



Financial Planning for Biodiversity in South-Eastern Asia

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Brunei Darussalam

No planning document is available.

Cambodia

Cambodia's national biodiversity strategy and action plan¹ did not have a section on financing, but referred to financing under several themes:

- develop a system which leads to the development of National Financial Mechanism
 - Trust fund development;
 - national sustainable financing mechanism assessment

For protected areas

- disseminate policies on PA management to private sector investors,
- create favorable conditions for investors,
- increase the annual financial contribution of government,
- pursue support funds from international and national agencies,
- generate income from services offered to visitors and fines from protected areas,
- develop budgetary income and expenditure plans for protected areas,
- set up a monitoring group on expenditure and income for protected areas
- promote transparency in all financial dealings related to natural resource exploitation
- ensure the financial sustainability of hydraulic infrastructure program
 - introduction of the concept of water use fees
 - arrangement for the participation of the user in the maintaining
 - management of rehabilitated and newly constructed irrigation schemes for improving of agriculture sector
- community-based management
 - establishment of national trust fund for environment under Environment Law,

¹ Cambodia (2002). National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, Ministry of Environment, April 2002, FAO/UNDP/GEF, Project CMB/98/G33, 74 pp.

- using economic and financial incentives to encourage communities and private enterprises to adopt environmentally sound processes and methods, motivate entrepreneurs, farmers and fishermen to select appropriate production and service technologies without affecting their competitiveness,
 - providing compensatory incentives to those enterprises, which employ relatively less profitable technologies and methods with relatively harmless impacts on the environment
- establish a trust fund or endowment to provide long term financing for conservation programs.

Indonesia

Indonesia's first action plan² indicated that management costs for parks and protected areas (1987-1988) were US\$34.4 annually per square kilometers. The document provided an appendix of project proposals with a total budget of US\$0.122 billion.

5. A serious constraint to the effectiveness of conservation programmes to date has been that many of the agencies directly responsible for biodiversity protection are under-funded. The total budget available to PHPA in the 1988/89 and 1990/91 fiscal years, for instance, was only Rp10,150,899,000 (ca.\$5,640,000), and 30 percent less for 1989/1990.

6. Shortage of trained staff is another major constraint. PHPA employs a total staff of 4742 (3210 or approximately two-thirds are pegawai negeri/civil servants). 28 percent (904 PNS) of the staff are assigned to headquarters in Balai III (West Java and West Kalimantan). Overall staff numbers are high but there is a lack of skilled technical and management professionals in the field, even though several national parks appear over-staffed. PHPA has almost no trained marine biologists even though it is the agency charged with management of coastal and marine conservation. Most of these resources go to headquarters and national parks. Even so the budget per park is still very low, an estimated Rp 47 per hectare for Kutai in 1987/1988, with most of this going to pay staff salaries. Other government agencies, institutes and NGOs also suffer from lack of funds e.g. and LON 60 percent of annual funding is allocated to salaries and only 40 percent to technical activities.

7. Institutional reform and strengthening must be a prerequisite for effective conservation of biodiversity. Many government agencies would benefit from redistribution of manpower and resources, better training and a more rational employment policy to streamline conservation agencies into more effective institutions. Policies of staff transfer also need review. Trained staff are often transferred to positions where their training and expertise are redundant.

D. Resource needs

4.1. Implementation of the plan will require additional resources, especially funding and training. The resource needs to carry out priority projects and activities will have to be assessed on a case by case basis. Most agencies lack adequate trained or qualified staff even though the total work force seems large.

4.2. The present government moratorium on new recruitment means that staff needs for new projects will have to be met by staff redeployment.

² Indonesia (1993). Biodiversity Action Plan for Indonesia, Ministry of National Development Planning /National Development Planning Agency, Jakarta, 1993, 141 pp.

4.3. Increase funding and training for conservation agencies, training and environmental agencies (government, NGOs and universities) to build Indonesia's capacity and expertise to deal with the environmental aspects of projects.

E. Funding strategies and mechanisms

Funding strategies must address 1) initial funding of programme and 2) long term sustainability, covering recurrent costs.

