



2020
Project Implementation Review (PIR)



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Vietnam's Wetland Protected Areas

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A. Basic Data

Project Information	
UNDP PIMS ID	4537
GEF ID	4760
Title	Conservation of Critical Wetland Protected Areas and Linked Landscapes
Country(ies)	Viet Nam, Viet Nam
UNDP-GEF Technical Team	Ecosystems and Biodiversity
Project Implementing Partner	Government
Joint Agencies	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
Project Type	Full Size

Project Description
<p>Vietnam has established an extensive national system of protected areas to conserve its biodiversity assets. This project will strengthen the national PA system by addressing specific bio-geographic gaps in wetlands coverage and will overcome deficiencies in wetlands PA management. It will strengthen the PA system by tailoring policy and regulatory frameworks for the specific characteristics of wetlands and by putting in place a sub-system administration for wetland PAs. A diverse array of wetland types comprise 30% of its national territory: at least 39 of 42 defined by the Ramsar Convention are found here. These are extraordinarily biodiversity rich ecosystems also provide essential services for local livelihoods and for national development. This project has been designed to engineer a paradigm shift to manage wetland PA sites and activities in the immediate landscapes to address both direct threats to biodiversity at the wetland sites, and those emanating from the landscape. This is because, wetland PAs, compared to other terrestrial PAs, are more likely to be impacted from activities outside their borders (such as through water abstraction and pollution), which can undermine ecosystem functions vital to the PAs. It will also establish two new protected areas covering globally important wetland sites and ensure their management to be effectively embedded into sustainable management of linked landscapes. In doing so the project is consistent with Biodiversity Focal Area Objective 1: Improve Sustainability of PA Systems and Outcome 1.1: Improved management effectiveness of (existing and) new protected areas. The project will also institute mechanisms for sustainable financing of these protected areas, thereby directly contributing to Outcome 1.2: Increased revenue for protected area systems to meet total expenditures required for management and Output 3: Sustainable financing plans. The project works on Component 2 also fits BD2: Mainstream Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use into Production Landscapes, Seascapes and Sectors as the project is supporting the integration of biodiversity considerations into land use management in critical landscapes linked to wetland protected areas through Component 2 which fits with BD Outcome 2.1: Increase in sustainably managed landscapes and seascapes that integrate biodiversity conservation and Output 2: National and sub-national land-use plans (number) that incorporate biodiversity and ecosystem services valuation.</p> <p>The Government of Viet Nam has identified conservation of wetlands a priority in its National Portfolio Formulation Exercise for the use of GEF5 STAR resources. Wetland conservation has also been noted as a priority due to the immeasurable social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits to the country including water storage and replenishment, and for the sustenance of economically important inland fisheries. The importance of wetlands is recognised in the Biodiversity Law of 2009 that has explicitly called for the creation of wetland protected areas, and their management through the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment .The project is clearly aligned with this Law and will pioneer the application of the associated Decree No. 65/2010/ND-CP on Guiding Implementation of the Biodiversity Law and Decree No. 109/2003/ND-CP on the Conservation and Sustainable Development of Wetland Areas. Since 1994, the Viet Nam NBSAP has identified the need for wetland conservation and Tam Giang Hai as a priority wetland area for conservation. An additional</p>

new protected area sites are indicative and will be confirmed during full project preparation based on global importance. Additionally, the project is also aligned with priorities identified in Viet Nam National Action Plan on Biodiversity by 2010 and orientations towards 2020 specifically increase the total area of wetlands and marine reserves of national and international importance and Develop, adopt and implement master plans on wetland and conservation plans for each wetland PA. The project will also contribute significantly to the implementation of the Action Plan on the Conservation and Sustainable Development of Wetlands that is part of the National Strategy for Management of PAs System. This Action Plan calls for the development and updating of policy and legal framework and the conservation of wetlands of international importance. An evaluation of this plan implementation recommended the development of specific guidelines for local conservation planning and sustainable development of wetland areas. The project will contribute to this by focusing on tailoring the PA system framework for the specific challenges of wetlands management and by demonstrating wetlands PA operations that combine site specific and landscapes management to effectively mitigate threats to wetland biodiversity.

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B. Overall Ratings

Overall DO Rating	Moderately Satisfactory
Overall IP Rating	Moderately Unsatisfactory
Overall Risk Rating	moderate

C. Development Progress

Description					
Objective					
To establish new wetland protected areas and to create capacities for their effective management to mitigate existing and emerging threats from connected landscapes					
Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2019	Cumulative progress since project start
Coverage of natural wetlands within the Wetlands Conservation Area-subsystem	Flooded grasslands and savannas - 0 ha Mangrove – 0 ha Estuaries – 0 ha	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	Flooded grasslands and savannas – 14,474 ha ha Mangrove – 3,024 ha ha Estuaries – 17,816 ha	Update end of project target of natural wetlands within the WCA subsystem as follows: Flooded grasslands and savannas – 22.30 ha Mangrove – 1,159.30 ha Estuaries – 3,022.30 ha Tidal flats (in Thai Thuy)- 2,392.00 ha Sea grass (in TG-CH) - 625.80 ha As the survey results of the baseline studies conducted in 2016, coverage of natural wetlands in Thai Thuy and Tam Giang – Cau Hai includes: Mangrove: 1,674.7 ha; Flooded grassland: 803 ha; Estuaries: 8,300 ha.	Coverage of natural wetlands within the Wetlands Conservation Area-subsystem as follows: - Flooded grasslands and savannas – 22.30 ha - Mangrove – 1,159.30 ha - Estuaries – 3,022.30 ha - Tidal flats (in Thai Thuy)- 2,392.00 ha - Sea grass (in TG-CH) - 625.80 ha TG-CH WCA was established under Decision No.495/QD-UBND dated February 20th 2020 of Thua Thien Hue Provincial People’s Committee. As approved in the 1st phase, area of TG-CH WPA is 2.071,5 ha, the area of the buffer zone of the TG-CH WCA is 17,945 ha, the area of linked landscapes of the WPA is 69.684 ha, including - 22.3 ha flooded grasslands

			<p>Particular in Thai Thuy, area of mangrove is 1,609 ha; area of estuaries is 6,280 ha; area of tidal flats is 4,700 ha (area of flooded grasslands in TT is almost negligible). In Thai Binh, the total area of the tentative TT WPA has been ratified by the provincial authority at 6,560 hectares. This includes 1,131 hectares of mangroves, 2,392 hectares of tidal flats, 2,834 hectares of estuaries and 203 hectares of other rest types. The area of the buffer zone of is 6,540 ha. Since the important role of tidal flats area in maintaining the TT WCA ecosystem. It is suggested that the area of tidal flats should be one of the project indicators.</p> <p>In TG-CH, the baseline survey results that area of mangrove is 65.7 ha; area of estuaries is 2,020 ha; area of tidal flats is 579.6 ha; area of flooded grassland is 803 ha; area of sea grass beds is 2,037 ha.</p> <p>In TTH province, in the 1st phase, area of proposed TG-CH WCA is 2.033,8 ha, the area of the buffer zone of the TG-CH WCA is 17,966.20 ha. TG-CH WCA includes flooded grasslands and savannas – 22.3 ha, mangrove – 28.3 ha, estuaries 188.3 ha and others rest types – 1,777.6 ha (Freshwater plants: 437.6 ha, Rice</p>	<p>and savannas,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 28.3 ha of mangrove, - 188.3 ha of estuaries - 1,777.6 ha others rest types – (Freshwater plants: 437.6 ha, Rice crop: 421 ha, Lagoon: 142.6 ha, Aquaculture ponds: 150.6 ha, Sea grass: 625.8 ha). <p>In Thai Binh, Thai Thuy WPA was established in Decision 2514/QD-UBND dated 6 September 2019, in which total areas of the WPA is 6,560ha, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1,131 hectares of mangroves, - 2,392 hectares of tidal flats - 2,834 hectares of estuaries - 203 hectares of other wetland types
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			<p>crop: 421 ha, Lagoon: 142.6 ha, Aquacultural ponds: 150.6 ha, Sea grass: 625.8 ha). Since the important role of sea grasses area in maintaining the TG-CH WCA ecosystem, It is suggested that the area of sea grasses should be one of the project indicators.</p> <p>.</p> <p>In close collaboration with Institute of Marine Environment and Natural resources (IMER), ISPONRE has closely worked with DONRE TTH to review and finalize the profile for establishing TGCH WCAs based on comments and recommendations of multiple stakeholders including MONRE, VEA, related communes, related Departments, PPC in TTH province. Provincial appraisal committee of TGCH WCA profile has been established under Decision no. 2672/QD-UBND on November 13, 2018 and committee appraisal meeting was conducted in December 2018 to discuss and assess draft profile for establishing TGCH WCA. The project is now in the process of finalizing the profile and prepare for the submission of TGCH profile for approval in Quarter III, 2019. Besides that, in cooperation with DONRE TTH, the project has implemented other activities supporting to the TG-CH WCA establishment and operation</p>	
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				including TG-CH WCA operational plan, developing biodiversity monitoring program of TG-CH WCA.	
Ecosystem Health Index (EHI) monitoring systems for monitoring wetland health developed and in place for WCA sub-system with a focus to reduce threats	Currently no use	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	Development of EHI and adoption at the sub-system WCA level	<p>The project has finalized the Biodiversity Monitoring Program (BMP) for both TT and TGCH WCA. BMP is developed that is consistent with the typical characteristics of TG-CH WCA, ensuring the feasibility of its implementation to support the management of wetland biodiversity of TG-CH WCA once established.</p> <p>A set of indicators for biodiversity monitoring of TGCH WCA has been proposed including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pressure: Environmental quality, Climate change, Invasive creatures, Excessive and illegal exploitation pressure, Pressure to use water resources in the WCA area; - State: Trend in changing of wetlands types, Variation of relevant species, The diversity of creatures, 	<p>EHI for TGCH and TT WCA has been finalized in 2016.</p> <p>In 2019, the project has finalized the Biodiversity Monitoring Program (BMP) for both TT and TGCH WCA. BMP is developed with a set of Biodiversity Monitoring Indicators (BMI) consistent with the typical characteristics of the WCA, ensuring the feasibility of its implementation to support the management of wetland biodiversity of WCA once established. Based on developed BMP, the project has coordinated with DONRE in 2 provinces and the consulting firms to pilot the implementation of BMP in the two WCAs. The result from the pilot monitoring is used for tracking changes in the status of biodiversity in the WCAs, and support the decision making on appropriate management solutions by designated authorities responsible for the area. Within the scope of the pilot activity, the consulting firm undertook pilot monitoring for 23 indicators within the BMIs set in TGCH WCA and 18 indicators in TT WCA. Derived from</p>

