

# NBDS PROJECT Newsletter

## “THE PROJECT FOR DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY DATABASE SYSTEM IN VIETNAM”

JICA/JDS – MONRE/VEA/BCA

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### **THE SECOND MONITORING/SURVEY IN XUAN THUY NATIONAL PARK FOR SUMMER SEASON**

Summer biodiversity monitoring was conducted from 20 to 25 June, 2014. The subject of this monitoring was to get the data on the current state of biodiversity in Xuan Thuy National Park (XTNP): indicator species, communities and ecosystem health; the pressures: water, soil, and sediment environment, unreasonable use of wetland resources; the responses: management and policy; the benefits of wetland ecosystems that provide to local community.

In addition, local consultants from IEBR also involved the task as teachers of two training courses organized by the NBDS Project: the sessions on guideline for building biodiversity indicators (in Nam Dinh city, from 18 to 19 June 2014) and the sessions on biodiversity monitoring (in Xuan XTNP from 20 to 25 June 2014). The participants of the training course included Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DONRE), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD), five communes in buffer zone of XTNP, the technical staffs of XTNP, Nam Dinh and some other national parks such as Ba Be, Bai Tu Long, Cat Ba and Tien Hai Nature Reserve.



## **TECHNICAL GUIDELINE FOR BASIC SURVEY AND MONITORING OF COASTAL WETLANDS**

In the framework of the project NBDS, the issue of the Guidelines for monitoring and assessing biodiversity in Vietnamese coastal wetlands is a critical task and is one of the main products of the project, contributing to effective management of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of wetland ecosystems in Vietnam.

This document is designed as a technical guideline with the basic objectives: planning, designing and implementing biodiversity monitoring programs of coastal wetlands. Moreover, it will serve as guidelines for environmental management and biodiversity conservation, education and training.

Structurally, except the introduction and appendix, the guideline includes three separated parts:

- The first part is the general rule, presenting a number of provisions including the scope; Object applicable; and the basic concepts used in this guide as biodiversity indicators, biodiversity monitoring and assessment. Also, in this part, the legal basis and the scientific justification for the guidelines are also presented.

- The second part is the processes of biodiversity monitoring and survey in coastal wetlands.

- The third part presents protocols of biodiversity monitoring in coastal wetlands.

The appendix includes the forms of developing plots/sections for monitoring, forms of indicator information and biodiversity monitoring at Xuan Thuy National Park.

This guideline is completed and expected to publish on the final Workshops of NBDS Project in next January.

## **GUIDELINE FOR BIODIVERSITY INDICATOR DEVELOPMENT AND UTILIZATION**

Within the scope of JICA/VEA/BCA-NBDS Project, the Guidance for Development and Use of the Vietnam National Biodiversity Indicators is one of the main results of the Project, including national and local indicators (at provincial, and protected area level) and contributing to efficient management of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in Vietnam.

This document is designed as a technical guideline that aims to support governmental and non-governmental organizations in Vietnam on producing the biodiversity indicators, on using them for monitoring and reporting on the biodiversity, both at national and local levels: provincial reservation areas; to support them as well on policy-making, on environmental management and biodiversity conservation and also on providing related education and training. The editor team of this document is finalizing and going to publish it in January, 2015.

This guidance document consists of 2 different sections, a part from the preamble and the annexes, for ease of use.

- The first section introduces the basic concepts of biodiversity indicators, monitoring biodiversity and the general principles for selecting and using the indicators in the managing policies and biodiversity conservation, as well as in reporting on the biodiversity status at all levels.

- The second part refers to the Legal Basis and the Biodiversity Indicators Development Framework, containing the steps to develop indicators successfully. In this section, an example is shown, illustrating the steps required to develop the indicators for conservation areas.

## **TERMINAL EVALUATION**

The Terminal Evaluation for the Project for Development of the National Biodiversity Database System was conducted from 14<sup>th</sup> July and 1<sup>st</sup> August 2014.

The specific purposes of the Terminal Evaluation outlined as below:

- To verify the achievement of the project inputs and progress of the project activities against the plan;
- To conduct project review based on the 5 evaluation criteria of 1) relevance, 2) effectiveness, 3) efficiency, 4) impact, and 5) sustainability;
- To identify the facilitating and hindering factors that affected the implementation process;
- To make recommendations for the necessary actions and measures (including modification of Project Design Matrix) in order to attain the Project Purpose by the end of the project cooperation period; and



- To agree on the actions to be taken in the remaining project period by signing the M/M between Japanese and Vietnamese side.

The Team collected the information through questionnaires and a series of interviews with Vietnamese Project Personnel and Japanese Experts. The Team also conducted a field observation in Xuan Thuy National Park, Nam Dinh Province. Based on the results of the review, the Team prepared a draft report and finalized it through a series of discussions.

**Greetings from JICA Experts**



Dear valuable readers,  
 Welcome to the NBDS Project Newsletter. This volume No. 8 of our newsletter will bring you the recent achievements and progress of project, and highlight up coming events. To December 2014, only 3 months to go for project completion, we are delighting to introduce brief results of the summer season monitoring/survey in Xuan Thuy National Park.

This expedition is an important milestone of the project, where on-the-job training was included for not only of XTNP staff, but other relevant stakeholders. We are pleased to release two guidelines on baseline survey and monitoring for coastal wetland ecosystems and for development of biodiversity monitoring indicators. These guidelines are hoped will be important contribution of the project to biodiversity conservation of Vietnam. Key findings and recommendations from Termination Evaluation are also presented.

Please enjoy reading.  
 Nguyen Duc Tu

**Upcoming Events**

- Trainings on Awareness Raising Material, Admin’s and User’s Manual of NBDS
- The Completion of System Architecture and Legal document.

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