5.1 A government task force should be appointed to look into possible avenues of developing sustainable revenues to support the biodiversity programme.

5.2 Re-evaluate proposals to allocate some percentage of profits/taxes and/or revenues from the logging industry to conservation of protected areas through establishment of endowment royalty payments system on wildlife and plant trade.

5.3 Review policies on levies system for the timber industry. The utilization of levies should include protection and rehabilitation of biodiversity of forest.

5.4 Develop a system to return revenues generated in parks and reserves (from tourism) to the protected area system.

5.5 Make a thorough study of alternative funding mechanisms for protected areas, including the following options:

- The "Adopt a Park" strategy whereby donor agencies adopt an individual reserve
- Investigate the applicability of Debt Swap for Nature campaigns in Indonesia;
- Investigate appropriate mechanisms for establishing Endowment Funds for parks and protected areas or long term conservation projects to cover recurring costs in long term projects,
- Encourage greater support for biodiversity conservation from the private sector.
- Encourage more conservation-linked business promotions such as the Bank Indonesia International credit card campaign. Seek support especially, from those business sectors which benefit from exploitation of biological resources;
- Form an informal inter-agency working group of aid agency donors to develop/coordinate funding abilities for the Indonesian Biodiversity Programme;
- Greater involvement of national foundations such as Indonesian Wildlife Fund (IWF) and Rhino Trust (Yayasan Badak Mitra) to raise funds for biodiversity programme priorities on behalf of the National Biodiversity Commission;
- Encourage fund-raising concerts by Indonesian entertainers;

- Allocations from the national budget; logging revenues; oil revenues; tobacco industry; special issues of postage stamps, coins, and so forth; and
- In-kind contributions from Industry.

H. Securing political and financial support

8.1. Most elements /options mentioned above must be placed in a long-term strategy and framework to achieve sustainable support. An Awareness Programme will generate more momentum, interest and public involvement for the maintenance and expansion of the Action Plan.

Indonesia's second strategy and action plan³ stated that the budget allocation for each program is not provided as yet here. The first action that should be conducted in 2003 by BAPPENAS and other related institutions is to prepare the budget needed for each step of the action plan, so that it can be used to mobilize the potential fund for implementing IBSAP effectively.

Financial and technological resources

The implementation of IBSAP requires adequate financial support. The main source of funding would be the national and regional budget (APBN and APBD). Thus it is imperative that IBSAP be integrated into the national, regional and sectoral development programs so that budget can be allocated for that purpose.

Another potential source of funding is the Reforestation Fund in the forestry sector. It is true that the money from this fund can only be used for forest management, and therefore a different strategy needs to be sought for biodiversity management in nonforest areas.

It is necessary to mobilize funds outside of the state budget; such as in the form of foreign grants, community-based funds or taxes from biodiversity exploit. Various partnerships are another possible source of funding; each party involved in utilizing biodiversity must contribute a certain part of the profits made for sustainable use of biodiversity.

At the international level, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) is a potential source of financial support. As is known, GEF was formed as a financial mechanism to support sustainable development, particularly in the areas of international waters, climate change and biodiversity. Given that GEF provided grants to develop IBSAP, the government needs to immediately approach the GEF to seek partial support for its implementation.

Technological support is required in particular to develop basic and strategic information on the potential and condition of biodiversity. Thus there is a need to develop information technology, to

³ Indonesia (2003). Indonesian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2003-2020, IBSAP National Document, The National Development Planning Agency (BAPPENAS), 2003, 140 pp.

undertake inventory on the potentials of biodiversity, and technology for classifying organisms at the species and genetic level. This needs to be linked to the development of relevant basic research.

Lao, People's Democratic Republic

Lao's action plan⁴ identified 7 programmes.

5.3 Funding Sources

Funding for the implementation of the NBSAP can be obtained from the following sources:

- The government budget allocated to each economic sector at both the central and local levels.
- The National Environmental Fund.
- The contributions from both the internal and external private sector running businesses in the Lao PDR.
- International organizations, both regional and subregional, including donor countries.
- Income from the use of biodiversity and biodiversity services.

