

Technical Cooperation CEPA - JICA Biodiversity Project 2015-2020

Annual Report 2017

The Project for Biodiversity Conservation through
Implementation of the PNG Policy on Protected Areas



**CEPA - JICA
Biodiversity Project**

Project Period: Five (5) years commencing from June 2015

Targets: Provincial administration(s), district administration(s) and LLG government(s) surrounding the target Protected Areas

Implementing Agency: Conservation and Environment Protection Authority (CEPA),
Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

Target Protected Areas: Terrestrial – Varirata National Park,
Marine/Coastal – to be defined

Land Use Map of Project Target Areas

Background

PNG is one of the richest biodiversity countries in the world, while among the total population of 7.3 million in PNG, over 80% of them are in rural areas and still directly dependent on the natural environment with the rich biodiversity for their subsistence and livelihoods.

To address biodiversity conservation, the government of Papua New Guinea and Japan jointly launched a technical cooperation called the Project for Biodiversity Conservation through Implementation of the PNG Policy on Protected Areas. The project commenced in June 2015 and will run for a five (5) year period. The implementing agencies are Conservation and Environment Protection Authority (CEPA) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

Project Framework

Project Purpose

Institutional capacity of CEPA for protected area (PA) management is strengthened through enhancing national-level PA governance and sustainable use of natural resources with local communities in the model PA(s) as per the provision of the Policy on Protected Areas (PPA).

Overall Goal

Protected Area Network is effectively managed by applying PA management (and establishment) model(s), which were developed by the Project.

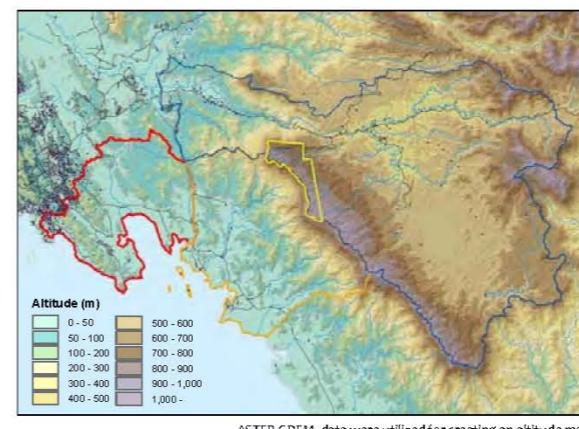
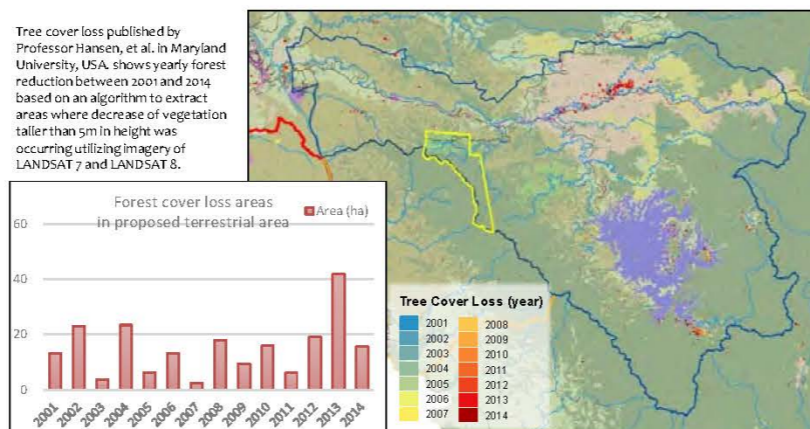
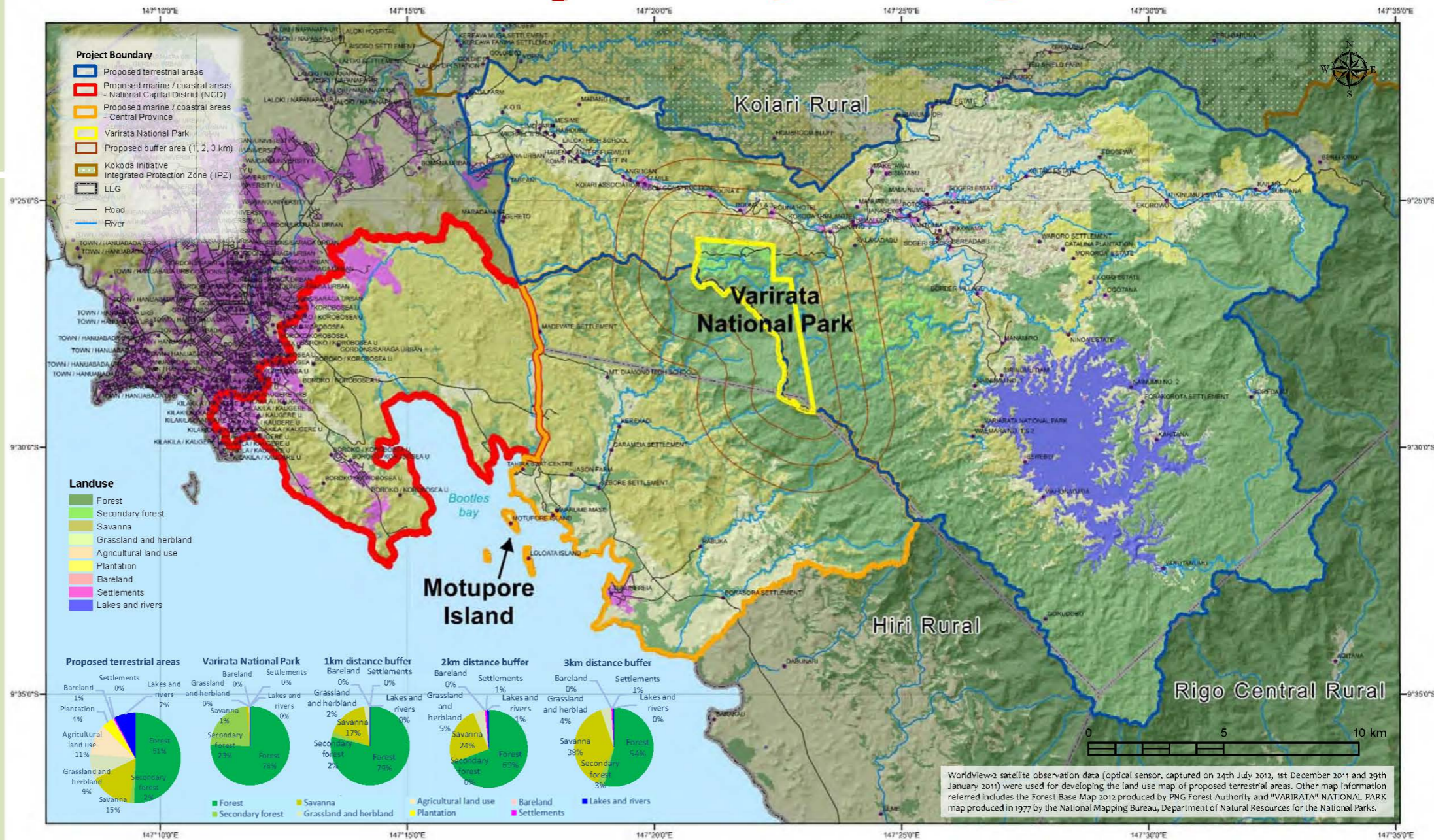
Outputs

