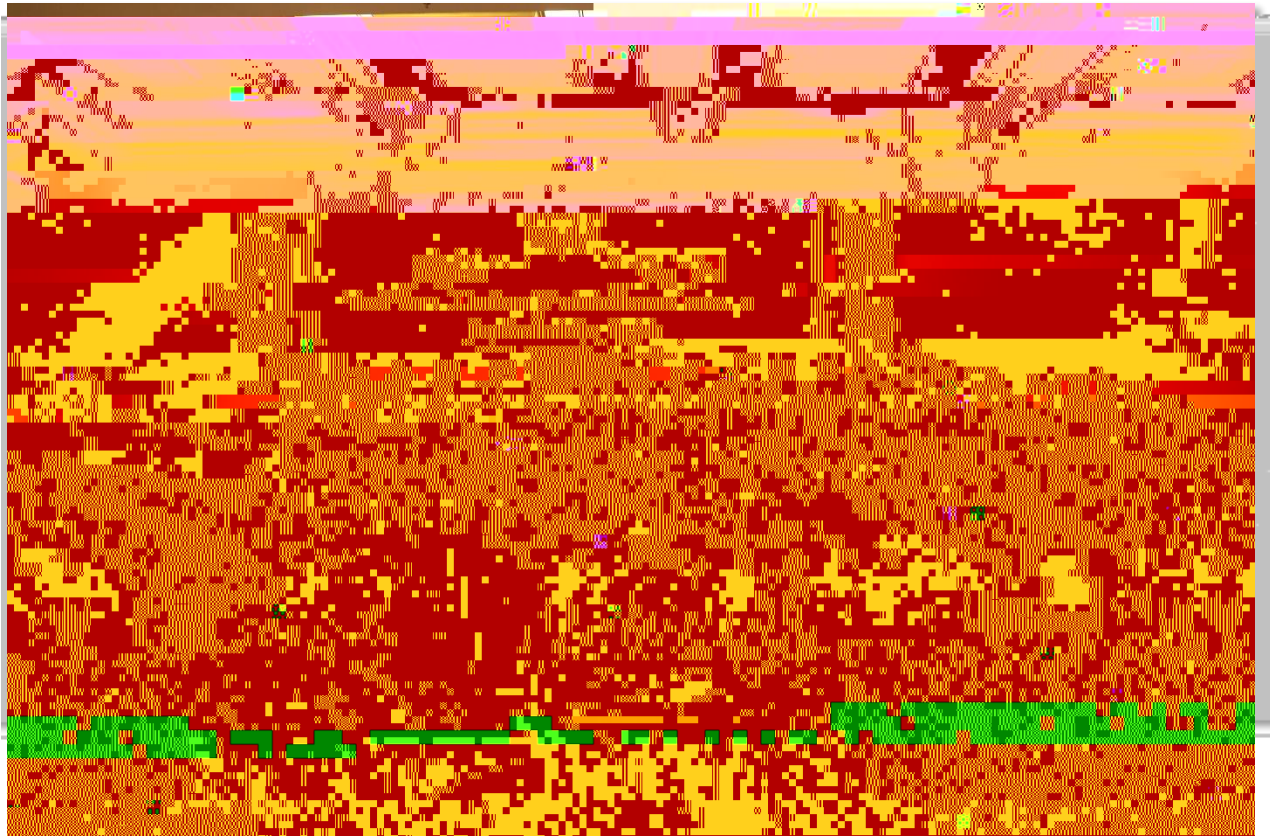


Indo-Burma Ramsar Regional Initiative Annual Report 2019

26-28th February 2020, Angkor Era Hotel, Siem Reap, Cambodia





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ACB

ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity



In Cambodia, the Ministry of Environment hosted a national training on “Guidance for the Wise Use of Freshwater Wetlands.” Officials from Lao PDR participated in training workshops on Integrated Spatial Planning at Xe Champhone Ramsar site. In addition, Myanmar hosted a training for wetlands managers and a training on habitat restoration, including wetlands, to increase local and national capacity. Law enforcement teams in Anlung Pring and Boeung Prek Lapouv Protected Landscapes also participated in a series of on-the-job trainings on Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART).

FAO organised national consultations on sustainable wetlands agriculture in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Viet Nam. There is a regional workshop planned for 2020, including all IBRRI countries and China.