Programme 6: NBSAP Implementation

Obj: 2 Secure sufficient funding for the NBSAP's implementation.

1. Assess the NBSAP's related costs, including both direct and indirect costs, and ensure that adequate funding sources are made available to cover these costs.
2. Obtain increased state budget allocations for biodiversity conservation activities.
3. Obtain increased foreign aid flows for biodiversity conservation activities.
4. Ensure adequate funding for training and research activities.
5. Strengthen the degree to which biodiversity is integrated into the operations of existing financial institutions.
6. Raise additional state revenues that can be reinvested in conservation activities.
7. Design NBSAP activities so as to minimise costs, and be financially efficient in their operations.
8. Develop prices and markets for biodiversity goods and services so as to ensure that consumers of biodiversity goods and services pay a fair of price for this use.

13. International Cooperation and Collaboration

Context:

The Lao PDR is listed as one of the least developed countries but it still harbours abundant biodiversity resources. In order to ensure that this biodiversity is effectively conserved and used in a sustainable manner knowledge levels and capacity need to be increased and sufficient budgets need to be allocated.

⁴ Lao (2004). National Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 and Action Plan to 2010, 47 pp.

Currently, the capacity and knowledge of Lao staff is inadequate to carry out their own technical research and to implement activities related to the management, conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. There is therefore a need to co-operate at international, regional and sub regional levels, which includes assistance in the form of both technical and financial support.

External funds currently account for the main contribution to the state budget allocated for biodiversity activities. Sixty two donors continue to support different programmes and projects focusing on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and between 1993 and 2003 these contributions amounted to US\$ 150 million.

Key Issues:

- Projects are too short and there is the need for continuity.
- Complicated approval procedures have been put in place which has resulted in projects being delayed.
- The Lao PDR needs to increase its actions in order to fulfil its obligations as a signatory party to international conventions and agreements.
- The public investment programme has only allocated budgets at a macro-level.

Intervention Options:

- Promote country needs driven sub-regional, regional and international cooperation.
- Increase regional and international cooperation through bi-lateral and multi-lateral agreements with mutual benefits.
- Promote long-term cooperation including the sharing of information and the exchange of experiences.
- Increase special co-operation with friendly and strategically important countries.
- Ease access of researchers and research institutions to donor funding in accordance with the country's laws and regulations.
- Improve the government staff's working knowledge of foreign languages at central, provincial, district and local levels.

15. Development of Funding Sources

Context:

The benefits and costs of biodiversity conservation are distributed unequally between different groups. This acts as a major economic disincentive to biodiversity conservation; it also means that the groups who are responsible for conservation are often unwilling – or economically unable – to cover these costs. Unless the NBSAP is equitable in its impacts and effects, and especially targets the poorest and most vulnerable groups, it is unlikely to be either acceptable or practicable. The NBSAP's key aim should be to redress current imbalances in the distribution of biodiversity benefits and costs in the interests of conservation and economic equity.

Financial resources for biodiversity conservation are scarce, and effective implementation of the NBSAP will incur additional and wide-ranging costs to many different groups. Adequate and sustainable sources

of finance must be generated as part of the NBSAP, and targeted to the groups who bear the major direct and indirect costs associated with biodiversity conservation. Key beneficiaries of conservation finance include both the central and provincial government.

The economic assessment as part of the BCR has highlighted the high and wide-ranging costs and funding requirements for biodiversity conservation in the Lao PDR. Raising funds to cover these costs is a major priority, as few financial resources for biodiversity conservation are available. It is also clear that the current costs of biodiversity conservation accrue mainly to the government (direct costs) and local communities (opportunity costs).

A financing strategy will form a key element of the NBSAP, including the provision of new and additional funding for biodiversity conservation from both domestic and foreign sources as stated in Article 20 of the CBD, and the strengthening of financial institutions as mentioned in Article 21.

Key Issues:

- The budget for biodiversity conservation is mainly based on international donors.
- The GoL's capacity and experience in access to international funding sources is still limited.