				<p>- Benefit: Output of exploitation and aquaculture, Tourism service, wetlands-based livelihoods,</p> <p>- Response: Number and validity of policies, Measures for conservation and sustainable development. Based on the developed BMP, the project has implemented to pilot implementation of the BMP in the TG-CH WCA. The result from the pilot monitoring will be used for tracking changes in the status of biodiversity in the TG-CH WCA, and support the decision making on appropriate management solutions by designated authorities responsible for the area.</p> <p>The biodiversity monitoring program (BMP) for TT wetland has also been developed and finalized in 2018. The program has been finalized based on the pilot results of monitoring indicators in two seasons (rainy and dry seasons) in the tentative TT protected areas. Basically, the BMP is suitable to specific characteristics of TT WCA and ensures the feasible implementation.</p>	<p>the output of the pilot activity, the consulting firm has proposed recommendations for revising the biodiversity monitoring program (BMP), specifically adjusting certain indicators based on the ecological characteristics and species in the lagoon to ensure effectiveness biodiversity monitoring and conservation and at the same time formulate the basis for the development of comparative data in the future.</p>
Hectares of landscape where impacts on wetland biodiversity are avoided, mitigated or offset	No planning provisions for the protection of wetland biodiversity outside formal	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	At least 310,300 hectares covered by provincial development	Total area covered by provincial development plans/provincial sector development plans (both in TTH and TB) is 372,179 ha, in	Total area covered by provincial development plans/provincial sector development plans (both in TTH and

	PAs		plans/provincial sector development plans where standards and guidelines supporting wetland values integrate effectively preventing impact on wetland biodiversity	<p>which:</p> <p>Thua Thien Hue province:</p> <p>283,000 ha – Huong river basin (TTH strategy on water resource development and integrated management of river basin in TTH province to 2020 (including 20,000 ha of TG-CH lagoon)</p> <p>63,579 ha - natural reserve and biodiversity conservation area including 22,031 ha – Bach Ma National Park and 41,548 ha – Phong Dien Nature Reserve Conservation (Resolution No.72/NQ-CP dated June 6th 2018 on adjustment of land use planning till 2020 and land use plan (2016-2020) of Thua Thien Hue province)</p> <p>Thai Binh province:</p> <p>25.600 ha - natural reserve and biodiversity conservation area (Resolution No.34/NQ-CP dated May 7th 2018 on adjustment of land use planning till 2020 and land use plan (2016-2020) of Thai Binh province). The area is also falls in the area of the Red River Delta Biosphere Reserve (RRDBR) - 105,557 ha. The area of proposed Thai Thuy WCA is located within the RRDBR's buffer zone, with total area of 36,849 ha, the transition zone covers 54,541 ha. The project has worked with RRDBR Management Board to ensure long-</p>	<p>TB) is 377,162 ha, in which:</p> <p>Thua Thien Hue province:</p> <p>283,000 ha – Huong river basin (TTH strategy on water resource development and integrated management of river basin in TTH province to 2020 (including 20,000 ha of TG-CH lagoon)</p> <p>63,579 ha - natural reserve and biodiversity conservation area including 22,031 ha – Bach Ma National Park and 41,548 ha – Phong Dien Nature Reserve Conservation (Resolution No.72/NQ-CP dated June 6th 2018 on adjustment of land use planning till 2020 and land use plan (2016-2020) of Thua Thien Hue province)</p> <p>In cooperation with DONRE TTH, the project has supported TTH agencies to integrate wetland management and sustainable use into provincial development planning/plans, wetland management and sustainable use into provincial development planning/plans Thai Binh province:</p> <p>30,583ha – of the economic zone under the vision for wetland protection and sustainable use.</p> <p>The project has closely worked with the management board of the Thai Binh economic zone in developing the general planning of the economic zone. The decision 1486/QD-UBND</p>
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			<p>term conservation needs of Thai Thuy WCA clearly reflected in RRDBR management framework.</p> <p>In cooperation with DONRE TTH, the project has supported TTH agencies to integrate wetland management and sustainable use into provincial development planning/plans, in particular supporting to development of TG-CH planning to 2030.</p> <p>The project has supported TTH agencies to integrate wetland conservation into TTH provincial land use planning in the period of 2016 to 2020, the land use plans of five districts around TG-CH lagoon and development of Multi-sector Regulation for integrated water management of Huong river basin.</p> <p>In Thai Binh, the provincial social-economic development plan is being developed for the next planning period (from 2020-2025), which is planned to submit for approval by the end of 2020. Therefore, relevant sector is working on its own plan and the project is working closely with DONRE and DARD in</p>	<p>dated 28 October 2019 on general planning of the Thai Binh economic zone states the vision on development of the economic infrastructure that includes the protection and sustainable use of coastal protection mangroves. Which means the total area of 30,583ha of the economic zone is under the vision for wetland protection and sustainable use.</p>
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				<p>mainstreaming wetland conservation and management in their planning process.</p> <p>In addition, Thai Binh is working on the development of the master plan of provincial economic zone. The project is also working closely with DONRE and the provincial working group to ensure mainstreaming wetland conservation to this planning.</p>	
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The progress of the objective can be described as: **On track**

Outcome 1
New wetland PAs and relevant systemic capacities for their effective management established

Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2019	Cumulative progress since project start
Changes to major wetlands-related policies, laws & plans	<p>A number of wetlands inventories and classification systems exist, which need to be consolidated, rationalised and updated.</p> <p>Decree 109 on the Conservation & Sustainable Development of Wetlands (2003) needs</p>	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>A revised wetlands inventory and database using a unified classification system</p> <p>A new decree (& associated legal guidance) to replace Decree 109 that supports an ecosystem-based</p>	<p>MONRE has submitted the draft Decree on wetland conservation and sustainable use to the Government for promulgation at the document number 91/TTr-BTNMT dated 30 November 2018. Decree on Wetland Conservation management has been adopted at Decree No.66/2019/ND-CP dated July 29th 2019 on sustainable conservation and use of wetlands</p> <p>The wetland national action plan</p>	<p>Revised wetlands inventory:</p> <p>In 2016, a revised wetland inventory had developed under the activity 'updating wetland inventory database, identifying and mapping important wetlands in Vietnam'. VEA also has approved Decision no. 1093/QĐ-TCMT dated 22/8/2016 on technical guiding of wetland classification. Currently, the inventory has been updated in accordance with provisions of Decree No.66/2019/ND-CP dated</p>

	<p>better alignment with Biodiversity Law (2008)</p> <p>The first Wetlands Action Plan period has come to an end in 2010.</p>		<p>approach to wetlands management & emphasises importance of wetlands-related ecosystem services</p> <p>A 5-year Wetlands Action Plan towards 2020.</p>	<p>and draft circular guiding the new Decree have been completed by the consultant and handed over to BCA for processing the official submission for approval. BCA shall coordinate this process and submit to the competent authority for issuance.</p>	<p>July 29th 2019 on sustainable conservation and use of wetlands (the third draft of the inventory under reviewing of UNDP and project owner).</p> <p>A new decree (& associated legal guidance) to replace Decree 109:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Decree No.66/2019/ND-CP dated July 29th 2019 on sustainable conservation and use of wetlands was issued and distributed to all provinces for reference and implementation in practice. MONRE has provided guidelines to all provinces/PPCs to implement the Decree 66/2019/ND-CP, especially guideline to develop the list of important wetlands areas and wetlands report and other activities to carry out this Decree (the letter no 606/BTNMT-TCMT dated 10 Feb 2020). - MONRE has been developing the circular guiding the Decree 66. This draft circular is included in the MONRE legislative document development and promulgation program in 2020 in Decision 3116/QD-BTNMT dated 5 December 2019. The Circular composition panel is set up by Decision 3313/QD-BTNMT dated 26 December 2019. MONRE issued Official letter 2332/QD-TCMT dated 29 April 2020 to collect comments and inputs from other ministries, sectors and provinces on the draft circular. The circular is under finalization
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					<p>process to submit to MONRE leader for approval.</p> <p>The Wetlands Action Plan:</p> <p>MONRE sent the official letter 6134/BTNMT-TCMT dated 20 November 2019 to get comments and inputs from provinces and other ministries and sectors on the national action plan on wetland conservation and sustainable use. BCA has collated comments and finalized the Action Plan. At present, BCA has completed the draft Decision on approving the national wetland Action plan. This Decision is submitting to the MONRE/Government for approval.</p>
Capacity of MONRE to implement wetlands-related policies, legislation, strategies and programmes as measured by the Capacity Development Scorecard	0.21	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	> 45%	<p>No updated Capacity Development Scores for MONRE were prepared during the reporting year.</p> <p>At national level, the project has completed two training courses on wetland management and conservation for wetland-related central-level government officers under MONRE, MARD in 2018. The trainees also include lecturers from universities or institutions that include wetland/biodiversity training curriculum. They are the ones who train students that shall become wetland or natural resource related workers. Training document has been finalized and ready for printing to distribute to a wider</p>	<p>The project conducted the update of MONRE capacity development scores regarding the capacity of MONRE to implement wetlands-related policies, legislation, strategies and programs.</p> <p>It's found that the score is increased from 21% to 55% thanks to the training on wetland conservation and management, the issuance of the Decree 66/2019/ND-CP on wetland conservation and sustainable use and the establishment of two new wetland protected areas. The Decree provides clear mandate and responsibilities for wetland management institutions as well as pave the way for the establishment of wetland protected areas.</p>

				targeted groups. Ramsar handbooks are also translated into Vietnamese for editing and printing so that they shall be distributed together with the training document to government officers working in this field.	
Extent (ha) of the two areas formally proclaimed and managed as the Tam-Giang Cau Hai WCA and Thai Thay WCA	0 ha	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	20,000 ha as the TGCH WCA 13,100 as the TT WCA (including 6,560ha formally proclaimed and 6,540ha of the linked landscape) [Targets updated following MTR: TGCH was 21,620 ha; TT was 13,696 ha]	Updated end of project as follows: - 20,000 ha as the TGCH WCA (including 2033,8 ha formally proclaimed and 17,966.20 of the linked landscape) - 13,100 as the TT WCA (including 6,560ha formally proclaimed and 6,540ha of the linked landscape) Tam Giang – Cau Hai WCA: Decision 45/QD-TTg dated January 8th 2014 of Prime Minister on approval of National Biodiversity planning till 2020, vision to 2030, TGCH WCA has ratified total area of TGCH WCA at 20,000 ha. TGCH WCA is expected to be established and operated in 2 phases: (i) phase 1 from 2019 to 2022 and (ii) phase 2 from 2023 to 2025. In the 1st	Tam Giang – Cau Hai WPA: Tam Giang – Cau Hai wetland WPA has been successfully established under Decision No.495/QD-UBND dated February 20th 2020 of Thua Thien Hue Provincial People's Committee. As approved in the 1st phase, area of TG-CH WPA is 2.071,5 ha, the area of the buffer zone of the TG-CH WCA is 17,945 ha, the area of linked landscapes of the WPA is 69.684 ha. Thai Thuy wetland protected area: The Thai Thuy wetland protected area was established according to the Decision No. 2514/QD-UBND dated September 6, 2019 (the area of Thai Thuy WPA was 6,560 ha and landscapes was 6540 ha). This is the results of prolong negotiation and advocacy efforts in the context of conflict with the coastal economic zone planning at the same site in Thai Binh province. This WPA is strictly managed by the Regulation on Thai

