

# Abstract

## SPECIAL EVENTS:

Integrated Coastal  
Management Forum and  
Workshop on the  
Message of Viet Nam

## Viet Nam Marine Protected Area Management Effectiveness Evaluation

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Viet Nam is endowed with large marine areas, long coastline, multiple islands and rich natural resources. The Government has realized the significance of and close links between marine economic development, environmental protection and natural resource rational use. It also considers the environment a pre-condition and natural resources a basic resource it relies to achieve sustainable development of the country. A number of innovations in coastal management have been initiated in the past few years including mangroves protection, MPA network development and ICM application and scaling up in some of the coastal provinces. However most of coastal areas have not address issues over zoning and conflicts over the resources use.

A representative system of MPAs is an important step towards the conservation of marine biodiversity in Viet Nam, especially with regards to protection of coral reefs, sea-grass beds and other critical habitats for endangered species and should be enmeshed with a larger ICM framework.

Most impacts within the MPA are from human activities *outside* the boundaries of the MPA, e.g., land-based activities, agriculture, urban development, aquaculture, tourism, and port development and maintenance (dredging and dredged material disposal). MPAs cannot be managed effectively in isolation from their surroundings in the coastal zone. Many lesson learnt on MPA effective management has approved that MPA cannot be managed effectively in isolation from their surroundings in the coastal zone (e.g. *Nha Trang Bay MPA, Ha Long Bay WHS. Cu Lo Cham MPA*).

Viet Nam has currently established eight MPAs with plans to establish eight more in the near future. There has been no management effectiveness evaluation (MEE) of the existing eight MPAs to set and understand how standard for MPA management are being met and guide the planned MPA network expansion to include new sites. The MFF recent study is designed to fill this gap by: carrying out an initial rapid MEE of all eight sites and establishing a baseline; identify major existing management challenges; and proposing MEE standardized template that can be applied across all MPAs on a system basic.



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Setting the Sustainable Development Agenda for  
the Seas of East Asia beyond 2015

### **About Bui Thi Thu Hien:**

Mrs. Bui Thi Thu Hien, Marine and Coastal Resources Programme Coordinator and MFF National Coordinator at IUCN – International Union for Conservation of Nature (Viet Nam Office). As Coordinator of the IUCN Vietnam Marine and Coastal Program, she coordinated all key activities under the programme that included: (1) Provision of technical and policy support to the implementation and development of Vietnam's National System of Marine Protected Areas; (2) Supports Viet Nam the development and implementation the Marine Turtle Conservation Action Plan (MTCAP) with its priority activities that focuses on community based marine turtle conservations; (3) Provide technical assistance to strengthen the institutional capacity of the Ha Long Bay World Heritage Site Management Department; (4) Supported and coordinated the development and implementation on building capacity on Integrated Coastal Management for Quang Ninh and Hai Phong; and (5) Since 2010, coordinated Viet Nam Mangroves for the Future Initiative (MFF) with its priorities focused on Climate Change adaptation following ecological system based approach. Consider coastal ecological system is nature infrastructure and the core element for coastal area resilience.