

# Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund

Ecosystem Profile

Indochina Region  
Indo-Burma Hotspot



## Indochina Region



### Six countries:

Cambodia  
Lao P.D.R.  
Myanmar  
southern China  
Thailand  
Vietnam

### However:

- Myanmar currently ineligible



## Biological importance

### Diverse ecosystems

12 Global 200 Ecoregions

### High endemism

24 Centres of Plant Diversity  
7 Endemic Bird Areas

### Important for threatened species

492 globally threatened species

CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM  
PARTNERSHIP FUND



## Preparation process

### Lead organisation:

BirdLife International

### Collaborating organisations:

Bird Conservation Society of Thailand  
CARE Myanmar  
Kadoorie Farm and Botanical Garden  
WWF Cambodia Program

### Technical support:

Center for Applied Biodiversity Science at  
Conservation International

CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM  
PARTNERSHIP FUND

## Expert round-tables



190+ stakeholders consulted

## Conservation outcomes

CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM  
PARTNERSHIP FUND

### Species outcomes

492 globally threatened species



### Site outcomes

362 key biodiversity areas



### Corridor outcomes

53 conservation corridors



## Prioritisation criteria

### Priority Corridors

- Importance for globally threatened or landscape species
- Importance for ecological and evolutionary processes

### Priority Sites

- Occurrence in a Priority Corridor
- Importance for species outside of conservation corridors

### Priority Species

- Significance of Indochina Region population
- Need for species-focused action

### General criteria

- Urgency for conservation action
- Need for additional investment

## Priorities for CEPF investment

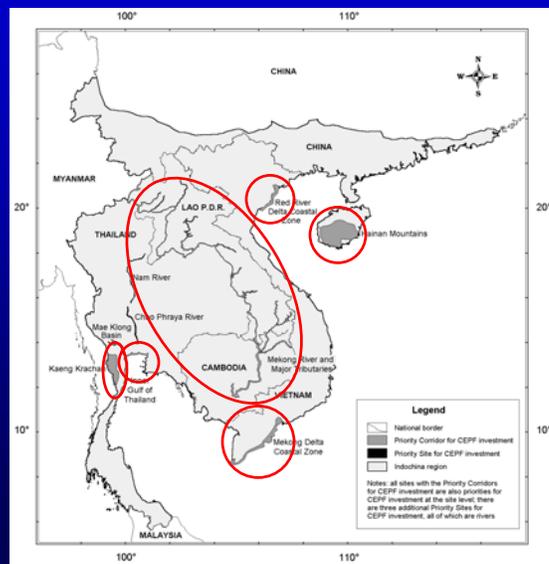
### 6 Priority Corridors

### 51 Priority Sites

- 48 in Priority Corridors
- 3 additional sites

### 67 Priority Species

- 26 mammal species
- 12 bird species
- 21 reptile species
- 8 fish species



## Current threats

### Over-exploitation

- Hunting
- Over-exploitation of plants
- Over-fishing

### Habitat loss

- Commercial logging
- Cash crops
- Shifting cultivation
- Agricultural intensification
- Afforestation and aquaculture
- Infrastructure development

### Invasive species

### Pollution



## Investment gaps

### Thematic investment gaps:

- Species-focused conservation
- Over-exploitation and wildlife trade
- Local-stakeholder-based approaches
- Advocacy



### Geographical investment gaps:

- Riverine ecosystems
- Coastal ecosystems
- Lowland evergreen forest
- Hainan forest



## CEPF niche

### **Basic premise:**

to support initiatives by civil society that complement rather than duplicate other investments

### **Relatively small, highly focused investments**

that help to better target existing investments, develop best practice models and pilot alternative approaches

## Strategic directions

1. Safeguard globally threatened species by mitigating major threats to them and undertaking applied research on lesser-known species
2. Strengthen capacity and civil society engagement in conservation by developing best practices and alternative, locally led approaches to site-based conservation at Priority Sites
3. Strengthen capacity of civil society to engage key actors in reconciling biodiversity conservation and development objectives in the Priority Corridors
4. Support civil society to engage in biodiversity conservation in the Indochina Region and facilitate interaction among local and regional organisations

## Potential WB/CEPF linkages

### Exchange of experience and best practice approaches

- Opportunities to exchange lessons learned and best practice approaches between WB and CEPF initiatives regarding PA management, local-stakeholder-based conservation, and biodiversity mainstreaming
- e.g. *Sustainable Forest Development Project*; includes Jianfengling NR (Hainan Mountains Corridor)
- e.g. *Green Corridor Project*, Vietnam; not in Priority Corridor

## Potential WB/CEPF linkages

### Replication of innovative approaches

- Several WB initiatives present opportunities to replicate or scale-up innovative conservation approaches piloted by CEPF-supported projects
- e.g. Vietnam Conservation Fund, established under *Forest Sector Development Project*
- e.g. Environmental Protection Fund in Lao P.D.R., planned under *Nam Theun 2 Social and Environmental Project*

## Potential WB/CEPF linkages

### Mainstreaming biodiversity into projects in other sectors

- CEPF-supported projects can assist World Bank ensure its projects comply with environmental safeguard policies
- e.g. *Coastal Wetlands Protection and Development Project*
- e.g. *Mekong Delta Water Resources Project*
- e.g. *Natural Disaster Risk Management Project* (all in Mekong Delta Coastal Zone Corridor)

## Potential WB/CEPF linkages

### Standardised protocols for monitoring effectiveness of conservation investments

- The World Bank and WWF have developed the *Protected Area Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool*
- Increasingly widely used in region and elsewhere
- Could be a central component of standardised monitoring programmes for Priority Sites supported by CEPF

## Other emerging opportunities

### **ADB's *Biodiversity Conservation Corridors Initiative* in the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS)**

- GMS corresponds very closely to Indochina Region
- 9 Biodiversity Conservation Corridors defined, based on Conservation Corridors in Ecosystem Profile
- No overlap between Biodiversity Conservation Corridors and 6 Priority Corridors for CEPF investment
- Opportunities to replicate innovative conservation approaches developed by CEPF projects

## Other emerging opportunities

### **Danida support to the environment sector in Cambodia**

- Danida's *Natural Resources and Environment Programme* invests around DKK 40 million (US\$6 million) per year
- Lacks in-country capacity to manage small grants to civil society organisations; wants to disburse larger blocks of funds for sub-granting
- Interested in channeling funds via CEPF's in-region coordination mechanism, because of rapid processing of grant applications and strategic focus on funding gaps