1. National-level governance and management arrangement for Protected Area Network (i.e., PPA Action Plan, National Conservation Council (NCC)) is strengthened.
2. The Varirata National Park (VNP) is enhanced as a terrestrial PA management model in accordance with PPA.
3. A model of establishing a new marine PA is developed as per the provision of PPA and concerned laws.
4. Public relations/awareness for biodiversity conservation is improved by disseminating project related information.

The project design can be interpreted to have three distinctive tasks; 1) enhancement of administrative function of national government for PA network (Output 1), 2) enhancement of PA management and establishment functions of both national and local governments (Output 2 & 3) and 3) enhancement of information dissemination and public relation function of national government (Output 4). While Output 2 & 3 are core components to the project purpose, Output 1 & 4 are supporting components of the Output 2 & 3.

Target Areas

Proposed project target area covers approximately 612 km², which can be divided into two major types; terrestrial areas (396 km²) and marine/coastal areas (216 km²), as indicated below. The target PA for the Output 2 is the VNP to develop a terrestrial PA management model, and Koiari Rural LLG is the target LLG for livelihood related activities. Besides, the Output 3 targets Bootless Bay and its coast for the establishment of a new marine/coastal PA model.



ASTER GDEM data were utilized for creating an altitude map.

SRTM DEM data were utilized for analyzing slope.

Output 1 Strengthen National Level Protected Area Governance !!!

Strengthened national-level governance and management arrangement for Protected Area Network



The Project support for establishing the **National Conservation Council (NCC)** and operating the NCC.