				<p>phase, area of TGCH WCA is 2033,8 ha, the area of the managed buffer zone of the TG-CH WCA is 17,966.20 ha. In the 2nd phase, area of TGCH WCA is 3.507,13 ha, area of managed buffer zone is 16,492.87 ha.</p> <p>The project has also closely worked with DONRE TTH and IMER to finalize the profile for establishing TGCH WCA after receiving comments and recommendations from relevant agencies including VEA, MONRE, related communes, Departments. Also, provincial appraisal committee has been established and 01 meeting of the committee has been organized in December 2018. Comments and recommendations have been incorporated in the proposals for submission to TTH PPC for approval.</p> <p>Thai Thuy wetland protected area: By April 12, 2019 the provincial Standing Committee has ratified the establishment of TT WPA. The area of TT WCA is identified at 6,560 ha. The rest area of 6,540 ha as to the initial planned 13,100 ha is planned as linked landscapes.</p> <p>Specifically, upon MONRE urge on</p>	<p>Thuy WPA management and Law on Biodiversity, Decree 66/2019/NĐ-CP.</p> <p>- The surrounding wetlands of the TT WPA which is not set up the PA is also under protection of other relevant and applicable laws including the Law on biodiversity, Law on Fisheries, Law on Forestry; Law on Environment Protection and many others.</p> <p>TT WPA is now under the management of Thai Binh Wetland management board, which manages both Thai Thuy WPA and Tien Hai WPA.</p> <p>Thai Thuy coastal wetlands area is managing (state management) by DONRE.</p>
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				<p>the TT WPA establishment, Thai Binh PC had an official answer at the document no 2475/UBND-NNTNMT dated 12 July 2018, in which it's stated that the appraisal of TT WPA establishment profile shall be conducted after the approval of master plan on Thai Binh economic zone. UNDP and MONRE leaders urged on a meeting with Thai Binh authority to accelerate the establishment of TT WPA on 7 November, 2018. At the meeting, Leaders of Thai Binh PC, MONRE and UNDP had agreed that there would be no overlap between the land for TT WPA and Thai Binh economic zone. Thai Binh working group (established under Decision 3053/QD-UBND) and UNDP consultant have worked together to identify options for demarcating the boundaries of TT WPA and TB economic zone as well as assess the impact from the economic zone setup to the biodiversity of TT wetlands. By January, 2019, the boundary of TT WPA had been identified and agreed among Thai Binh authority with a total area of 6,560ha. The appraisal board for TT WPA establishment project was established under Decision 115/QD-UBND dated 10 Jan 2019. From January to May, TB DONRE has worked with relevant agencies on the management arrangements</p>	
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			<p>of the TT WCA to report to the provincial Standing Committee of Thai Binh. By April 12, the provincial Standing Committee of Thai Binh has agreed with the establishment of TT WPA. The appraisal board for TT WPA establishment project has met on 22 May 2019 and 19/19 members ratify the project under the condition of further adjustments to their comments. Thai Binh DONRE is waiting for feedback from MONRE and MARD on the the management arrangements of the TT WPA and the TT WPA establishment project. After receiving the feedbacks from MONRE and MARD, DONRE shall finalize the TT WPA project and submit to the Thai Binh PC for approval and issuing the decision on TT WPA establishment.</p> <p>Update on the size of 2 WCAs is based on thorough review of research outputs and consultation process with relevant stakeholders including relevant agencies, authorities and community around the WCA, taking into account of harmonization between economic development and environmental protection.</p>	
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Income from various sources for the management of the WCA PA Subsystem	0	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	Income from various sources covers at least the recurrent costs of TGCH WCA and TT WCA as defined by the business plans developed for each	<p>In Thai Binh, a management plan including the business plan has been prepared to support the operation of TT WPA once its establishment is in place. A number of activities that can generate income for the management of TT WPA have been identified in the management plan. Estimation of budget for recurrent costs of TT WPA has been identified in the plan. The project also has support for the initial stage of TT WPA operation including budget for boundary demarcating, recurrent cost for the first year, purchasing necessary equipment for administration and patrol jobs.</p> <p>In addition, according to the document number 656-TB/TU dated 12 April 2019 informing the conclusion of the provincial Standing Committee regarding the establishment of TT WPA, the finance for conducting regular tasks and paying staff salaries is secured by state budget source allocated for the province. This is one secured source of finance for the operation of the TT WCA in the initial stage of operation in addition to budget source from the project.</p> <p>In Thua Thien Hue, the project has</p>	<p>TGCH WPA:</p> <p>TGCH WPA was established under Decision. No.495/QD-UBND dated February 20th 2020 of Thua Thien Hue Provincial People's Committee. Scheme for establishment of TGCH WCA was approved under Decision. No.494/QD-UBND dated February 20th 2020 of Thua Thien Hue Provincial People's Committee. As indicated in this decision, funding for operation of TGCH WPA will derived from the following sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Funds from state budget allocated to the operation of the protected area from the provincial budget. - Funds mobilized from international and domestic partners through specific cooperation activities. - Budget of socialization from enterprises, organizations and stakeholders that are exploiting and using resources from Tam Giang-Cau Hai Wetland Protected Area. <p>Thai Binh WPA:</p> <p>Thai Thuy WPA was officially established in 9 September 2019. The management board for TT WPA was set up in the Decision 728/QD-UBND dated 10 March 2020, in which Tien</p>

				<p>cooperated with DONRE TTH, Agricultural Extension Center TTH to implement sustainable livelihood solutions in Thua Thien Hue province. Specifically, 03 successful models have been implemented in 05 districts of Thua Thien Hue province which create livelihood for 16 households participating in the project. In which, there are 08 households participating in the polyculture model of mullets - shrimps - seaweed in Phu Thuan commune (02 households), Vinh Phu commune (02 households), Phu Vang district; Vinh Giang commune (02 households) and Loc Binh commune (02 households), Phu Loc district. There are 04 households that in the model of raising grass carp and tilapia in cages in Quang Thai commune (02 households), Quang Dien district and Dien Hoa commune (02 households), Phong Dien district. 4 households have involved in the polyculture of tiger shrimps - crabs – mullets in Ru Cha mangrove forest, Huong Phong commune, Huong Tra Township. The average profit per household is more than 25 million VND (Phu Loc: 26.26 million VND / household, Phu Vang: 23.81 million VND / household). Although economic efficiency only increased by 10-15% compared to the households</p>	<p>Hai WPA management board shall be upgraded to Thai Binh WPA management board to manage both TT and Tien Hai WPA.</p> <p>Tien Hai WPA management board has prepared the project on human resource planning for Thai Binh WPA management board which has been submitted to Thai Binh PC for approval.</p> <p>Budget for the operation of the management board has been secured with 834,418,000 VND for 2020. Forest protection allocation and lease budget of about 821,580,000 VND for 2020 is secured yet currently under the management of local authority. Once the management board set up is fully completed including approval of operation regulation by Thai Binh PC, the business plan shall be implemented and generates income for the WPA.</p> <p>Currently, the recurrent costs of TT WPA is secured by state budget according to the Decision 2514/QD-UBND dated 6 September 2019 on the establishment of Thai Thuy WPA. The Department of Finance is responsible for advising the PC in allocating annual budget to ensure operation of the WPA and regular operation of the management board. Therefore, annually, the Management Board will propose budget for Thai Thuy WCA activities to submit DARD/PPC for approval. They can propose budget for</p>
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				which are not in the model, the model raised the awareness of protecting the environment of the people and contributing to the development of eco-friendly aquaculture.	the activities on conservation and sustainable use of wetland from the environment budget line and submit to DONRE for approval
METT scores in each of TGCH WCA and TT WCA	TGCH WCA: 0% TT WCA: 0%	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	TGCH WCA: > 40% TT WCA: > 40%	The METT scores for both WCAs have been updated. Specifically, METT score of TGCH WCA is 31, METT score of TT WCA is 26.	The METT scores for both WCAs have been updated. Specifically, METT score of TGCH WCA is 31, METT score of TT WCA is 26.

The progress of the objective can be described as: **On track**

Outcome 2
Integrity of wetland PAs are secured within the wider wetland connected landscapes

Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2019	Cumulative progress since project start
Biodiversity conservation strengthened through monetary and non-monetary valuation of ecosystem services	No comprehensive (evidence-based) valuation of the ecosystem services exists	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	EIAs of any major development activity in Thua Thien-Hue and Thai Binh Provinces include sections referring to impacts on environmental services as a result of widely communicated assessment of the value of Tam Giang-Cau Hai and Thai Thuy	In-depth studies on assessment and valuation of ES in the proposed TH-CH WCA and TT WCA have been completed in 2017 The results of studies on assessment and valuation of ES was used to develop profile for 2 WCA in term of providing information of benefits of ES in 2 proposed WCA and the values from establishment of 2 WCA compared with business as usual EIAs have been implemented in both Thai Binh and Thua Thien Hue for preparation of profile for establishing 2 WCAs. In Thai Binh,	In-depth studies on assessment and valuation of ES in the proposed TH-CH WCA and TT WCA have been finalized in 2017. The results of studies on assessment and valuation of ES was used to develop profile for 2 WCA in term of providing information of benefits of ES in 2 proposed WCA and the values from establishment of 2 WCA compared with business as usual. EIAs have been implemented in both Thai Binh and Thua Thien Hue for preparation of profile for establishing 2 WCAs. In Thai Binh, due to the development of industrial zone and

			wetlands' ecosystem services	due to the development of industrial zone and economic zone in the region following the Prime Ministerial Decision 36/QĐ-TTg signed in 2017, there has been a separate activity to identify the potential impacts on wetland ecosystems and biodiversity from industrial zone development within and near the boundaries of the planned Thai Thuy Wetland Protected Area and to identify the solution for establishing the Thai Thuy Wetland Protected Area.	economic zone in the region following the Prime Ministerial Decision 36/QĐ-TTg signed in 2017, an Biodiversity Assessment Impact (BIA) was conducted to identify the potential impacts on wetland ecosystems and biodiversity from industrial zone development within and near the boundaries of the planned Thai Thuy Wetland Protected Area and to identify the solution for establishing the Thai Thuy Wetland Protected Area.
Threats reduced by mainstreaming biodiversity conservation and the PA system within the sectoral and development planning frameworks, indicated by effective intersectoral coordination and plans incorporating BD conservation measures.	No provincial inter-sectoral coordination mechanism for BD conservation and PAs at Landscape Level Provincial sectoral plans do not include adequate measures for BD conservation District Development Plans do not currently include any reference to wetlands	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	Two Local Wetlands Working Groups with good representation from key stakeholders and experts established and supporting WCA Management Boards & PPCs more generally in TTH Province and TB Province to strengthen application of key standards & regulations that support wetlands conservation and	In TTH, the project continues supports to meetings of Local Wetland Working Group (LWWG) to collect inputs and comments for the profile, integrating wetland into provincial development planning and so on. Comments and recommendations from these meetings have been considered and incorporated in reports of consultant team of certain activity of the project. The LWWG in Thai Binh continues to work and closely support the establishment of TT WPA. They are also members of the working group set up by Thai Binh PC to deal with the harmonization between the TT WPA and Thai Binh economic	LWWGs in TB and TTH: - In Thai Binh, the LWWG was set up in 2016 and keeps working and closely supports the establishment of TT WPA as well as providing consultation to addressing the harmonization between the TT WPA and Thai Binh economic zone. -In TTH, the project continues supports to meetings of Local Wetland Working Group (LWWG) to collect inputs and comments for the finalizing the profile for establishing TGCH WCA. Comments and recommendations from these meetings have been considered and incorporated in reports of consultant team of certain activity of the project.

