

Thematic report on protected areas or areas where special measures need to be taken to conserve biological diversity

Please provide the following details on the origin of this report.

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<i>Submission</i>	
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Please provide summary information on the process by which this report has been prepared, including information on the types of stakeholders who have been actively involved in its preparation and on material which was used as a basis for the report.

The questionnaires had been filled up by consulting with IUCN-Thailand, WWF-Thailand, Forestry Department, Kasetsart University, and National Parks and Wildlife Department.

Protected areas or areas where special measures need to be taken to conserve biological diversity

System of protected areas

1. What is the relative priority afforded to development and implementation of a national system of protected areas in the context of other obligations arising from the Convention and COP Decisions?					
a) High		b) Medium		c) Low	X
2. Is there a systematic planning process for development and implementation of a national system of protected areas?					
a) no: IUCN has been approaching RTG to develop a PA system plan since 2000. As the reform of the RTG, now the proposal is with Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment.					X
b) in early stages of development					
c) in advanced stages of development					
d) yes, please provide copies of relevant documents describing the process					
3. Is there an assessment of the extent to which the existing network of protected areas covers all areas that are identified as being important for the conservation of biological diversity?					
a) no					
b) an assessment is being planned for					X
c) an assessment is being undertaken					
d) yes, please provide copies of the assessments made					

Regulatory framework

4. Is there a policy framework and/or enabling legislation in place for the establishment and management of protected areas?	
a) no	
b) in early stages of development	
c) in advanced stages of development	
d) yes, please provide copies of relevant documents. However, the existing legislation (Forest Act, Forest Reserve Act 19647, National Park Act 1961 and Wildlife Law 1992) need to be reviewed as they are not appropriate with the current situations both on natural resource conditions and management regimes.	X
5. Have guidelines, criteria and targets been adopted to support selection, establishment and management of protected areas?	
a) no: There is no documented guideline or criteria. But rather be a customary practise of staff to identify and submit the area to Department. The procedures for establishment is cleared and be more participatory approach. Site selection and demarcations need to be consulted and approved by local authority, submit to the Department, then the National Commission (which is relevant: e.g. Nation Park National Committee or Wildlife National Committee) then approve by Cabinet for the submission as a decree.	X
b) in early stages of development	

c) in advanced stages of development	
d) yes, please provide copies of guidelines, criteria and targets	
6. Does the management of protected areas involve the use of incentive measures, for instance, of entrance fees for park visitors, or of benefit-sharing arrangements with adjacent communities and other relevant stakeholders?	
a) no	
b) yes, incentive measures implemented for some protected areas (please provide some examples). Entrance fee of a national park is collected 5 % of Park revenue are sent to the Ministry of Interior for distribution to Tambon Administration Organisation. However, not every park that has entrance fee. This is in particular those parks which is relative small and more locally visited. Wildlife Sanctuary are itemed to be fee.	X
c) yes, incentive measures implemented for all protected areas (please provide some examples)	

Management approach

7. Have the principal threats to protected areas and the biodiversity that they contain been assessed, so that programmes can be put in place to deal with the threats, their effects and to influence the key drivers?	
a) no: not at national level. However, there is a pilot area which is Western Forest Complex that has conducted a threats assessment.	X
b) an assessment is being planned for	
c) an assessment is in process	
d) yes, an assessment has been completed	
e) programmes and policies to deal with threats are in place (please provide basic information on threats and actions taken)	
8. Are protected areas established and managed in the context of the wider region in which they are located, taking account of and contributing to other sectoral strategies?	
a) no	X
b) yes, in some areas	
c) yes, in all areas (please provide details)	
9. Do protected areas vary in their nature, meeting a range of different management objectives and/or being operated through differing management regimes?	
a) no, most areas are established for similar objectives and are under similar management regimes. There are only 2 main MGT regimes, a national park for ecosystem conservation and recreation and a wildlife sanctuary for habitat protection. However, since the ecotourism is aimed as national policy, wildlife sanctuary becomes an target area for adventure tourism development too.	X
b) many areas have similar objectives/management regimes, but there are also some exceptions	
c) yes, protected areas vary in nature (please provide details)	

10. Is there wide stakeholder involvement in the establishment and management of protected areas?	
a) no at the local level. The mechanism to consulted with local and national stakeholders is only through official mechanisms (Governors and Tambon Administration Organisation) and legal bind mechanism (National Committee and Cabinet). It is not involve the general public.	X
b) with some, but not all protected areas	
c) yes, always (please provide details of experience)	
11. Do protected areas established and managed by non-government bodies, citizen groups, private sector and individuals exist in your country, and are they recognized in any formal manner?	
a) no, they do not exist	X
b) yes, they exist, however are not formally recognized	
c) yes, they exist and are formally recognized (please provide further information)	

Available resources

12. Are the human, institutional and financial resources available adequate for full implementation of the protected areas network, including for management of individual protected areas?	
a) no, they are severely limiting (please provide basic information on needs and shortfalls)	
b) no, they are limiting (please provide basic information on needs and shortfalls) Most of the budget are for infrastructures, some training provided. But the numbers of skillful & knowledgeable staff are very limited. Most personnel are temporary hire as daily based payment at the low rate.	X
c) Available resources are adequate (please provide basic information on needs and shortfalls)	
d) yes, good resources are available	
13. Has your country requested/received financial assistance from the Global Environment Facility or other international sources for establishment/management of protected areas?	
a) no	X
b) funding has been requested, but not received	
c) funding is currently being requested	
d) yes, funding has been received (please provide copies of appropriate documents)	

Assessment

14. Have constraints to implementation and management of an adequate system of protected areas been assessed, so that actions can be initiated to deal with these constraints?	
a) no	X
b) yes, constraints have been assessed (please provide further information)	
c) yes, actions to deal with constraints are in place (please provide further information)	
15. Is a programme in place or in development to regularly assess the effectiveness of protected areas management and to act on this information?	

a) no	X
b) yes, a programme is under development (please provide further information)	
c) yes, a programme is in place (please provide further information)	
16. Has any assessment been made of the value of the material and non-material benefits and services that protected areas provide?	
a) no	X
b) an assessment is planned	
c) an assessment is in process	
d) yes, an assessment has been made (please provide further information)	

Regional and international cooperation

17. Is your country collaborating/communicating with neighbouring countries in the establishment and/or management of transboundary protected areas?	
a) no	
b) yes (please provide details) There is one project supported by ITTO (International Tropical Timber Organisation) for the Pha Tam Forest Conservation Complex. Phase I (2001-2003) is focus on developing Thai capacity and information then Phase II (next 5 years) will expand the work to Lao and Cambodia.	X
18. Are key protected areas professionals in your country members of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas, thereby helping to foster the sharing of information and experience?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
c) information is not available	
19. Has your country provided information on its protected areas to the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre in order to allow for a scientific assessment of the status of the world's protected areas?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
20. If your country has protected areas or other sites recognised or designated under an international convention or programme (including regional conventions and programmes), please provide copies of reports submitted to those programmes or summaries of them. √ Yes. 1 Natural World Heritage , 4Biosphere Reserve, 10 Ramsar Sites , and 2 ASEAN Heritage Parks	
21. Do you think that there are some activities on protected areas that your country has significant experience that will be of direct value to other Contracting Parties?	
a) no	
b) yes (please provide details) Community Based Tourism development, Western Complex, and Friend of Khao Yai Project	X

Further comments


