

# Socialist Republic of Viet Nam: Striving for Effective Biodiversity Conservation



Viet Nam is located in South-East Asia, bordering China in the north and Laos and Cambodia in the west. To the east is the South China Sea stretching along a coastline of nearly 3260 km in length.

Viet Nam is one of the world's ten most biologically diverse countries with species discoveries still taking place.

The main pressures on biodiversity include population and consumption growth, illegal exploitation of timber and non-forest timber products, unsustainable fishing, illegal wildlife hunting and trade and massive land use changes. In order to tackle these problems, Viet Nam has undertaken enormous political and legislative efforts such as the adoption of the Law on Environmental Protection, the Law on Forest Protection and Development, the Law on Fisheries and the Law on Biodiversity. A great achievement is the establishment of a comprehensive protected area system which accounts for nearly 7 % of the terrestrial area up to now.

Viet Nam has chosen to document the implementation of Aichi Targets 9, 12 and 16 as it has been very active in implementing these Targets. Due to restricted capacities and timeframe, the implementation of further Targets will be displayed on upcoming poster versions.



GIZ

## B



Pilot site activities to control the Giant sensitive plant *Mimosa diplotricha* C. Wright ex Sauvalle (*Mimosaceae*) at Cuc Phuong National Park, Nho Quan district, Ninh Binh province, Vietnam

- 2012 Adoption of a National Master Scheme on Prevention and Control of Invasive Alien Species in Viet Nam by 2020 (Decision No. 1896/QĐ-TTg)
- 2013 Adoption of a Joint Circular of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development on Providing Criteria for the Determination of Invasive Alien Species and the Promulgation of the List of Invasive Alien Species (Joint Circular No. 27/2013/TTLT-BTNMT-BNNPTNT)
- 2014 Adoption of a Joint Circular of the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment on Integrating a Budget for IAS Management into the National Budget on Biodiversity (Joint Circular No. 160/2014/TTLT-BTC-BTNMT)
- Programme on Communication and Raising Awareness on Invasive Alien Species (Decision No. 200/QĐ-BTNMT)

### Identification and Management of Invasive Alien Species.

Since 2010, the Government of Viet Nam has been drawing increased attention to the management of invasive alien species (IAS). On 17. December 2012, a National Master Scheme on the Prevention and Control of IAS in Viet Nam has been adopted. The Scheme is aimed at the investigation of the status of IAS in Viet Nam, strengthening the management capacity of national authorities on IAS in particular of the national quarantine system, the development and implementation of programmes on the control and eradication of some of the most dangerous IAS in Viet Nam such as the plant species *Mimosa diplotricha* C. Wright ex Sauvalle or the *Lantana camara*, and on awareness raising. In order to implement the National Master Scheme, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development issued the Joint Circular No. 27/2013/TTLT-BTNMT-BNNPTNT on Providing Criteria for the Determination of IAS and the Promulgation of the list on IAS IN 2013. In 2014, the Ministry of Finance together with MoNRE issued a Joint Circular on "Integrating a Budget for IAS Management into the National Budget on Biodiversity" (Joint Circular No. 160/2014/TTLT-BTC-BTNMT). Simultaneously, MoNRE issued a Programme on Communication and Awareness Raising on IAS.

## C



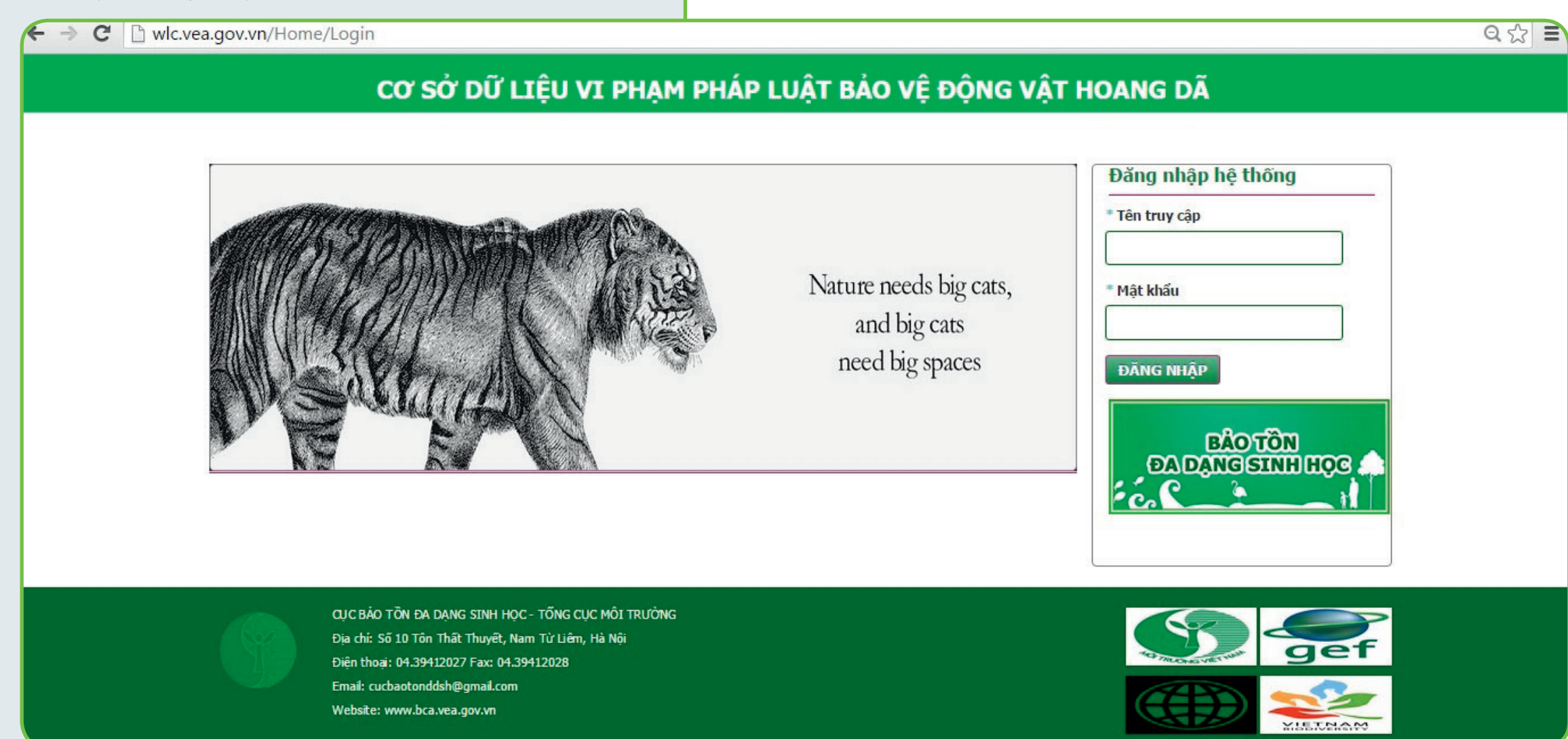
Awareness Raising, International Volunteer Day, Thong Nhat Park Hanoi