	values of TGCH or TT		<p>sustainable use</p> <p>Four Provincial Sector Plans (Thai Binh Province: Agriculture and Aquaculture sectors; Thua Thien Hue Province: Agriculture and Fishing sectors) incorporate wetland biodiversity friendly standards for application in relation to activities under that sector</p> <p>6 District Development Plans zone the different land use types within the WCAs and remaining areas within district boundaries. Zoning includes prescriptions for strict protection areas among others seagrass beds, mangrove and mudflat protection zones.</p>	<p>zone.</p> <p>Provincial Sector Plans:</p> <p>- In collaboration with TTH province, the project has continued to support and enhance integrated wetland conservation mainstreaming into 5 land use plan at district level, as well as development of multi-sector Regulation for Huong River integrated management and adjustment of land use planning till 2020 and land use plan (2016-2020) of TTH province. Land use planning in TTH and 5 land use plans at district level has been approved as follows:</p> <p>+ Decision No.850/QD-UBND dated April 3rd 2019 on approval of adjustment of land use planning till 2020 of TTH province;</p> <p>+ Decision No.1233/QD-UBND dated May 20th 2019 on approval of adjustment of land use planning till 2020 of Quang Dien district, TTH province;</p> <p>+ Decision No.1386/QD-UBND dated June 8th 2019 on approval of adjustment of land use planning till 2020 of Phu Vang district, TTH</p>	<p>Provincial Sector Plans:</p> <p>- In TTH, in collaboration with TTH province, the project has integrated wetland conservation mainstreaming into development of multi-sector Regulation for Huong River integrated management and adjustment of land use planning till 2020 and land use plan (2016-2020) of TTH province.</p> <p>Land use planning in TTH has been approved under the Decision No.850/QD-UBND dated April 3rd 2019 on approval of adjustment of land use planning till 2020 of TTH province.</p> <p>Besides that, the project has supported the Department of Investment and Planning (DPI), TTH province to identify the function zones and propose relevant effective instruments for mainstreaming economic development and conservation as an input to formulate the "Master plan for development of Tam Giang - Cau Hai lagoon in TTH province to 2020, vision to 2030".</p> <p>In TB, the project has closely worked with the management board of the Thai Binh economic zone in developing the planning of the economic zone. The decision 1486/QD-UBND dated 28 October 2019 on general planning of the Thai Binh economic zone states the vision on development of the economic infrastructure that includes the</p>
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			<p>province;</p> <p>+ Decision No.938/QD-UBND dated April 13th 2019 on approval of adjustment of land use planning till 2020 of Phu Loc district, TTH province;</p> <p>+ Decision No.847/QD-UBND dated April 3rd 2019 on approval of adjustment of land use planning till 2020 of Phong Dien district, TTH province;</p> <p>+ Decision No.1087/QD-UBND dated May 4th 2019 on approval of adjustment of land use planning till 2020 of Huong Tra commune, TTH province;</p> <p>Besides that, the project has supported the Department of Investment and Planning (DPI), TTH province to identify the function zones and propose relevant effective instruments for mainstreaming economic development and conservation as an input to formulate the “Master plan for development of Tam Giang - Cau Hai lagoon in TTH province to 2020, vision to 2030”.</p> <p>- In Thai Binh, apart from the provincial land use planning (Government Resolution 34/NQ-CP on amendment of land use planning to 2020 and land use plan</p>	<p>protection and sustainable use of coastal protection forests.</p> <p>The project has supported Thai Binh province in doing a review and guidelines/recommendations for integrating wetland conservation and sustainable use into legal document, plans and plannings of Thai Thuy district and Thai Binh province. On July 25, 2019, Department of Natural Resources and Environment of Thai Binh province sent the Official Letter No. 1898/STNMT-CCB to report on efforts in integrating the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands in Thai Binh. The results have been incorporated into the Resolution of the province on adjusting the land use planning (No 34/NQ-CP date 7 May 2018 of Government on approval of adjustment of land use planning till 2020 of Thai Binh province); the contents on wetland conservation has been integrated into relevant sectoral plans, provincial plans, budget estimation for implementing the provincial biodiversity planning, and advisory for the provincial People's Committee in approval of the management plan of Tien Hai wetland PA and Thai Thuy wetland PA.</p> <p>At district level,</p> <p>- In TTH, 5 land use plans at district level has been approved as follows:</p> <p>+ Decision No.1233/QD-UBND dated</p>
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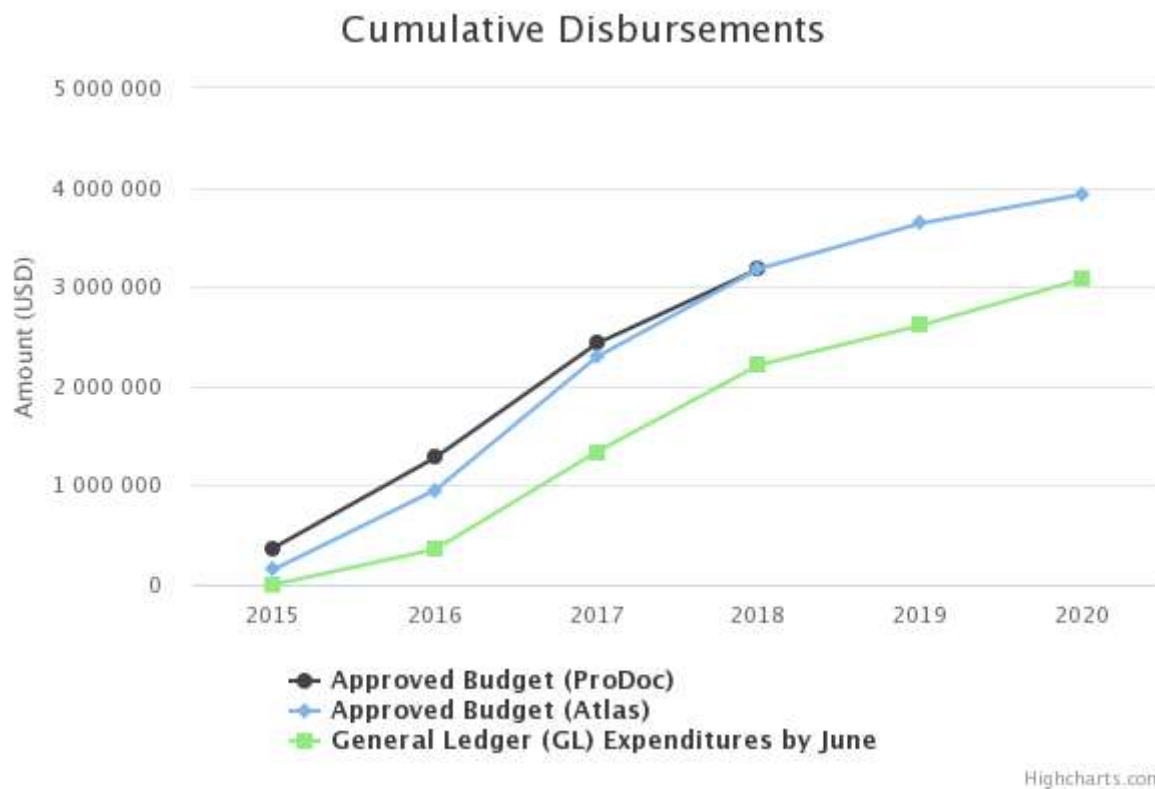
			<p>for the last period (2016-2020) of Thai Binh province), the plan on the management of the Red River Delta Biosphere Reserve section in Thai Binh province, the project is working with local agencies to mainstream wetland conservation in the master planning of the provincial economic zone. This zone covers the majority of coastal areas of Thai Binh so the mainstreaming of wetland conservation and management in this planning play a key role in ensuring the sustainable use of wetland in the province.</p> <p>Decision 1089/QĐ-TT dated 31 August 2018 approving the mission on making the master plan for Thai Binh economic zone to 2040, vision to 2050 requires the planning of functional zones must include mangroves and protected areas and clarifies SEA requirements. This is the foundation and also the obligation for mainstreaming wetland conservation in the master planning process of Thai Binh economic zone.</p>	<p>May 20th 2019 on approval of adjustment of land use planning till 2020 of Quang Dien district, TTH province;</p> <p>+ Decision No.1386/QĐ-UBND dated June 8th 2019 on approval of adjustment of land use planning till 2020 of Phu Vang district, TTH province;</p> <p>+ Decision No.938/QĐ-UBND dated April 13th 2019 on approval of adjustment of land use planning till 2020 of Phu Loc district, TTH province;</p> <p>+ Decision No.847/QĐ-UBND dated April 3rd 2019 on approval of adjustment of land use planning till 2020 of Phong Dien district, TTH province;</p> <p>+ Decision No.1087/QĐ-UBND dated May 4th 2019 on approval of adjustment of land use planning till 2020 of Huong Tra commune, TTH province.</p> <p>- In TB, two documents have been approved as follows:</p> <p>+ Resolution No. 05/NQ-HĐND on the approval of the Master Plan on construction of Thai Binh economic zone up to 2040, with a vision to 2050 and;</p> <p>+ Decision No. 2909 / QĐ-UBND dated August 17, 2019 on the assignment of medium-term public</p>
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					investment plan for the period of 2018-2020 of Thai Thuy district. In which, the province has actively disbursed budget on upgrading the infrastructure in the buffer zone of Thai Thuy PA.
Level of water pollution levels around O Lau in TGCH & Thuy Trong in TT as a result of improved agricultural & aquacultural practices	<p>Around O Lau in TG-CH: Fairly good condition, all measured parameters reached the allowed limit for the water surface quality, class A of Vietnam Standard (QCVN 08:2008/BTNMT on surface water quality)</p> <p>Around Thuy Truong in TT: satisfied with Vietnam Standards (QCVN 08:2008/BTNMT and QCVN10:2008 on Quality of coastal seawater) but there are signs of pollution and water quality degradation</p> <p>[Baselines updated following MTR]</p>	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>Around O Lau in TG-CH: maintained and improved water quality against the baseline level.</p> <p>Around Thuy Truong in TT: Reduction in pollution level against the baseline levels.</p> <p>[Targets established following MTR]</p>	<p>Updated baseline as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Around O Lau in TG-CH: Fairly good condition, all measured parameters reached the allowed limit for the water surface quality, class A of Vietnam Standard (QCVN 08:2008/BTNMT on surface water quality) - Around Thuy Truong in TT: satisfied with Vietnam Standards (QCVN 08:2008/BTNMT and QCVN10:2008 on Quality of coastal seawater) but there are signs of pollution and water quality degradation <p>The pilot monitoring was conducted and show that the water quality is in acceptable standard.</p>	<p>Updated baseline as follows:</p> <p>Around O Lau in TG-CH: Fairly good condition, all measured parameters reached the allowed limit for the water surface quality, class A of Vietnam Standard (QCVN 08:2008/BTNMT on surface water quality)</p> <p>Around Thuy Truong in TT: satisfied with Vietnam Standards (QCVN 08:2008/BTNMT and QCVN10:2008 on Quality of coastal seawater) but there are signs of pollution and water quality degradation</p> <p>In TGCH WCA:</p> <p>Results from the two surveys conducted in pilot monitoring of TGCH WCA revealed that water environment in Tam Giang - Cau Hai lagoon was suitable for the purpose of conserving the wetland biodiversity.</p> <p>In Thai Thuy WPA:</p> <p>The pilot biodiversity monitoring conducted in 2018 indicated that the water quality is within the regulated</p>