Intervention Options:

- Ensure that sufficient funding is made available for the implementation of the NBSAP.
- Clearly assess NBSAP-related costs, including both direct and indirect costs, and ensure that adequate funding sources are made available to cover these costs.
- Ensure that funds are targeted to the groups, sectors and activities that bear the direct and indirect costs of biodiversity conservation.
- Design NBSAP activities to minimise costs, and so that they are financially efficient in their operations.
- Obtain increased state budget allocations for biodiversity conservation activities.
- Raise additional state revenues that can be reinvested in conservation activities.
- Ensure increased foreign aid flows to biodiversity conservation activities.
- Develop prices and markets for biodiversity goods and services.
- Use innovative international funding mechanisms as a means to increase financial flows to biodiversity.

Malaysia

The National Policy on Biological Diversity⁵ (NPBD), published in 1998, aimed to “Transform Malaysia into a world center of excellence in conservation, research and utilization of tropical biological diversity by year 2020” and provided 15 strategies with 87 action plans for implementing the Convention.

Strategy XV ESTABLISH FUNDING MECHANISMS

Action Plan:

- · Review current funding options relating to biological diversity and identify the potential for reallocation of resources for implementation of the strategies of the National Policy on Biological Diversity.
- · Seek new and additional incentives, funding sources and mechanisms, at both the national and international levels, for the implementation of the strategies. Funding sources should include government, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the private sector.
- · Establish trust funds for the conservation and management of biological diversity.

⁵ Malaysia (1998). National Policy on Biological Diversity, Ministry of Science, Technology and the Environment, 42 pp.

Myanmar

Myanmar's national strategy and action plan⁶, within the timeframe 2011-2030, contained nine five-year action plans toward sustainable wildlife conservation and protected area management, sustainable freshwater resource management, sustainable management of coastal, marine and island ecosystems, sustainable management of land resources, sustainable management of agriculture, livestock and fisheries, sustainable ecotourism, enhancing environmental quality management and biosafety, sustainable management for mineral resource utilization. Responsible stakeholders were identified.

The document used the need for investment as one of the criteria to select priority corridors, priority sites, and priority species. Only species, sites and corridors for which current or projected levels of investment (even if significant) considering highly insufficient to meet their conservation needs were selected as Priority Outcomes. One strategic direction was to create capacity to coordinate conservation investment in Myanmar with priorities to initiate monitoring programs for conservation outcomes, and establish a mechanism to manage information on conservation outcomes, priority investment and coordinated conservation actions. Under the strategic direction to promote the initiative to manage invasive alien species, a priority was to develop GEF and other sources of funding for establishing national framework/projects on prevention, control and management of invasive alien species in Myanmar. In the National Forest Policy of 1995, it was clearly stated that at least 25% of revenue generated by the Forestry Sector should be used for conservation investment.

⁶ Myanmar (2011). National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry, 135 pp.

Philippines

Philippines' planning document⁷ contained programs, projects and activities under each strategy, with a table of preliminary estimates of the cost and duration of each project. Most activities are assumed to be part of the regular activities of concerned agencies, hence have no estimated cost. The costs of the projects range from a low of US\$25,000 to a high of US\$12.5 million. The total cost of the NBSAP is estimated at US\$92.213 million. The estimation of the unmet future financial requirement of the action plan requires information on the biodiversity-related plans and committed funds of the government and non-government sectors, which were not available.

Philippines undertook an extensive process of prioritization⁸ for its national biodiversity strategy and action plan. The process included: preparing for the national workshop (planning, gathering data, regional consultations, establishing preliminary criteria for priority-setting), national workshop, establishing scoring method for each thematic group, mapping the priority areas (associating data, deriving thematic maps of priority areas, deriving integrated, regional maps of priority areas, deriving final, comprehensive maps of priority, reviewing and refining workshop outcomes).

⁷ Philippines (1997). Philippine Biodiversity: an Assessment and Plan of Action, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, 298 pp.

⁸ Philippines (2002). Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Priorities: a Second Iteration of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, final report, 113 pp.

Singapore

Singapore's planning document⁹ did not involve financing issues.