Achievements by December 2017

The Project reviewed existing legal framework, identified approach, and supported the process for establishing NCC.

- ✓ **Protected Area Bill review notes** to incorporate into the new Bill.

Targets for 2018-2020

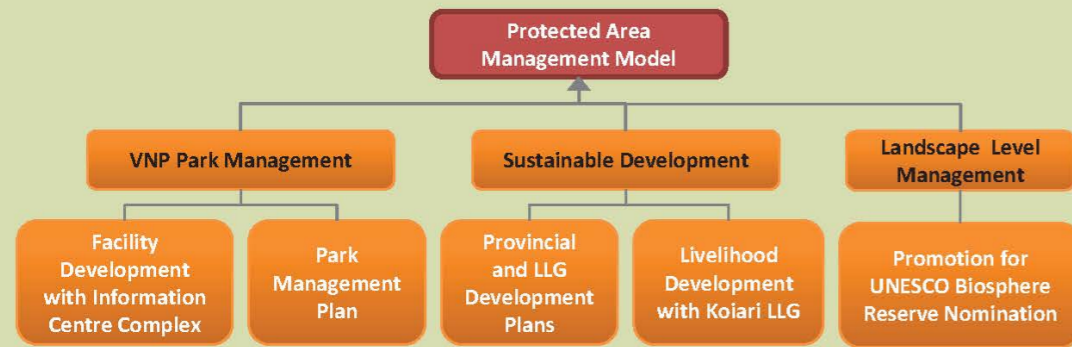
After the Protected Area Bill will become a Law,

- Nominate and appoint council members.
- Provide support for operating the NCC.
- Promote concept of MAB program as a mean of landscape-level management.



Output 2 Varirata National Park as the State's Management Model !!!

The Varirata National Park (VNP) has been enhanced as a **Terrestrial Protected Area Management Model**.



For contributing to public reputation/appreciation of VNP, we work for

- **Various park facilities** to be restored and developed.
- **Park management plans** to be developed and to be used.
- **Biodiversity conservation of VNP landscape** to be integrated into the local governments' development plans.
- **Livelihood development options** to be developed with Koiari communities.



Achievements by December 2017

Revitalization of Park Facilities and Development of Information Center (IC) Complex

- **The assessment of the facilities at the VNP** has been completed with a detailed technical report covering a **total of 284 facilities**.
- Various **facility renovation, maintenance and development** works completed, and new wooden bridges, new distance piles along four tracks, signages, signboards, and other facilities have become functional.



- **IC Complex Master Plan** was developed, and development work has started based on the Plan. So far
 - ✓ **3 Car parking areas (Total 100m²)** were renovated.
 - ✓ **12 bar-type & 8 PVC car stop piles** (length 60m in total) were renewed or installed newly.
 - ✓ **40m masonry drainage** was installed on the existing open drainage.
 - ✓ One **wooden bridge (L=3m)** was renovated connecting IC complex and the main picnic area.
- **Old IC renovation** has been renovated to be **new auditorium**.
- **New Information Center Construction** was started under the supervision by JICA Expert Team.



Development of the Management Plan for the VNP

- The management plan will compose of the **conservation plan**, the **utilization plan**, and the **logistic support plan**.
- **Revival Plan** has been prepared using the results of various assessment results. **Financial management improvement plan** and **Plan for security improvement** in VNP were drafted.
- **Works to improve VNP management** was conducted as per the plan.
 - **Camera trap** has continued since Sep 2015, and the first **wrap up report of mammal and bird** was prepared.
 - **Trial community (four clans) patrol** was implemented.
 - Preliminary draft **park committee by-law** was prepared.
- **Biodiversity survey** has been conducted, and **interim monitoring report** was submitted.
- **Social mapping & socio-economic studies** of VNP have been carried out and **final draft report** was submitted.



Assistance of Development Planning of Local Governments

- Existing developing plans were assessed, and **Koiari Five Years Development Plan** was revised.
- **Key recommendations for enhancing biodiversity conservation** with revised **Central Provincial Development Plan** was submitted to Central Provincial Government.

Livelihood Development

- A **bird watching project including with livelihood development for local community** in partnership with PNGTPA, PAU and the Koiari LLG is ongoing from February, 2016.
- Various **Koiari community workshops** were done to discuss on needs and expectations for livelihood development.
- **12 potential tourism resources** were identified from the **tourism resource assessment**.
- **Two packaged tour** were proposed to Koiari LLG and local communities.
- **Draft livelihood development plan** was made.
- **Two social groups (Traditional Dance group and Traditional Cooking group)** were formed from the various meetings with target clan leaders of Koiari.
- **Trainings** were conducted for social group members, and they gave their traditional performances at **two events**, World Environment Day (June 2017) and Inaugural event of VNP facility (April 2017), to the public, and gained income.