					standard of VN. In 2019 and 2020: Thai Binh DONRE carried out the monitoring and showed that water quality (coastal marine water in Thai Thuy) is within the regulated standard of VN.
Extent of coverage of clam culture on the intertidal mudflats in Thai Thuy WCA	Clam area in TT is 1,114 ha [Baseline updated following MTR]	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	No increase in clam culture on the intertidal mudflat	Updated baseline: Clam area in TT is 1,114 ha The lease of tidal flats for clam culture is still on cease as the detailed planning of the economic zone has yet been developed. Therefore, there is no increase in clam culture on the intertidal mudflat.	The lease of tidal flats for clam culture is still on cease as the detailed planning of the economic zone has yet been developed. Therefore, there is no increase in clam culture on the intertidal mudflat as compared the baseline data of 1,114ha. New land lease contracts for clam culture are not granted.
Catch per Effort of Siganus in TGCH WCA as a result of further establishment of aquatic reserves and Fishery Associations, ensuring us of appropriate gear and enforcing existing regulations on destructive gear and fishing practices [Indicator removed following MTR]	Catch per Effort of Siganus fingerling in TGCH WCA in 2016 is 0 tons	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	Increase in Catch per Effort of Siganus against the baseline	Updated baseline: Catch per Effort of Siganus fingerling in TGCH WCA in 2016 is 0 tons In 2015, Catch per Effort of Siganus fingerlings in TGCH WCA is 1.143 tons (according to the report of DARD TTH in 2016). In 2016, at the time of the project baseline study being conducted, the Catch per Effort of Siganus fingerlings was zero due to the impact of the Formosa incident.	Updated baseline: Catch per Effort of Siganus fingerling in TGCH WCA in 2016 is 0 tons In 2015, Catch per Effort of Siganus fingerlings in TGCH WCA is 1.143 tons (according to the report of DARD TTH in 2016). In 2016, at the time of the project baseline study being conducted, the Catch per Effort of Siganus fingerlings was zero due to the impact of the Formosa incident. For Siganus in TG-CH, a very small volume of natural mature Siganus is captured annually. In fact, the Siganus fingerling are harvested in the

				<p>For Siganus in TG-CH, a very small volume of natural mature Siganus is captured annually. In fact, the Siganus fingerling are harvested in the estuaries (such as Thuan An, Tu Hien and Lang Co) and raised in ponds. The Siganus fingerling is imported from other provinces (such as Quang Nam, Binh Dinh and so on) to meet the local demand of Siganus fingerling.</p> <p>Catch per Effort of Siganus fingerling in TGCH is not closely related to the further establishment of aquatic reserves and Fishery Associations while there is almost no capture activity of natural mature Siganus,</p> <p>Therefore this indicator is suggested to be removed from the logframe.</p>	<p>estuaries (such as Thuan An, Tu Hien and Lang Co) and raised in ponds. The Siganus fingerling is imported from other provinces (such as Quang Nam, Binh Dinh and so on) to meet the local demand of Siganus fingerling. Catch per Effort of Siganus fingerling in TGCH is not closely related to the further establishment of aquatic reserves and Fishery Associations while there is almost no capture activity of natural mature Siganus.</p> <p>Therefore, this indicator is suggested to be removed from the logframe. This matter has been addressed in Dossier No.18/PTr-VCLCS dated August 13th 2019 submitted to Head of Project Steering Committee on reporting on project progress and had been approved by the Head. The project owner also submitted the issue to UNDP Vietnam in Aug 2019</p>
The progress of the objective can be described as:		On track			

D. Implementation Progress



Cumulative GL delivery against total approved amount (in prodoc):	96.81%
Cumulative GL delivery against expected delivery as of this year:	96.81%
Cumulative disbursement as of 30 June (note: amount to be updated in late August):	3,078,985

Key Financing Amounts	
PPG Amount	100,000
GEF Grant Amount	3,180,287
Co-financing	14,891,600

Key Project Dates	
PIF Approval Date	Jun 5, 2012
CEO Endorsement Date	Dec 3, 2013
Project Document Signature Date (project start date):	Jun 9, 2015
Date of Inception Workshop	Oct 28, 2015
Expected Date of Mid-term Review	Dec 1, 2018

Actual Date of Mid-term Review	Jan 1, 2019
Expected Date of Terminal Evaluation	Sep 1, 2020
Original Planned Closing Date	Jun 9, 2019
Revised Planned Closing Date	Dec 8, 2020

Dates of Project Steering Committee/Board Meetings during reporting period (30 June 2019 to 1 July 2020)

E. Critical Risk Management

Current Types of Critical Risks	Critical risk management measures undertaken this reporting period
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F. Adjustments

Risk Management

The Country Office is responsible for completing the Risk Management section of the PIR in consultation with the RTA. Before updating the PIR, the Country Office must update project-level risks in the Atlas Risk Register line with UNDP's enterprise risk management policy and have a detailed discussion with the RTA on risk management. Next, the Country Office must select below the 'high' risks identified in the Atlas Risk Register as well as any other 'substantial' risks from the Atlas Risk Register identified by the RTA as needing to be addressed in the PIR. Moderate and Low risks do not need to be entered in the PIR Risk Management section. After selecting the risk, a text field will appear where the Country Office should describe the risk and explain actions undertaken this reporting period to address the risk selected.

Select the risk(s) from the options that match the 'high' risks in the project's UNDP Risk Register as well as any 'significant' risks from the register, as agreed with the RTA. Please describe the risk identified and explain the management approach agreed between the RTA and Country Office on managing/mitigating the risk.

(not set or not applicable)

Comments on delays in key project milestones

Project Manager: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.

Overall, all project activities planned in the annual work plan have been implemented, and notable progress in implementation has been made. Also in 2020, the project has finally achieved the goal in establishing 2 WCAs in 2 provinces. However, in the early 2020, the social distancing issue due to pandemic COVID-19 has resulted in delay in a number of project activities including boundary demarcation, cancellation of event on launching the establishment of TGCH WCA, pilot training workshop, not to mention, delay the progress in procurement and purchasing relevant machines, equipment for operation of 2 WCAs. Therefore, terminal evaluation has been conducted slower than anticipated, resulting in delay in project closure.

Country Office: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.

The two key milestones during the reporting period were noted, namely Decision No. 2514/QD-UBND dated September 6, 2019 on establishment of Thai Thuy WCA and Decision No.495/QD-UBND dated February 20th 2020 of Thua Thien Hue Provincial People's Committee on the establishment of Tam Giang – Cau Hai WCA. The establishments of these two WCAs were fundamental to the project implementation and management, based on which PMU and CIP could initiate the respective investments from the project in the provinces. However, such formations were made in the very final timing of the project which should have been in the 2nd year. Consequently, many investment activities from support on operations, demarcation, livelihoods etc. late started which delay the preparation and execution of TE mission. This report period was also further delayed due to COVID-19 pandemic during its half-year of 2020.

UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review,

terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.

Preparation for the terminal evaluation is underway, but running behind schedule due to COVID-19 disruptions. This should have commenced in the first half of 2020. The TE report is now expected to be finalized only shortly prior to operational closure.