⁹ Singapore (2009). Conserving our Biodiversity: Singapore's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, National Parks Board, 21 pp.

Thailand

Thailand has formulated three consecutive NBSAPs, which were entitled “national policies, measures and plans on the conservation and sustainable utilization of biodiversity”: the first NBSAPs¹⁰ covered the period of the year 1998–2002; the second NBSAPs¹¹ covered the period of the year 2003–2007; and the third NBSAPs¹² covers the period of the year 2008–2012.

The first NBSAP referred to a number of measures, including:

- Provide financial resources, equipments and experts to support the establishment of news and information networks in public and private academic institutions.
- Establish research fund to support public and private organizations on basic and applied researches on biodiversity as well as comprehensive long-termed research projects.
- Financially support researches by establishing the research fund for communities and private organizations conduct researches on indigenous plants varieties, community forest, maintenance of local biodiversity and community welfare.
- Financially and administratively support research on Buddhism and biodiversity conservation.
- Provide educational tool and financial support to public and private agencies to enable them to occupational training related to conservation of biodiversity.
- Allocate additional budget for travel, per-diem and other expenses for personnel attending educational courses, training programs and research activities related to biodiversity conservation, domestically and internationally.
- Provide opportunity and funding for personnel to attend workshops, seminars, conferences and meetings overseas.
- Seek for fund to support for managing the protected areas

¹⁰ Thailand (1997). National Policies, Measures and Plans on the Conservation and Sustainable Utilization of Biodiversity 1998–2002, approved by the Cabinet on 15 July 1997, in Biodiversity Conservation in Thailand: a national report, 2000, 142 pp.

¹¹ Thailand (2002). National Policies, Measures and Plans on the Conservation and Sustainable Utilization of Biodiversity 2003–2007, approved by the Cabinet on 11 June 2002, in National Report on the Implementation of Convention on Biological Diversity: Thailand, 2002, 60 pp.

¹² Thailand (2008). National Policies, Measures and Plans on the Conservation and Sustainable Utilization of Biodiversity 2008–2012, approved by the Cabinet on 15 January 2008, in National Report on the Implementation of Convention on Biological Diversity: Thailand, 2009, 70 pp.

- Seek for fund to support protected area i.e. fund from NGOs campaigns, the Environmental Fund and tourism fee.
 - Set appropriate fee for the use of products and services from the protected areas to pay for the expense in managing the areas.
- Legally collect land ownership tax in manners that facilitate conservation.
- Financially and technically support communities that implement conservation activities.
- Provide financial assistance and organize trainings for communities in maintaining traditional and cultural practices that recognize values of biodiversity conservation and appropriate practices which do not destroy biodiversity.
- Appropriately and fairly compensate, with financial resources or lands, those who lost land rights or titles to use their lands.
- Strengthen cooperation and financially support acquisition of equipments and tools for maintaining culture collection of crops, fruits, and livestock.
- Provide financial support in acquisition of necessary tools and equipments to microbial culture collection centers.
- Financially support an organizing of local environmental volunteers to report news on biodiversity impacts.
- Award and honor private firms or organizations implementing biodiversity conservation programs for youths such as bird watching programs and youth camps for nature conservation.
- Enact tax break measures for the private firms or organization investing in researches that are supportive to biodiversity conservation.
- Support research and development of both public and private sectors through prioritizing and supporting biodiversity conservation with the Environmental Fund.
- Create competitive atmosphere in conserving biological resources in order to attract private investments.
- Support conservation and maintenance of privately owned natural lands to ensure their long-term existence.
- Provide low interest loans to the private sector in implementing biodiversity conservation such as bird sanctuaries, public parks, natural forest parks, etc.
- Establish fund to support the private firms or organizations requiring financial assistance in maintaining wild land.

- Allocate fund to systematically and comprehensively support researches to emphasize benefits derived from the development of biotechnology
 - Prioritize biotechnology researches and development projects for further support.
 - Allocate funding sources for prioritized projects.

The second NBSAP contained measures to provide financial support and facilities to the research related to biodiversity, and seek for fund to support for managing the protected areas.

