STATUS OF BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION IN MYANMAR

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INTRODUCTION

Myanmar possesses a great extent of forest biological diversity;

• Marine biodiversity in the coastal areas,
• Coastal and inland mangrove,
• Tropical evergreen forests in the south.
• Moist deciduous, dry deciduous forests
• Dry and sub-humid land in the central,
• Snow-capped mountains in the far north.
BIOGEOGRAPHY OF MYANMAR

Mountain Ecosystem

Mangrove Ecosystem

Forest Ecosystem
WILDLIFE STATUS IN MYANMAR

- Species of vascular plants of gymnosperms and Angiosperms: 11,800
- Mammal species: 360
- Bird species: 1,027
- Reptiles: 153
  - Snake: 153
  - Lizard: 87
  - Turtle & Tortoise: 36
  - Crocodile: 2
- Amphibian: 79
  - Frog: 79
  - Caecilians: 2
  - Salamander: 1
- Fresh water fish species: 310
- Marine water fish species: 465
- Medicinal plant species: 841
- Bamboo species: 90
MYANMAR ENDEMIC SPECIES

Star Tortoise

White-browed Nuthatch

Leaf Deer

Golden Deer
RICHNESS OF BIODIVERSITY

Leopard

Golden Cat

Tiger

Takin
1. Pidaung Wildlife Sanctuary.
2. Shwe-U-Daung Wildlife Sanctuary.
5. Kahlulu Wildlife Sanctuary.
6. Taunggyi Bird Sanctuary.
7. Mulayit Wildlife Sanctuary.
8. Wethukan Bird Sanctuary.
12. Thamihla Kyun Wildlife Sanctuary.
15. Hlawga Wildlife Sanctuary.
16. Inle Wetland Bird Sanctuary.
17. Moyunyi Wetland Bird Sanctuary.
18. Popa Mountain Park.
23. Loimwe Protected Area.
24. Parsar Protected Area.
25. Lawkananda Wildlife Sanctuary.
27. Indawgyi Wetland Bird Sanctuary.
29. Kyaikhtiyo Wildlife Sanctuary.
30. Hukaung Valley Wildlife Sanctuary.
31. Kyauk Pan Taung Wildlife Sanctuary.
32. Hponkanrazi Wildlife Sanctuary.
33. Rakhine Yoma Elephant Range
34. Panlaung-Pyadalin Cave Wildlife Sanctuary.
35. Maharmyaine Wildlife Sanctuary.
36. Lenya National Park.
37. Tanintharyi National Park.
38. Bumhpabum Wildlife Sanctuary.
39. Hukaung Valley Wildlife Sanctuary. (extension)
41. Lenya National Park. (extension)
42. Shinpin Kyatthaut Wildlife Sanctuary.
Existing Wildlife Sanctuaries and National Parks in Myanmar

- According to Forest Policy, the coverage of Protected Areas will be increased to 5% of the country’s area in the short term.
- In the long term it is intended to increase up to 10%.
- 42 Parks and Sanctuaries representing 7.3% of total land area of the country.
Pidaung W.S (oldest sanctuary established in 1918)

Moeyungyi Wildlife Sanctuary

Hkakaborazi National Park

Alaungdaw Katthapa National Park
LEGISLATIONS RELEVANT TO BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

- Elephant Preservation Act (1879)
- The Wild Bird and Animals Protection Act (1912)
- The Wildlife Protection Act (1936)
- Forest Law (1992)
- Forest Policy (1995)
Biodiversity Conservation Activities in Myanmar
Law Enforcement & Monitoring Activities
Threats to Biodiversity

• Hunting and poaching of wild animals for numerous purposes
• Conversion of natural forests for other land uses
• Shifting cultivation traditionally practiced by national races in the uplands
• Disposal of toxic chemicals into the water bodies such as rivers, lakes and seas
• Failure to use fishing gears with turtle escape devices
• Introduction of alien invasive species that will cause negative impacts on native biodiversity
• Weak enforcement over the control of illegal trade of wildlife and their parts
Recommendations

- Effective protection is needed
- Review on the status of wildlife species in States and Divisions is needed
- Community participation in biodiversity conservation needs to be strengthened
- Involvement of INGOs, NGOs and stakeholders will have to be encouraged
- Community Livelihood Development programs need to be increased
- Research activities will have to be promoted
- Sustainable utilization of biodiversity is needed
- Increased public education and awareness are needed
- Increased capacity building in areas relating to biodiversity is needed
Recommendations

- Sufficient funds is needed
- Adequate staff needs to be appointed to do effective patrolling and monitoring
- Increased collaboration between scientific institutions in order to promote technical know how of the staff in the field of taxonomy of flora and fauna
- Close coordination and cooperation with neighbouring countries to control illegal trade of wildlife and their parts
- Technical support as well as other relevant assistance from the UN Conventions, such as CITES and Ramsar are needed to upgrade the staff development and performance
- To prepare management plans for parks and wildlife sanctuaries
The inception workshop on National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan of Myanmar was held on 7 June, 2006. The Ministry of Forestry hosted this workshop in collaboration with UNEP.

After the workshop Government Agencies responsible to develop the NBSAP will continue data and necessary information and put together step by step along with seeking financial and technical sources.

Even though Myanmar has not finished the National Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and National Action Plan, the exerted efforts have been made to meet the needs for biological diversity conservation, performing the separate conservation plans in cooperation with international agencies.
NBSAP Team

National Steering Committee
High level guidance & integration of NBSAP in government policy across Ministries

National Project Director
Monitoring Process of NBSAP

Project Management Team
Day to day coordination, management, implementation of NBSAP Process. Technical Assistance
- Project Manager
- Assistants & Secretariat
- Heads of Working Groups

Thematic Working Groups
Technical assistance & advisory role. Stocktaking process (data sharing, input) Gap analysis, Prioritize Issues, Assist PMT
- Natural Resource Use
- Conservation & Ecology
- Sust Developm, Economy, Policy
Conclusion

- Myanmar is still endowed with forests and biodiversity.
- Wildlife biodiversity is declining.
- Urgent measures such as law enforcement, punishment, increased patrolling and monitoring and allocation of adequate staff with funds and logistic supports are needed.
- Country wide review on biodiversity and appropriate measures so as to preserve the remaining species are urgently needed.
Thank You!