### 2012-2015 Project on "Wildlife Consumption in Vietnam: Reforming Policies and Practices to strengthen Biodiversity Conservation".

#### Reduction of Illegal Wildlife Consumption in Viet Nam.

In order to achieve Target 12 Viet Nam has conducted the project "Wildlife Consumption in Viet Nam". The project was implemented between 2012 and 2015 and aimed at strengthening biodiversity conservation through the significant reduction of illegal wildlife consumption. The main foci were laid on strengthening the policy and legal frameworks, monitoring and enforcing consumption controls and building awareness to change behaviour. In particular, an in-depth review of the legal framework for wildlife conservation was conducted which resulted in the development of new legal documents regulating the management and control of endangered species consumption in the traditional medicine sector. Furthermore, a database for tracking wildlife crime in Ha Noi has been developed enabling agencies access to and sharing of information on species at risk. In addition, an enforcement campaign was carried out by the Hanoi Environmental Police over a ten week period investigating restaurants and supply chains for involvement in illegal wildlife trafficking and consumption. A Wildlife Partnership Forum has been initiated to link government agencies and NGOs to promote collaboration and share information. In order to raise public awareness, documentaries on national television were broadcasted.

Database for Tracking Wildlife Crime in Hanoi



## D



HMong people in Lao Cai.

Photo: Pham Ha Thanh Tung

### Ratification and Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing

On 23. April 2014, Viet Nam officially became the 31. Party to the Nagoya Protocol. After joining the Protocol, it has quickly started to develop and strengthen its legal and institutional framework in order to implement the Protocol's objectives. MoNRE has been mandated to lead and coordinate the implementation process. Particularly problematic in this regard is that available information and references on the topic are limited, roles and responsibilities of competent agencies are not clear, the system of policies and legal documents is inconsistent and awareness of stakeholders is limited. In order to overcome these difficulties, Viet Nam has taken several measures. In 2015, the project "Strengthening management capacity for access to genetic resources and fair and equitable sharing of benefits", was launched. Studies focussing on harmonizing the legal framework on genetic resource management are currently being conducted. For 2016, the development of a decree on managing access to genetic resources and fair and equitable sharing of benefits is planned. The amendment of the Law on Biodiversity will be proposed in that, for example, the exchange of information between stakeholders, benefit sharing mechanisms and the establishment of a database system on genetic resources in Viet Nam are incorporated.



Dissection of medical plants. Photo: Pham Ha Thanh Tung

### 16 Ratification of the Nagoya Protocol on 23.04.2014

### 16 Review and evaluation of Viet Nam's cooperation with foreign organisations and agencies with regard to access to genetic resources

### 16 Launch of the project "Strengthening management capacity for access to genetic resources and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources"



Red Dao minority of Sapa, Lao Cai. The Red Dao are famous for their traditional medicine and health care. Photo: Pham Ha Thanh Tung.



Medical plants. Photo: Pham Ha Thanh Tung

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November 2015

## NAMIBIA'S BIODIVERSITY TARGETS STRATEGIC GOALS

### A Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society

- Target 1: By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.
- Target 2: By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems.
- Target 3: By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts and positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and applied, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socio economic conditions.
- Target 4: By 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits.

### B Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use

- Target 5: By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced.
- Target 6: By 2020 all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits.
- Target 7: By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.
- Target 8: By 2020, pollution, including from excess nutrients, has been brought to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity.
- Target 9: By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment.
- Target 10: By 2015, the multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning.

### C To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity

- Target 11: By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.
- Target 12: By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained.
- Target 13: By 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives, including other socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species, is maintained, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity.

### D Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services

- Target 14: By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable.
- Target 15: By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification.
- Target 16: By 2015, the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization is in force and operational, consistent with national legislation.

### E Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building

- Target 17: By 2015 each Party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan.
- Target 18: By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels.
- Target 19: By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied.
- Target 20: By 2020, at the latest, the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 from all sources, and in accordance with the consolidated and agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization, should increase substantially from the current levels. This target will be subject to changes contingent to resource needs assessments to be developed and reported by Parties.