

ASEAN Heritage Parks and Protected Areas: Enhancing effective management

Mt. Apo Natural Park

ASEAN Heritage Parks (AHPs) are protected areas of high conservation importance, preserving a wide spectrum of representative ecosystems of the ASEAN region.

AHPs help achieve harmony between humans and nature. They are conservation advocacy tools that help uplift the economic conditions of communities living within and adjacent to protected areas. Internalizing experiences and lessons learned from managing AHPs generate a broader and more strategic perspective on how the ASEAN region can push the agenda of biodiversity conservation, vis-à-vis protected area management to new heights.

Protected areas designated as AHPs benefit from the capacity building support allocated for their key stakeholders. AHPs are likewise recipients of technical assistance from a network of experts and partners and through the implementation of research and development programs and projects facilitated by the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) as the AHP Secretariat. At least two AHPs are declared annually and there are currently 40 protected areas under the AHP Programme.



The ASEAN Heritage Parks Programme supports the achievement of Target 11 (protection of at least 17 percent of terrestrial and inland water areas and 10 percent of coastal and marine areas by 2020) as it encourages the establishment of new protected areas and calls for additional nominations for AHP inscription. PA management initiatives contribute to abating habitat loss, fragmentation and degradation (Target 5); promote sustainable exploitation of marine resources (Target 6); relieve pressures on coral reefs and other vulnerable ecosystems (Target 10); prevent the extinction of known threatened species (Target 12); and contribute to safeguarding and restoring ecosystem services (Target 14).

There is a need to sustain the momentum of the AHP conservation effort by:

- Recognizing and strengthening the AHP Programme as key to the effective management of unique and ecologically representative protected areas in the ASEAN through promotional events and participation in international fora;
- Developing AHPs as models of effective protected area management in the region;
- Upgrading the evaluation system for new AHP nominations to international standards;



Bai Tu Long National Park

- Intensifying lobbying for nominations of marine AHPs;
- Updating AHP management approaches to keep abreast of changing natural and socio-economic conditions;
- Strengthening collaboration with stakeholders across levels and sectors and leveraging of resources for AHPs;
- Ensuring effective implementation of the AHP Regional Action Plan (RAP); and
- Strengthening networks, linkages, and partnerships.

The Regional Action Plan for ASEAN Heritage Parks 2016–2020 (AHP RAP) was adopted by the ASEAN Member States (AMS) in 2016. This action plan serves as a guiding framework in implementing priority biodiversity conservation measures in AHPs that contribute to the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, particularly Target 11, and supports national conservation efforts and the implementation of the AHP Programme Areas.

With the implementation of the RAP, ACB will support the updating of AHP management plans, provide complementary support for the implementation of AHP management plans, and establish a regional monitoring and evaluation system that is aligned with national and site level systems.

Partnerships and linkages with like-minded organizations and networks are instrumental in building the technical and financial capacities of ACB and the AHPs. Hence, ACB will maintain existing partnerships and establish new ties with global and regional organizations with mandates that support protected area management and landscape conservation (such as the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and Ramsar Convention Secretariat) to gather insights and initiate technology transfer to benefit AHPs. The Centre will also encourage business organizations to invest in AHPs.



Indawgyi Lake Wildlife Sanctuary



Lampi Marine National Park



Nat Ma Taung National Park



Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve

ASEAN Heritage Parks

Brunei Darussalam

- 1) Tasek Merimbun Heritage Park

Cambodia

- 1) Preah Monivong (Bokor) National Park
- 2) Virachey National Park

Indonesia

- 1) Kerinci-Seblat National Park
- 2) Gunung Leuser National Park
- 3) Lorentz National Park
- 4) Way Kambas National Park
- 5) Kepulauan Seribu National Park
- 6) Wakatobi National Park

Lao PDR

- 1) Nam Ha National Protected Area

Malaysia

- 1) Gunung Mulu National Park
- 2) Kinabalu National Park
- 3) Taman Negara National Park

Myanmar

- 1) Alaungdaw Kathapa National Park
- 2) Indawgyi Lake Wildlife Sanctuary
- 3) Inlay Lake Wildlife Sanctuary
- 4) Hkakaborazi National Park
- 5) Lampi Marine National Park
- 6) Meinmahla Kyun Wildlife Sanctuary
- 7) Nat Ma Taung National Park

Philippines

- 1) Mt. Apo Natural Park
- 2) Mt. Hamiguitan Range Wildlife Sanctuary
- 3) Mts. Iglit-Baco National Park
- 4) Mt. Kitanglad Range Natural Park
- 5) Mt. Malindang Range Natural Park
- 6) Mt. Makiling Forest Reserve
- 7) Mt. Timpoong-Hibok-Hibok Natural Monument
- 8) Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park

Singapore

- 1) Bukit Timah Nature Reserve
- 2) Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve

Thailand

- 1) Ao Phang-Nga-Mu Ko Surin-Mu Ko Similan National Park
- 2) Kaeng Krachan Forest Complex
- 3) Khao Yai National Park
- 4) Tarutao National Park

Viet Nam

- 1) Ba Be National Park
- 2) Chu Mom Ray National Park
- 3) Hoang Lien Sa Pa National Park
- 4) Kon Ka Kinh National Park
- 5) U Minh Thuong National Park
- 6) Bai Tu Long National Park



Tubbataha Reefs National Park

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