The third policies consisted of 5 strategies and 17 action plans, in the total budget of 9,555.93 million Baht (app. 280.627 million USD).

Timor-Leste

Timor-Leste's planning document¹³ address the financing needs for priority strategies and targets in the section on partnership strategy. Strategic Action 21, in particular, specifies the coordination with donor partners, UN and regional organizations and exploring ways to substantially increase levels of funding, as well as development of joint programmes. The Partnership Strategy will further ensure the longer term sustainability, including recurring costs, of biodiversity conservation, the continuous engagement of key stakeholders, and sustained public awareness campaign on the values of biodiversity.

The strategy and actions included:

- Establishment of an inter-agency committee to develop sustainable financing mechanism to generate revenues for biodiversity programmes
- Review existing scope of the Petroleum Fund of Timor-Leste to consider biodiversity in its priority support areas
- Develop specific project proposals for the priority strategic areas and joint programmes for various donors and partners (Optimize funding allocation from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) under the System for Transparent Allocation of Resources (STAR, GEF Secretariat, September 2010), where Timor-Leste has been allocated a total of US\$ 4.40 M for the following focal areas: Biodiversity (\$1.50M); Climate Change (\$2.0M); and Land Degradation (0.90M). Undertake joint and synergistic programming across these 3 GEF focal areas (e.g., joint programme on biodiversity and climate change; joint programme on biodiversity and land degradation). Develop community-based biodiversity and livelihood projects and activities and tap GEF Small Grants Programme and other small scale funding windows of other bilateral partners to support on-the-ground community actions)

The document contained an annex detailing the relationship between NBSAP activities and Aichi targets. The following activities were mentioned under target 20:

- Coordinate with donor partners, the United Nations and regional organizations and explore ways to substantially increase levels of funding and develop joint programmes: Develop joint programmes with relevant sectors for funding by bilateral and multi-lateral partners (e.g. GEF, UNDP, UNEP, FAO and bilateral partners); Establish and/or enhance partnerships and linkages with regional organizations and programmes such as Coral Triangle Initiative (CTI), Partnership for Environmental Management for Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA), Arafura-Timor-Leste-Seas

¹³ Timor-Leste (2011). The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan of Timor-Leste (2011-2020), October 2011, 125 pp.

Forum (ATSEA), South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB)

- Encourage and engage the major sources of fund support such as the government (oil and gas fund sources) and the private sector to invest in infrastructure services such as transportation and ecotourism activities.
- Establish a sustainable financing mechanism for ecosystem and environmental research.
- Explore ways to substantially increase levels of funding: Ecotourism development/gate revenue; Nature conservation tax; Ecological service provider (water user tax); Tapping private enterprise, developers and international donors

Vietnam

Vietnam's first planning document¹⁴ contained 59 project profiles, with 4 small projects less than US\$ 1 million each, 2 large projects more than US\$ 5 million each, and the rest from US\$1-5 million.

5. PRIORITY PROJECT PROFILES

During the course of the preparation of the Biodiversity Action Plan, 59 project profiles were prepared covering all aspects of the plan. These are listed on the following pages. Although many project ideas were proposed and considered, only profiles of those projects rated as having importance to the overall conservation of biodiversity and which have not yet been initiated are provided in full in the document.

The project profile section begins with a table showing the relationships and phasing of all projects prepared. This is followed by a brief description with a scale for funding. For ease of comparison, projects are listed as large, medium or small scale:

Large scale project: More than US\$ 5 million

Medium scale project: US\$ 1 million to US\$ 5 million

Small scale project: Up to US\$ 1 million

Project Categories

Projects are arranged by Policy Programmes (P), Management and Conservation Field Programmes (M) and Complementary Actions (C). This arrangement follows the presentation in sections 2 through 4 of the BAP text.

Policy Programmes are presented by broad category approaches:

Policy Tools: Strengthening biodiversity conservation through governmental organizations and regulations.

Participation and Expanded Players: Enlarging the pool of agencies and people involved in biodiversity conservation.

Traditional Approaches: Utilizing the skills and traditional knowledge base of Viet Nam's culture and society.