Targets for 2018-2020

Development of IC Complex will be completed by September 2018.

- Auditorium (old IC)
- Wood deck connected to New IC and the auditorium
- New Information Center and Park Headquarters Building

Livelihood development activities will be carried out.

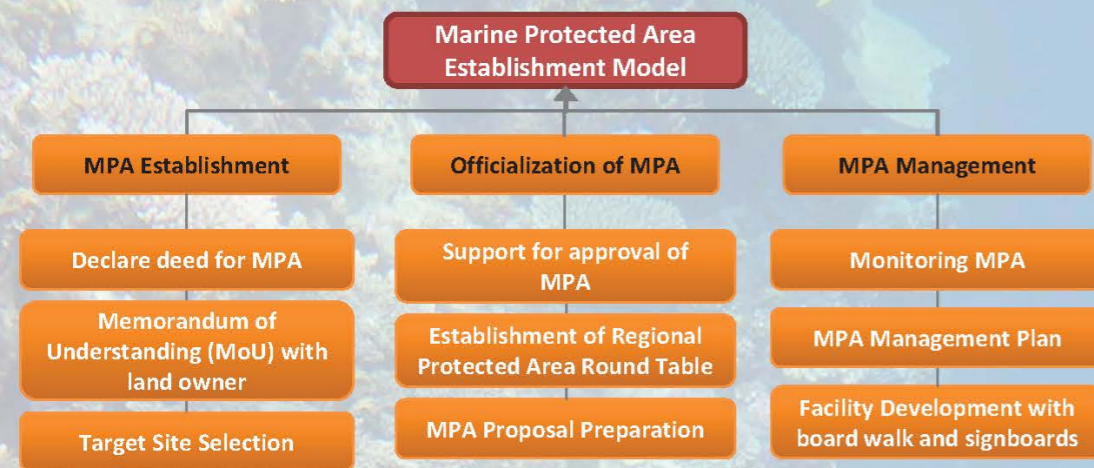
- Performance of social groups to be improved by means of conducting hands-on trainings and a study/exposure tour.
- VNP Incorporated land group (ILG) to be formed to be a partner for the park management and their own income generation.
- Sub-groups to be formed for park management by means of providing necessary training and trial employment.

MAB nomination form will be developed on the results of other Outputs.



Output 3 New Marine Protected Area to be created !!!

A model of establishing a new Marine Protected Area (MPA) as per the provision of PPA and concerned laws



For a model of MPA establishment, we work for

- Deed for MPA to be declared.
- Regional Protected Area Round Table to be established.
- MPA Management Plan to be prepared.



Achievements by December 2017

MPA establishment

- A roadmap for the establishment of a new MPA in PNG was prepared.
- Rapid marine biodiverse survey was carried out.
- Five target site have been selected for MPA establishment.
- One memorandum of understanding with University of Papua New Guinea was signed.

Officialization of MPA

- Bootless Bay Marine Conservation Initiative (BBMCI) was established as regional protected area round table.
- Nineteen stakeholders have been participated in BBMCI.
- The road map was approved by BBMCI.
- Two workshops and four meetings have been carried out under BBMCI.
- Coastal clean-up event was carried out under BBMCI.



MPA management

- Zoning plan was drafted for two target sites.
- Various facilities to monitor MPA has been procured.
- Various signboard has been installed.
- So far five potential MPA areas were identified, and possible establishment scenarios have been identified for each option.
- Under BBMCI, working groups for MPA establishment was set up, and a coastal clean-up event was held.



Targets for 2018-2020

MPA establishment will be carried out.

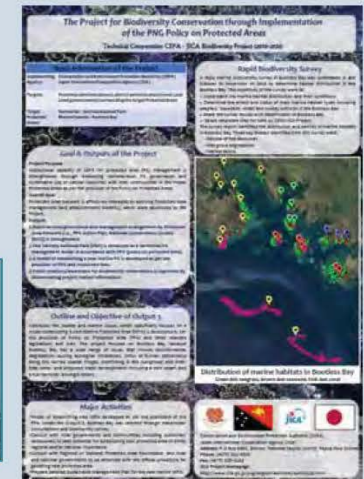
- MoUs with land owners
- Deed for MPA
- Marine biodiversity survey

Officialization of MPA will be supported.