G. Ratings and Overall Assessments

Role	2020 Development Objective Progress Rating	2020 Implementation Progress Rating
Project Manager/Coordinator	Moderately Satisfactory	- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -
Overall Assessment	<p>Overall, all project activities planned in the annual work plan have been implemented, and notable progress in implementation has been made. Generally, in the final year of the project, the project has finally achieved the main targeted goals of the project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishing 2 WCAs in 2 provinces: The process of development and approval of the profiles prolonged with different versions for various reasons, of which the main reason is the process of discussions and arguments to harmonize conservation issues and economic development concerns of the local government as well as the investors for the two areas. With the efforts of the project participants, MONRE leader, UNDP Viet Nam as well as the leaders of TB and TTH provinces, the two WCAs were established (Thai Thuy WPA was established in Decision 2514/QD-UBND dated 6 September 2019, TG-CH WCA was established under Decision No.495/QD-UBND dated February 20th 2020 of Thua Thien Hue Provincial People's Committee); - finalizing the Biodiversity Monitoring Program (BMP) for both TT and TGCH WCA. BMP is developed with a set of Biodiversity Monitoring Indicators (BMIs) consistent with the typical characteristics of the WCAs, ensuring the feasibility of its implementation to support the management of wetland biodiversity of WCAs once established. Based on developed BMPs, the project has coordinated with DONRE in 2 provinces and the consulting firms to pilot the implementation of BMP in the two WCAs. The result from the pilot monitoring is used for tracking changes in the status of biodiversity in the WCAs, and support the decision making on appropriate management solutions by designated authorities responsible for the area. - Issuance of Decree no. 66/2019/ND-CP dated 29/7/2019 to replace Decree 109/2003/ND-CP. The circular guiding implementation of Decree no.66/2019/ND-CP and Draft 5 year national wetlands action plan has been finalized and being in process of approval. - Mainstreaming wetland management and sustainable use into provincial development planning/plans of two provinces: in TTH, the project has supported TTH agencies to mainstream wetland management and sustainable use into provincial development planning/plans including: Resolution No.72/NQ-CP dated June 6th 2018 on adjustment of land use planning till 2020 and land use plan (2016-2020) of Thua Thien Hue province as well as 5 land use plans of Quang Dien, Phu Vang, Phu Loc, Phong Dien and Huong Tra districts (Decision No.1233/QD-UBND dated May 20th 2019, Decision No.1386/QD-UBND dated June 8th 2019, Decision No.938/QD-UBND dated April 13th 2019, Decision No.847/QD-UBND dated April 3rd 2019 and Decision No.1087/QD-UBND dated May 4th 2019). Besides that, the project has supported the DPI TTH province to identify the function zones and propose relevant effective instruments for mainstreaming economic development and conservation as an input to formulate the "Master plan for development of Tam Giang - Cau Hai lagoon in TTH province to 2020, vision to 2030". In TB, The project has supported Thai Binh province in doing a review and guidelines/recommendations for integrating wetland conservation and sustainable use into legal document, plans and plannings of Thai Thuy district and Thai Binh province. On July 25, 2019, Department of Natural Resources 	

	<p>and Environment of Thai Binh province sent the Official Letter No. 1898/STNMT-CCB to report on efforts in integrating the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands in Thai Binh. The results have been incorporated into the Resolution of the province on adjusting the land use planning (No 34/NQ-CP date 7 May 2018 of Government on approval of adjustment of land use planning till 2020 of Thai Binh province); the contents on wetland conservation has been integrated into relevant sectoral plans, provincial plans, budget estimation for implementing the provincial biodiversity planning, and advisory for the provincial People's Committee in approval of the management plan of Tien Hai wetland PA and Thai Thuy wetland PA. Besides that, the project has supported TB to implement the BIA to identify the potential impacts on wetland ecosystems and biodiversity from industrial zone development within and near the boundaries of the planned Thai Thuy Wetland Protected Area and to identify the solution for establishing the WPA due to the development of industrial zone and economic zone in the region following the Prime Ministerial Decision 36/QĐ-TTg signed in 2017.</p> <p>- Monitoring water quality around the TT and TG-CH wetland areas: the monitoring was conducted at the first year of the project, during the time of the two WPA profiles preparation as well as during the time of implementation of the pilot monitoring (2018-2019). It showed that the water quality at both sites is satisfactory with Vietnam Standards (QCVN 08:2008/BTNMT and QCVN10:2008 on Quality of coastal seawater) but there are signs of pollution and water quality degradation.</p> <p>In the early 2020, the social distancing issue due to pandemic COVID-19 has resulted in delay in a number of project activities including boundary demarcation, postponement of event on launching the establishment of TGCH WCA, pilot training workshop, not to mention, delay the progress in procurement and purchasing relevant machines, equipment for operation of 2 WCAs. Therefore, terminal evaluation has been conducted slower than anticipated, resulting in delay in project closure.</p>	
Role	2020 Development Objective Progress Rating	2020 Implementation Progress Rating
UNDP Country Office Programme Officer	Moderately Satisfactory	Moderately Satisfactory
Overall Assessment	<p>Overall, the project team made adequate progress for both components of the project. This had been largely built upon the cumulative achievements from the previous years (e.g. issuance of Decree 66/2019 and the establishments of two WCAs) and the cooperation with UNDP CO to support of the implementation of some key procurement packages. While Component 1 continued to enhance related policies at national level, Component 2 focused on strengthening the capacity and operations (e.g. provisions of office and patrolling equipment). The launching events of the two sites were successfully organized and broadcasted on many news/media channels. However, due to the late establishment of the WCAs, it would be challenging for the project to demonstrate its impacts.</p> <p>The project implementation during the reporting period was also significantly impacted by COVID-19 (e.g. the postponement of various trainings/workshops/conferences) which delayed the overall delivery of the project. No PSC meeting was held during this period either. The regular coordination meetings among PMU (ISPONRE), CIP (BCA) and the project sites were not organized, especially those in the field which also affected the project's overall progress. Since the this was final reporting period of the project, these findings will need to be captured and reflected in the TE in the</p>	

	last quarter of 2020.	
Role	2020 Development Objective Progress Rating	2020 Implementation Progress Rating
GEF Operational Focal point	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -
Overall Assessment	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	
Role	2020 Development Objective Progress Rating	2020 Implementation Progress Rating
Project Implementing Partner	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -
Overall Assessment	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	
Role	2020 Development Objective Progress Rating	2020 Implementation Progress Rating
Other Partners	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -
Overall Assessment	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	
Role	2020 Development Objective Progress Rating	2020 Implementation Progress Rating
UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser	Moderately Satisfactory	Moderately Unsatisfactory
Overall Assessment	<p>This is the fourth and final PIR for this project that is expanding and strengthening the wetland protected area sub-system in Vietnam. The project is nearing the completion of its 18-month extension phase. The additional time has allowed for the project to record good success in progress towards key project targets such as establishment of wetland PAs over the past year, giving a progress towards development objective (DO) rating of 'moderately satisfactory'. This is the same as given by the Project Manager (PM) and UNDP Country Office (CO). Despite this progress towards targets and improved delivery, the Project Steering Committee has not been effectively engaged as the key governance body. The implementation progress (IP) rating is therefore 'moderately unsatisfactory'. This is lower than the IP rating given by the UNDP CO and justified given the Project Steering Committee has not met since the mid-term review.</p> <p>PROGRESS TOWARDS DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES (DO)</p> <p>The project's objective is to establish new protected areas covering globally important wetland sites and to ensure their management is effectively embedded into sustainable landscape management, achieved through two outcomes: (1) Establishing and effectively managing two new wetland PAs; (2) Securing the integrity of wetland PAs from development activities in the linked landscapes. Adopted results framework changes by the Project Steering</p>	

Committee and RTA following the MTR (as documented in the DO progress tab) and additional efforts allowed by the project extension mean that targets appear likely to be achieved with only minor shortfalls, giving the rating of 'moderately satisfactory'.

Progress towards the objective is measured by the coverage of natural wetlands within the wetlands conservation area subsystem, adoption of an Ecosystem Health Index (EHI) and reduction of development threats to wetlands. The two key achievements during the reporting period are the establishment of Thai Thuy WCA and establishment of Tam Giang-Cau Hai WCA through government decisions made on 6 September 2019 and 20 February 2020. This is an excellent outcome of the project, particularly given the challenges with securing continued government support for establishment of Thai Thuy WCA given conflict with coastal economic zone planning that has been reported in prior PIRs. A change was proposed for the target on cumulative coverage of wetlands within the PA system, however this was not endorsed by the RTA as it is at the objective level and such changes are not in accordance with UNDP-GEF policy if they indicate a downshift in project targets. The overall target looks unlikely to be achieved, however this is not necessarily a shortfall of the project as it has done well to ensure the effective establishment of the two PAs in a manner that will ensure ongoing government support and sustainability. Earlier in the project a greater shortfall looked likely. A Biodiversity Monitoring Program for both wetland conservation areas was finalized and monitoring is underway to track change. This achieves the target of establishing an Ecosystem Health Index (EHI) but the Biodiversity Monitoring Programs have been handed over to DONRE TTH and Thai Binh WCA management board for application from 2021 tentatively. The extent to which the EHI will be adopted at the sub-system level allowing for replication in other WCAs is unclear. Currently, management regulations and plans of two WCAs are under the process of approval at both provinces. ISPONRE and BCA are continuing to support both sites by revising and directly commenting on drafts. Achievement of that target is unclear, although it can feasibly still be achieved by project close with strong support from government. The target of reducing wetland threats has been achieved through the development of provincial development plans incorporated wetland values over some 372,000 ha, exceeding the project target of 310,000 ha. The project should focus on mainstreaming operationalization of these plans within government processes to support sustainability of impact following project close.

Progress under Outcome 1 includes revision of the wetland inventory and approval of guidance on classification of wetlands, however it is unclear if the existing inventories have been consolidated and updated. Progress has been made toward improved alignment between Decree 109 on the Conservations & Sustainable Development of Wetlands and the 2003 Biodiversity Law, and the draft National Wetland Action Plan has been submitted to MONRE for final approval. MONRE's capacity to implement wetlands-related policies and programs has been enhanced, with updated scores for capacity development indicating that the project target has been surprised by 10%. Commitments to cover the recurring operational cost for the newly-proclaimed TGCH and TT WCA have been made through government decisions. The target for PA expansion has been updated to reflect the agreed PA and linked landscape sizes of the two WCAs. The updated METT scores have shown some improvements for TGCH and TT WCA to 31 and 26 respectively but remain below the project targets of greater than 40. The project has not surprisingly experienced shortfalls in targeted management effectiveness as the WCAs

were established much later than anticipated, and much project effort was spent on securing the establishment of the WCAs rather than supporting their operationalization. Overall, much progress has been made towards targets, but some shortfalls might remain at project close. Further assessment will be needed at the terminal evaluation.

Under Outcome 2, there is clear progress towards the now four indicators measuring integrity of wetland PAs from development threats in the wider landscapes. Achieved targets include the target to conduct ecosystems services valuations of TH-CH WCA and TT WCA. EIAs have been completed in both provinces but it is not clear if project-supported regulatory changes will require the consideration of impacts on environmental services in future EIAs. Biodiversity mainstreaming activities have been supported in both provinces through support for the establishment of Local Wetland Working Groups (LWWG) and several activities to mainstream biodiversity in the provincial sectoral plans and district development plans. A range of land use planning and district development plans have been adopted but the activity in the DO progress tab is not always easily comparable against targets. Better presentation should be planned for the terminal evaluation so that it is easier for the TE consultants to follow progress against targets. Water quality baseline standards for both sites have been updated, and more recent data shows that water quality is within the regulated standards of Vietnam. Clear data presented in the same form as baseline should be collated prior to the TE as the most recent data reported for Thai Thuy WCA is from 2018. The baseline for clam culture on mudflats has been confirmed at 1,114 ha and there has been no expansion in this farming while economic zone planning is being completed. The DO progress tab reports that new lease contracts are not granted maintaining the project target of no increase in clam production. The final indicator on measurement of catch per effort of *Siganus* was removed from the results framework following the MTR.

IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS (IP)

The project has been generally well-managed with an effective PMU and strong engagement by the Implementing Partner, although there has been an absence of Project Steering Committee meetings, resulting in an IP rating of 'moderately unsatisfactory'.

The project was impacted by COVID-19 with delays in some final activities and delayed announcement of the gazettal of the project-supported WPAs. According to the COVID-19 survey completed for the project, the impacts included inability to organize scheduled trainings, workshops, and stakeholder consultations, and delay in project closure related activities. It also impacted the convening of regular project coordination meetings. Despite these delays, there was relatively little impact on project outcomes and many targets/activities had been achieved by the time that COVID-19 restrictions were introduced in Vietnam. No changes to the scope of project activities or budget was required due to COVID-19. Since the project is in its tail end, it is not expected to contribute to COVID-19 recovery.

Despite COVID-19 impacts, cumulative delivery is largely on track. At 30 June, 96% of the GEF grant had been disbursed, with only budget for final deliverables and project closure (e.g. terminal evaluation) remaining. In 2019, financial delivery of the annual work plan was at a disappointing 62% although this has been corrected in 2020 with half-year delivery at 92%. The project is expected to fully disburse remaining funds by operational closure in December 2020.

No Project Steering Committee meetings were held during the reporting period. This is a gap in oversight and the PSC has not met since it considered the MTR management response and endorsement of project extension. Per the signed ProDoc, the PSC has the function of endorsing annual work plans, and this has not been conducted for 2019 and 2020. The 2019 PIR recommended that the project schedule the PSC meeting early so that the 2020 AWP could be endorsed at the start of the year – despite this request, the PSC was not convened to consider the work plan. The PSC should be convened to discuss the project TE and consider the TE management response.

No high or substantial risks are recorded in this PIR. Adaptive management has been generally good throughout the project, with a flexible and adaptive response to WCA establishment. Risks due to COVID-19 implementation have not been high and have been managed by the PMU through virtual workshops, training sessions and rescheduling of key activities. There is risk of delay in the project's terminal evaluation due to challenges in recruiting an available international consultant through UNDP rosters. This is being managed through the UNDP CO posting the vacancy publicly and hopefully a qualified candidate can be found ASAP. The project has responded adaptively by engaging an international consultant on a virtual basis to support the TE. No safeguards risks have been reported in this PIR. However, the PMU was asked to revisit the SESP in the last PIR in light of the shifting context for establishment of the WCAs and land use conflicts and this was not done, indicating some gaps in overall risk management approach. The risk of the non-functioning Project Steering Committee has been added to the PIMS+ Risk Management Dashboard and the CO is asked to manage this risk by ensuring the PSC meets to discuss the project TE, TE management response and project sustainability and exit strategy.

The project is progressing gender mainstreaming to meet the GEN-2 gender marker rating. During the reporting period, the project has taken additional steps to improve women's engagement in the implementation of livelihood interventions and encouraged the involvement of community women and local Women's Unions in project consultations.

Project communications are widespread with a range of local media reports, a social media presence, and an operational project website. The PMU should consider the development of a photo story based on the establishment of two WCAs for the EBD EXPOSURE page to showcase project impacts with a global audience. In the remaining months of the project, knowledge management should be prioritized to document lessons learned from the experience of establishing WCAs in an area with competing land use priorities from wetland conservation and economic zone development.

An immediate priority is to finalize the recruitment of terminal evaluation consultants and schedule the terminal evaluation mission. As noted earlier, this will happen under a part-virtual arrangement with the international consultant conducting the evaluation virtually and the national consultant engaging in in-person meetings and field visits. This arrangement has been used successfully for other UNDP-GEF terminal evaluations in recent months. The PMU should make sure all M&E is conducted prior to the start of the terminal evaluation, including completion of GEF tracking tools (i.e. METT).

RECOMMENDATIONS

1) Continue preparations for the Terminal Evaluation so that this can be conducted as soon as possible, with virtual engagement of the international consultant due to current travel restrictions. Ensure M&E updates are completed prior to the commencement of the TE mission including updated tracking tools and capacity scorecards; 2) Develop a project sustainability and exit strategy to maximize project ongoing impact after project close; 3) Convene a meeting of the Project Steering Committee to discuss the Terminal Evaluation and consider the Terminal Evaluation management response and project exit and sustainability strategy; 4) Prepare a photo story for EBD EXPOSURE site to showcase WCA establishment and enhanced management.

H. Gender

Progress in Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

This information is used in the UNDP-GEF Annual Performance Report, UNDP-GEF Annual Gender Report, reporting to the UNDP Gender Steering and Implementation Committee and for other internal and external communications and learning. The Project Manager and/or Project Gender Officer should complete this section with support from the UNDP Country Office.

Gender Analysis and Action Plan: <i>not available</i>
Please review the project's Gender Analysis and Action Plan. If the document is not attached or an updated Gender Analysis and/or Gender Action Plan is available please upload the document below or send to the Regional Programme Associate to upload in PIMS+. Please note that all projects approved since 1 July 2014 are required to carry out a gender analysis and all projects approved since 1 July 2018 are required to have a gender analysis and action plan.
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
Atlas Gender Marker Rating
GEN2: gender equality as significant objective
Please indicate in which results areas the project is contributing to gender equality (you may select more than one results area, or select not applicable):
Contributing to closing gender gaps in access to and control over resources: No
Improving the participation and decision-making of women in natural resource governance: No
Targeting socio-economic benefits and services for women: Yes
Not applicable: No
Please specify results achieved this reporting period that focus on increasing gender equality and the empowerment of women.
Please explain how the results reported addressed the different needs of men or women, changed norms, values, and power structures, and/or contributed to transforming or challenging gender inequalities and discrimination.
During project implementation, in the activity "Support to implement the livelihood intervention in TTH", the project has taken notice of gender issue in proposing income generation model which focus on the role of women in aquaculture. Revenue/profit generated after implementation of the models could be a grant using for scaling up the livelihoods interventions and/or for existing revolving funds (i.e micro credit of local woman) as well as supporting to activity of the local aquaculture associations on conversion of destructive fishing. Also, in the implementation of activity to develop and pilot program on communication engagement and participation on wetland conservation and sustainable use in Thua Thien Hue, WETLANDS project has developed the program for strengthening community engagement and participation in wetland conservation and management, to improve the awareness of community members and mobilize their involvement in wetland conservation as well as to ensure reduced pressures on wetland biodiversity from local activities in the TG-CH WPA in the long term. This activity has involved the participation of Women's Union and community women.

Please describe how work to advance gender equality and women's empowerment enhanced the project's environmental and/or resilience outcomes.

The involvement of community women and local Women's Union in consultation, design and implementation of livelihood activities is critical. The participation in these activities will help ensure equal opportunities for women to participate in planning and implementation of livelihood activities that are beneficial to their income generation.

I. Social and Environmental Standards

Social and Environmental Standards (Safeguards)

The Project Manager and/or the project's Safeguards Officer should complete this section of the PIR with support from the UNDP Country Office. The UNDP-GEF RTA should review to ensure it is complete and accurate.

SESP: Annex 9 ESSP Vietnam Wetland.pdf
For reference, please find below the project's safeguards screening (Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) or the old ESSP tool); management plans (if any); and its SESP categorization above. Please note that the SESP categorization might have been corrected during a centralized review.
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
1) Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during project implementation?
No
If any new social and/or environmental risks have been identified during project implementation please describe the new risk(s) and the response to it.
n/a
2) Have any existing social and/or environmental risks been escalated during the reporting period? For example, when a low risk increased to moderate, or a moderate risk increased to high.
No
If any existing social and/or environmental risks have been escalated during implementation please describe the change(s) and the response to it.
n/a
3) Have any required social and environmental assessments and/or management plans been prepared in the reporting period? For example, an updated Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) or Indigenous Peoples Plan.
No
If yes, please upload the document(s) above. If no, please explain when the required documents will be prepared.
n/a
4) Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential)?
No
If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail including the status, significance, who was involved and what action was taken.

n/a

J. Communicating Impact

Tell us the story of the project focusing on how the project has helped to improve people's lives.

(This text will be used for UNDP corporate communications, the UNDP-GEF website, and/or other internal and external knowledge and learning efforts.)

Tam Giang – Cau Hai lagoon is the largest brackish lagoon system in the Southeast Asia, with an area of 22,000 ha of water surface, extending over 68 km along the coast of Thua Thien Hue Province. It consists of three consecutive lagoons: Tam Giang lagoon, Thuy Tu lagoon (composed of An Truyen, Thanh Lam, Ha Trung and Thuy Tu lagoons) and Cau Hai lagoon. The lagoon plays an important role in ensuring the most favorable habitat and development environment for aquatic species, providing breeding grounds and spawning grounds of significant importance for migratory and wintering birds (as the lagoon is located on the main East Asia-Australia migration route). This is an important shelter and feeding area for migratory birds, especially internationally important migratory and wintering waterbirds listed on the IUCN Red List of globally threatened species and Vietnam's Red Book. Not to mention, main livelihoods of more than 500,000 people depend on the lagoon resources.

However, due to many reasons, the wetland of Tam Giang - Cau Hai is at risk of environmental, ecological and natural resource degradation. The socio-economic development process in recent years has had a strong impact on the lagoon. In particular, that the area of aquaculture has increased since the 1990s due to inadequate planning causes the natural water surface to be narrowed. The destructive fishing activities have severely reduced natural resources and biodiversity. The lagoon water environment becomes polluted as a result of coastal economic development, especially aquaculture activities and increasing untreated wastewater.

Highly recognized the important values of wetlands, over the past 10 years, Thua Thien Hue province has been thriving to recover the biodiversity of Tam Giang – Cau Hai lagoon through multiple programs and projects mobilizing the support of international donors and state budget. In the long term, recently, Thua Thien Hue province has officially established the Tam Giang – Cau Hai wetlands protected area. The birth of the reserve opens up an opportunity to develop the activities for conserving, protecting natural resources, balancing ecology and maintaining the natural landscape.

Understanding the value of the nature and its ecosystem services, the community of Thua Thien Hue has now actively involved in the management and conservation of wetlands. With the establishment of Fishery association and patrol team, the community is now fully aware of not using destructive fishing gear, enhancing environmental protection to maintain the fishery resources in order to ensure sustainable livelihood income. In TGCH now, 23 fishery protection zone have been established and directly managed under 25 Fishery Associations. Co-management model has been considered in management of the TGCH lagoon, which takes advantage the involvement of community and management of local authority. Co-management of Protected Areas and natural resources by local communities will enhance their ownership and also strengthen their accountability. Local communities, who possess rich traditional knowledge and skills, are both the beneficiaries and the prime actors for wetland and biodiversity conservation in Protected Areas.