Marine Issues: Expanding the scope of biodiversity conservation beyond terrestrial issues.

¹⁴ Vietnam (1995). National Biodiversity Action Plan, promulgated on 22nd December 1995, 212 pp.

Regional Biodiversity: Linking national biodiversity issues to the conservation programmes of neighboring countries and the region.

Management and Conservation Projects, the backbone of biodiversity conservation, are presented in five inter-related categories:

Conservation and Management: Improving the implementation of protected areas as the key method for maintaining biodiversity.

Protected Area Establishment: Filling in the "gaps" and expanding the areas and ecosystems protected by establishing new protected areas.

Buffer Zones and Community Projects: Engaging rural communities to become directly involved in biodiversity conservation through participatory approaches to protected area management and sustainable resource use.

Rehabilitation: Fostering the natural regeneration of important habitats.

Human Approaches: Developing the capacity of conservation professionals, decision makers and the general population through training, awareness and baseline research.

Complementary actions are also proposed, fulfilling the broader biodiversity conservation agenda proposed in the BAP. Projects are presented in four categories:

Ex-situ and Scientific Methods: Long viewed as an important method for preserving species and biodiversity through technology.

Traditional Approaches: Exploring and testing traditional approaches to the maintenance and preservation of economically important biodiversity.

Databases and Habitat Monitoring: An essential tool for evaluating the progress of the national biodiversity status.

Public Awareness: Assisting biodiversity conservation through an educated and environmentally conscious population.

Project Phasing

The Biodiversity Action Plan is to be implemented in three phases. Not all projects proposed in the Biodiversity Action Plan can or should be implemented immediately. Many of the first phase projects focus on planning, establishing institutional arrangements and training the staff. The others target the protection of threatened biodiversity. This should be done during the first two or three years. Phase II is a consolidation phase, which should last for an additional two to three years. Phase III will cover those early Phase projects which require follow-up implementation and evaluation. It also covers the

management of biodiversity which at the time of drafting the Plan is not greatly threatened. During this Phase, lessons learned in the first two Phases would be passed onto new projects.

The second document¹⁵ identified two major solutions:

4. Increase and diversification of investment capital sources for biodiversity and biosafety:

a/ To ensure funds for biodiversity conservation from the state budget with a focus on direct investment in biodiversity conservation, development and management activities;

b/ To create favorable mechanisms to attract domestic and overseas organizations and individuals to make investment and transfer technologies in service of conservation and sustainable development of biodiversity and biosafety management;

c/ To apply financial instruments to biodiversity management such as taxes and fees on the exploitation and use of natural resources, environmental service fees and conservation funds;

d/ To integrate conservation and sustainable development of biodiversity and biosafety management into domains entitled to funding priority such as hunger eradication, poverty alleviation, healthcare and rural development.

5. Enhancement of international cooperation in biodiversity and biosafety:

a/ To expand cooperation with ASEAN countries in developing an information and database system, and organizing experience exchange forums and networks, on conservation and sustainable development of biodiversity and biosafety;

b/ To boost international cooperation in trans-boundary biodiversity conservation;

c/ To actively join and implement international and regional biodiversity and biosafety treaties and efforts;

d/ To diversify bilateral and multilateral cooperation with nations, international and regional organizations on biodiversity conservation and biosafety, focusing on the exchange of experience and experts;

e/ To raise the efficiency of international cooperation in training, technological transfer and technical consultation on biodiversity and biosafety.

¹⁵ Vietnam (2007). National Biodiversity Action Plan to 2010 and Orientation towards 2020 (NBAP 2007), approved on 31st May 2007, 9 pp.

The second NBSAP provided that the Ministries of Agriculture and Rural Development; Fisheries; Science and Technology; Education and Training; Culture and Information; Trade; Foreign Affairs; Planning and Investment; and Finance, the Vietnam National Administration of Tourism, and the Vietnam Science and Technology Institute shall, based on their functions, tasks and powers, properly implement relevant contents in the national action plan. The Ministry of Planning and Investment and the Ministry of Finance shall balance, allocate and guide the use of capital to efficiently and timely implement the national action plan.