FFI Myanmar held training courses at the newly opened Indawgyi Wetland Environmental Educationscapes



Management.” The Myanmar National Wetland Committee (NWC), formed in 2016, met twice in 2019 to enhance coordination in wetlands conservation and management throughout the country. The Viet Nam government established a national working group on wetlands, which will work towards a coordinated approach to wetlands conservation throughout the country.

Policies and



Dr. Pyi Soe Aung, Staff Officer, Nature and Wildlife Conservation Division, Myanmar
Dr. Pyi Soe Aung



Ramsar Site and Koh Kapik Ramsar Site. The government of Cambodia has requested technical and financial support from IBRRI partners to successfully conserve these wetlands.

Thailand

Thailand has 14 Ramsar Sites, with all management plans funded by the annual government budget of 7 million Thai baht. Management plans for all sites are expected to be completed in 2020-2021, however the main challenge is that the participatory process requires many agencies, since wetlands fall under the National Water Resources Office, the Department of Marine and Coastal Resources and the Department of National Parks. The Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP) hires consultants for the participatory meetings seeking community input.

Thailand has an inventory of up to 100 wetland sites of national importance. ONEP has determined that 60 of these sites may meet the criteria for Ramsar designation, and plans to nominate the Lower Songklam River Basin, as the next Ramsar site in Thailand. The nomination will be followed by Bang Pu coastal wetland, as both a Ramsar and EAAFP site. The site located near Bangkok and could serve as a useful field trip and demonstration site, as it hosts black-tailed godwits and great knots. The government is also aiming to designate Bang Pakong River, an important wetland for Irrawaddy dolphins, and a Mekong WET project site, as a wetland of international importance.

Regional Overview

The IBRRI governments plan to nominate at least 18 new Ramsar sites and seven new EAAFP sites in the coming years, increasing the current number of sites by more than 50%.

Challenges cited by govt

During Session 4, the country groups were asked to identify the five most important wetland species in the country, using a spreadsheet with questions covering migratory species, species conservation plans, national Red Lists, and invasive species.

Viet Nam

In Viet Nam priority species include the Sarus crane in Tram Chim, black faced spoonbill in Xuan Thuy, Siamese crocodile in Bau Sau, green sea turtle in Con Dao and Delacour's langur in Van Long. There are monitoring plans and site specific management measures in place for all of the priority species, in addition to a national level conservation plan for the green sea turtle. There is a collaboration at the Tram Chim and Phu My Ramsar Sites to monitor Sarus cranes with Cambodia.



Viet Nam has at least four sites designated for species other than birds under Criterion 9, including sites designated for the Siamese crocodile, green sea turtle, and the Delacour's langur. The country also has also developed a government decree on the "Viet Nam Red Book" that mentions all of these species.

Invasive species in Viet Nam include



(ONEP). CEPA activities include hosting World Wetlands Day celebrations, public exhibits and events, and technical seminars for academics, government staff, NGOs, and the private sector.

Wetlands are also integrated into the curriculum of several subjects in local schools, with optional field trips to nearby Ramsar sites, used as a "natural classroom" for classes and conservation clubs.

Lao PDR

Lao PDR does not have a national CEPA action plan, however CEPA will be integrated into the National Implementation Plan, which is currently being developed. At site level, CEPA activities are integrated into site management plans. In 2019, Lao PDR developed a pilot curriculum for secondary schools and organised a scientific workshop for university students on wetlands. The government is working to raise community awareness through workshops, community patrolling, and media reports in newspapers and on television.

By improving signage at both Ramsar sites, the government raised awareness of the sites among local communities. Developing zoning for a core zone, fish and crocodile conservation zone, and buffer zone helped to better protect the wetland. World Wetland Day activities included a drawing competition and a performance on biodiversity in the wetland, engaging youth in storytelling and protecting the ecosystem. Funding for CEPA activities is provided by the FAO CAWA project, KfW, IUCN and RRC-EA, and implemented by partners and local and national authorities.

Viet Nam





Agenda for the Annual Meeting of the Indo-Burma Ramsar Regional Initiative

26-28 February 2020, Angkor Era Hotel, Siem Reap, Cambodia

26 February	
08:30-09:00	Registration
09:00-09:40	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- National Anthem of Cambodia- Welcome remarks by Dr. Scott Perkin, IBRRI Secretariat (15 min)- Opening remarks by H.E. Srun Darith, Secretary of State, Ministry of Environment (15 min)- Group Photo
09:40-09:55	Coffee Break
09:55-10:10	Round of introductions
10:10-10:45	Session 1: Overview of agenda and update on implementation of the 2019 work plan from all partners (IBRRI secretariat)