Under the scope of the project, in close collaboration with DONRE TTH and Agricultural Extension Center, WETLANDS project has continued with implementation of activity to support sustainable livelihood interventions and positive achievements have been made. Specifically, 03 successful models have been implemented in 05 districts of Thua Thien Hue province that create livelihood for 16 households participating in the project. The successful implementation of the models has contributed to improving livelihoods, increasing income for people from 10 to 15% (especially households in the household model have increased by 30-40%) compared to those who do not participate in the project activities. In addition, it contributes to the development of aquaculture in a stable, sustainable and environmentally friendly direction.

Knowledge Management, Project Links and Social Media

Please describe knowledge activities / products as outlined in knowledge management approved at CEO Endorsement /Approval.

Please also include: project's website, project page on the UNDP website, blogs, photos stories (e.g. Exposure), Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, YouTube, as well as hyperlinks to any media coverage of the project, for example, stories written by an outside source. Please upload any supporting files, including photos, videos, stories, and other documents using the 'file library' button in the top right of the PIR.

PROJECT WEBSITE: <http://wetland.org.vn/>

Media coverage:

<https://www.vn.undp.org/content/vietnam/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/launching-the-establishment-of-tam-giang----cau-hai-wetland-prot.html>

<https://baotainguyenmoitruong.vn/chinh-thuc-thanh-lap-khu-bao-ton-dat-ngap-nuoc-tam-giang-cau-hai-305342.html>

<https://nhandan.com.vn/vi-moi-truong-xanh/thanh-lap-khu-bao-ton-thien-nhien-dat-ngap-nuoc-tam-giang-cau-hai-460692/>

<https://nongnghiep.vn/chinh-thuc-thanh-lap-khu-bao-ton-thien-nhien-tam-giang--cau-hai-d265870.html>

<https://vnexpress.net/lap-khu-bao-ton-dat-ngap-nuoc-tam-giang-cau-hai-4110753.html>

<https://www.thiennhien.net/2020/06/05/chinh-thuc-thanh-lap-khu-bao-ton-dat-ngap-nuoc-tam-giang-cau-hai/>

<https://baophapluat.vn/moi-truong/cong-bo-thanh-lap-khu-bao-ton-thien-nhien-dat-ngap-nuoc-tam-giang-cau-hai-521987.html>

<https://stnmt.thuathienhue.gov.vn/?gd=11&cn=163&tc=25843>

<https://congthuong.vn/thua-thien-hue-thanh-lap-khu-bao-ton-thien-nhien-dat-ngap-nuoc-tam-giang-cau-hai-138490.html>

<http://isponre.gov.vn/home/tin-tuc/1859-cong-bo-thanh-lap-khu-bao-ton-thien-nhien-dat-ngap-nuoc-tam-giang-cau-hai-tinh-thua-thien-hue>

<http://isponre.gov.vn/home/tin-tuc/1865-le-cong-bo-thanh-lap-khu-bao-ton-thien-nhien-dat-ngap-nuoc-thai-thuy-tinh-thai-binh>

<https://congnghepmoitruong.vn/cong-bo-thanh-lap-khu-bao-ton-thien-nhien-dat-ngap-nuoc-thai-thuy-thai-binh-6337.html>

<http://thaibinhhtv.vn/news/81/55428/thanh-lap-khu-bao-ton-thien-nhien-dat-ngap-nuoc-thai-thuy-co-tong-dien-tich-6-560-ha>

<https://nhandan.com.vn/vi-moi-truong-xanh/thanh-lap-khu-bao-ton-thien-nhien-dat-ngap-nuoc-thai-thuy-475540/>

http://tapchimoitruong.vn/pages/article.aspx?item=Th%C3%A0nh-l%E1%BA%ADp-Khu-B%E1%BA%A3o-t%E1%BB%93n-%C4%91%E1%BA%A5t-ng%E1%BA%ADp-n%C6%B0%E1%BB%9Bc-Th%C3%A1i-Th%E1%BB%A5y-49690

https://baothaibinh.com.vn/news/90/106625/thanh-lap-khu-bao-ton-thien-nhien-dat-ngap-nuoc-thai-thuy

https://baotainguyenmoitruong.vn/thanh-lap-khu-bao-ton-thien-nhien-dat-ngap-nuoc-thai-thuy-tinh-thai-binh-306096.html

https://vtv.vn/video/tuong-lai-xanh-27-6-2020-445671.htm?fbclid=IwAR2-Z6HZdj_f21Wwfdy7jtUW-BH-Fd5kPmaG3kjZUpBB71bHjb17ubFXP38

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ca_SH4IF5KI&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR3qBZpnojQB2Ts8f0fOaZ5rk3ncUOaPbSj9x2tjLP9dE9yz5N8l6aLEk1U

Project Location Data

Provide the coordinates for the project’s geo-location sites. Provide the coordinates in decimal degrees (Longitude and Latitude). If you are not able to provide the coordinates in decimal degrees, you can alternatively provide them in the Degrees, Minutes, Seconds format. If you have this information stored in a GIS file, upload it below (e.g. shapefile, kmz/kml, or csv). If the project has multiple sites, please attach an Excel file with the coordinates for each site in either decimal degrees or in degrees, minutes, seconds format.

Please attach the GIS data. Any of the following formats are acceptable: shapefile (.shp)*, .kmz, .kml. If helpful, see here a quick note on how to gather geo-reference info. *Note that a shapefile is composed of several files: a .shp file should be zipped in a folder accompanied by the file extensions: .shx, .sbn, .prj, .dbf, .cpg, .sbx, .xml.

If the project has multiple sites, please attach an Excel file with the coordinates for each site in either decimal degrees or in degrees, minutes, seconds format.

[MAPS-VN2000-TG-CH.rar](#)
[MAPS-VN2000-ThaiThuy.zip](#)
[TT_TG-CH WCAs COORDINATES OF THE BENCHMARKS.xlsx](#)

Provide geo-location in longitude, latitude, format.

If you have this information stored in a GIS file, please upload it below (e.g. shapefile, kmz/kml, or csv).

0

Longitude

<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
Alternatively, provide geo-location in degrees, minutes, seconds format. Please also provide information on what the coordinates point to in the space provided.
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
Minutes
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
Seconds
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
Coordinates description
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>

K. Partnerships

Partnerships & Stakeholder Engagement

Please select yes or no whether the project is working with any of the following partners. Please also provide an update on stakeholder engagement. This information is used by the GEF and UNDP for reporting and is therefore very important! All sections must be completed by the Project Manager and reviewed by the CO and RTA.

Does the project work with any Civil Society Organisations and/or NGOs?
Yes
Does the project work with any Indigenous Peoples?
Yes
Does the project work with the Private Sector?
Yes
Does the project work with the GEF Small Grants Programme?
No
Does the project work with UN Volunteers?
No
Did the project support South-South Cooperation and/or Triangular Cooperation efforts in the reporting year?
Yes
CEO Endorsement Request: PIMS 4537 Viet Nam CEO Endors final ForSubmissionCleaned wp1.docx
Provide an update on progress, challenges and outcomes related to stakeholder engagement based on the description of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan as documented at CEO endorsement/approval (see document below). If any surveys have been conducted please upload all survey documents to the PIR file library.
<p>In the whole implementation phase, ISPONRE and BCA have closely worked with DONRE, PPC in 2 provinces in activity regarding establishment of 2 WCAs in Thua Thien Hue, Thai Binh, integrating wetlands conservations into provincial development plans.</p> <p>In the implementation of project activities, MARD and DARDs in 2 provinces have been involved to provide information regarding agricultural, fisheries, aquaculture sectors, managing inland PAs. The participation of relevant Ministries can also be seen through the consultation in developing new Decree on the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands.</p> <p>Local communities have been involved considerably, specifically, Farmer Union, Woman Union, Youth Union, Fishery Associations and Veteran Union at community level have been actively involved and consulted in a number of project activities. Local communities have been key participants and beneficiaries of the project. Their involvement will be sought in the planning and management of the new wetland PAs once 2 WCAs are established. Also, local communities will be closely consulted during the process of boundary demarcation of the WCAs in 2 provinces. In order to claim the</p>

boundary of WCA, it is crucial to have agreement of provincial, district and commune authorities, community members, not to mention, their commitments in protection of the boundary markers, notice boards and information sheets once the WCA is officially established. The participation of local communities can also be seen in the implementation of Activity “Support the implementation of sustainable livelihood interventions in TTH”, the project has selected households in 5 districts to participate in income generation model. Also, the project has signed agreement with representatives of 5 communes in TTH to ensure implementation of commitments of households in community participation in wetlands conservation and management.

The project has also involved the participation of NGOs such as WWF, IUCN, Vietnam Wetlands Association... These agencies have exchanged certain experiences in aspects of wetlands conservation and management. IUCN, Birdlife International and WWF have provided information and experiences in biodiversity conservation in Viet Nam, including on protected areas management and wetlands conservation.

L. Annex - Ratings Definitions

Development Objective Progress Ratings Definitions

(HS) Highly Satisfactory: Project is on track to exceed its end-of-project targets, and is likely to achieve transformational change by project closure. The project can be presented as 'outstanding practice'.

(S) Satisfactory: Project is on track to fully achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. The project can be presented as 'good practice'.

(MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Project is on track to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with minor shortcomings only.

(MU) Moderately Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is expected to partially achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with significant shortcomings. Project results might be fully achieved by project closure if adaptive management is undertaken immediately.

(U) Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is not expected to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. Project results might be partially achieved by project closure if major adaptive management is undertaken immediately.

(HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is not expected to achieve its end-of-project targets without major restructuring.

Implementation Progress Ratings Definitions

(HS) Highly Satisfactory: Implementation is exceeding expectations. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and risk management are fully on track. The project is managed extremely efficiently and effectively. The implementation of the project can be presented as 'outstanding practice'.

(S) Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and risk management are on track. The project is managed efficiently and effectively. The implementation of the project can be presented as 'good practice'.

(MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned with minor deviations. Cumulative financial delivery and management of risks are mostly on track, with minor delays. The project is managed well.

(MU) Moderately Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces significant implementation issues. Implementation progress could be improved if adaptive management is undertaken immediately. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and/or management of critical risks are significantly off track. The project is not fully or well supported.

(U) Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces major implementation issues and restructuring may be necessary. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and/or management of critical risks are off track with major issues and/or concerns. The project is not fully or well supported.

(HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Implementation is seriously under performing and major restructuring is required. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones (e.g. start of activities), and management of critical risks are severely off track with severe issues and/or concerns. The project is not effectively or efficiently supported.