- MPA proposal preparation
- Support for approval of MPA by provincial government or local level government
- Series of meetings and workshops under BBMCI

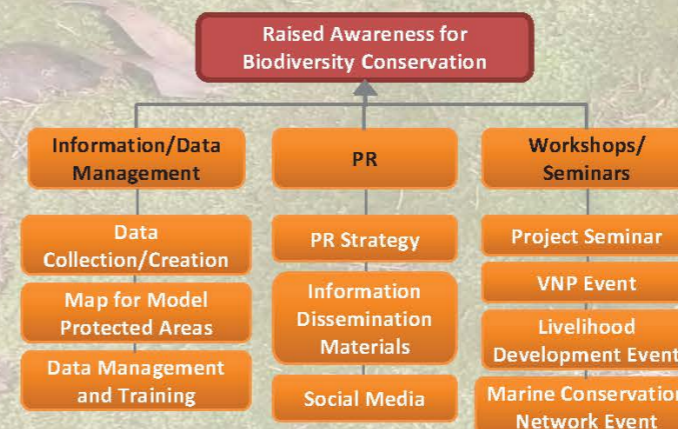
MPA management will be carried out.

- Boardwalk and observation tower
- MPA management plan including zoning
- Environmental education and awareness activities
- Monitoring MPA based on management plan



Output 4 Raising Awareness for Biodiversity Conservation and Data Management !!!

Public Relations (PR)/awareness for biodiversity conservation by disseminating project related information



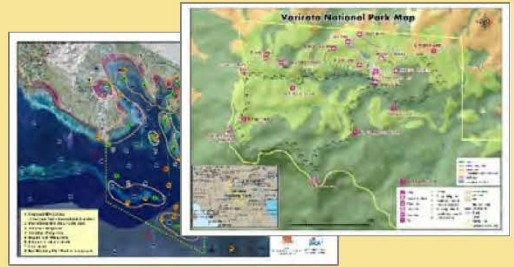
For raising awareness for biodiversity conservation and the Project activities, we work for

- Data and information for model Protected Areas (PA) to be collected and managed.
- Strategy for PR/awareness to be developed, and information dissemination materials to be elaborated and disseminated through appropriate media as per the PR strategy.
- Workshops/seminars to be conducted for better PR/awareness.

Achievements by December 2017

Information/Data Management for Model PA

- **WorldView-2 imagery** (Terrestrial areas: 494km², Marine / coastal areas: 223km²) was purchased.
- **GIS database** has been developed, and also **data and maps for each output** have been prepared.
 - ✓ **facility maps** of VNP,
 - ✓ **detailed land cover/use map** of proposed terrestrial areas,
 - ✓ **mangroves map** of Bootless Bay, Dogura Inlet and Tuna Bay including Joyce Bay in the NCD and Central Province,
 - ✓ **reef map** of targeted MPA, etc.



PR of the Project Activities for biodiversity Conservation

- A **Public Relations strategy** for the Project has been developed.
- A variety of **project PR tools** have been created as per the Public Relations strategy.
 - ✓ Project webpage, facebook page,
 - ✓ brochures (volume 1-4 and Marine ver.),
 - ✓ news letters (volume 1-5),
 - ✓ factsheet (volume 1-2),
 - ✓ sign boards, banners, posters,
 - ✓ Guide map of VNP,
 - ✓ polo shirts, T-shirts, stickers,
 - ✓ logos for VNP and BBMCI, etc.
- Project activities were disseminated through **media**.
 - ✓ more than 10 news articles appearances in newspaper,
 - ✓ promotion of the Project in the World Wildlife Day event,
 - ✓ running of a booth and made a presentation at the World Oceans Conference in UN HQ, in New York,
 - ✓ major sponsorship of the World Environment Day event at VNP, etc.



Workshops/Seminars for Better PR/Awareness

- **Seminars/workshops** has been held more than 10 times.

Targets for 2018-2020

- Public relations/awareness strategy and Action Plan for the Project will be reviewed and revised.
- A variety of project PR tools will be created continuously, including Bird Watching Guide book, Guide book for mangrove, sign boards for promotion of BW and mangrove protection.
- Data and maps for each output will be prepared such as VNP facility map (updated version), Management Zone map, Bird Watching map, and other maps related to biodiversity conservation and mangrove protection.
- Seminar / workshop will be held.



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<https://www.facebook.com/pngbiodiv/>

<http://pngcepa.com/projects/>

