



Small Grants Programme
by the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity
German Financial Cooperation
KfW No. BMZ 2011 66 545 (SGP)
KfW No. BMZ 2015 69 177 (SGP II)

HOANG LIEN NATIONAL PARK (HLNP)

Hoang Lien National Park (HLNP), located mainly in *Sa Pa, Lao Cai* province and partly in *Lai Chau* province, spans an area of 29,845 hectares with a 38,724-hectare buffer zone. Situated in the *Hoang Lien Son* mountain range, the park is home to Mt. Fansipan—Viet Nam’s highest peak. It is a major centre of plant diversity with about 2,900 species—25 per cent of which are endemic to Viet Nam—alongside more than 500 animal species. Declared an ASEAN Heritage Park in 2003, HLNP is also home to indigenous communities such as the *Hmong, Dao, Tay, and Giay*.

Despite its ecological and cultural importance, HLNP faces threats from fragmented ecotourism, limited livelihood capacity, habitat loss, pollution, and climate change that affect many species listed on the IUCN Red List.

Through the SGP II, communities were strengthened as key partners in biodiversity protection. HLNP received EUR 800,845.05 for 19 grant projects—10 small and 9 micro— led by the park management, universities, private organisations, and local communities.

Launched in 2017, the *Small Grants Programme by the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity II* (SGP II) is an initiative aimed at sustaining biodiversity in the ASEAN Heritage Parks in Viet Nam, in line with the interests of local communities who directly depend on the selected parks, providing alternative livelihood opportunities, and strengthening the role of the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) in promoting biodiversity conservation in the ASEAN region.

SMALL GRANTS, BIG IMPACTS

“Since the project began, we have gained more market access, allowing us to supply ducks to Hanoi and other areas. Our flock has grown steadily. We kept what the trainers taught us in our hearts. We learned more about disease prevention, and things became more effective. Getting trained really helped a lot.”

Vang Thi Soi

SGP II beneficiary, *Ta Van* commune, *Sa Pa, Lao Cai* province

FOSTERING PARTNERSHIPS

Through SGP II, the following agencies and organisations collaborated to advance biodiversity conservation and sustainable livelihoods in the ASEAN region:

- ACB
- KfW Development Bank
- Project Management Unit, Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Agency, Ministry of Agriculture and Environment (Viet Nam)
- HLNP Management Board
- Center for Environment and Community Assets Development
- Dao Thinh Cooperative Group
- Hoang Lien Forest Protection Department - Hoang Lien National Park
- Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union of Sapa town, Lao Cai province
- Ha Noi Metropolitan University
- Hoang Lien National Park
- The Northwest Development Cooperation Centre
- Vietnam Environment and Sustainable Development Institution
- VNU University of Science
- Centre for Applied Silviculture Research and Extension
- Agriculture and Forestry Research & Development Centre for Mountainous Region
- Centre for Environment and Community Research
- Centre for Water Resources Conservation and Development
- Tan Lac Son Cooperative
- Center for Organic Agriculture Development and Support
- Hoang Lien Centre for Tourism and Wildlife Conservation
- GITEC



WILDLIFE RESEARCH AND MONITORING

SGP II capacitated local communities to improve conservation and forest protection efforts. The programme supported 4 projects with EUR 257,145.77 or 32 per cent of the total grant amount allocated to the park.

CAPACITY BUILDING

- Trained 10 park staff on using Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool and camera traps for biodiversity monitoring and conservation, and another 10 park staff for amphibian conservation and species prioritisation
- Conducted 5 training courses, each of which were participated by 10 park staff, on biodiversity monitoring tools and development of conservation plans

DOCUMENTATION

- Supported the discovery of frog species Cuong's torrent frog (*Amolops cuongi*) and the conservation of 5 endangered amphibian species, namely Sterling's toothed toad (*Oreolalax sterlingae*), Southern spiny frog (*Nanorana yunnanensis*), Botsford's leaf-litter frog (*Leptobranchella botsfordi*), and Small cascade frog or *Son La* cascade frog (*Amolops minutus*)
- Compiled an inventory of 36 reptiles, 37 mammals, and 102 rare plants, selecting 10 priority species for monitoring
- Established a comprehensive species database and distribution maps for Fansipan Fir (*Abies delavayi* subsp. *fansipanensis*), permanently tagging 306 mature trees and identifying 3 priority conservation zones, alongside the creation of a trial nursery and a 10-year conservation plan for the species

COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION, AND PUBLIC AWARENESS

- Increased conservation awareness among 1,047 community members with the aid of leaflets and posters

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

SGP II strengthened community livelihoods through ecotourism, sustainable agriculture, climate-adaptive farming, product commercialisation, promotion of eco-friendly handicrafts, and green waste management, supporting 9 projects with EUR 356,230.27 or 44 per cent of the total grant amount allocated to the park.

CAPACITY BUILDING

- Trained 300+ member of ethnic groups in English, Chinese, and Vietnamese language and communication skills
- Provided 165 participants a training on duck farming, rice cultivation, business management, and forest protection
- Trained trainers of Farmers' Union of *Ban Ho* commune and vocational teachers from *Sa Pa* province on climate change-adapted black *Hmong* chicken farming
- Conducted 6 field-based organic farming courses to 180 participants
- Enhanced composting practices among 240 households
- Trained 60 guides and porters in ecotourism and biodiversity conservation
- Surveyed 8 ecotourism routes, with 2 routes promoted to local authorities, travel companies, and local communities; and developed a tourism map at a 1/25,000 scale
- Submitted HLNP's application dossier to become a provincial tourism site

SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD

- Provided 6,400 ducklings and 200 eggs to households for additional income stream
- Maintained traditional rice production on over 70 hectares across 3 villages
- Increased harvest of nearly 800 kilograms of fresh sweet bamboo shoot
- Promoted 18 local product kiosks during Ecotourism and Biodiversity Day
- Supported creation of 22 biodiversity-inspired handicraft designs, production of 322 items, and sale of 231 items
- Enabled local residents, especially women and ethnic groups, to work as guides, porters, and survey assistants

GENERAL PARK MANAGEMENT

SGP II strengthened the park and the communities' capacities in grant development, ecotourism management, and community-led composting. The programme supported 3 general park management projects with EUR 119,221.04 or 15 per cent of total grant amount allocated to the park.

- Trained 30 park staff in grant proposal writing, monitoring, and evaluation
- Fostered shared understanding among park staff, local communes, and tourism stakeholders on ecotourism and biodiversity conservation
- Replicated organic composting models, with 90 per cent of ethnic households now using agricultural and animal waste

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND CONSERVATION AWARENESS

SGP II enhanced the capacities of park staff and local communities in ecotourism management, integration of natural and cultural values, and climate change adaptation, supporting 3 projects with EUR 68,247.97 or 9 per cent of the total grant amount allocated to the park.

- Developed 3 training courses for 30 staff and members of 2 communes in producing 3 ecotourism plans
- Trained 20 schoolteachers, 10 board leaders, 2 village heads, and 40 *Hmong* community members on natural and cultural values and climate change impacts
- Provided 20 households a training on vermicomposting, compressed fertiliser production, and creation of animal feed pellets

Scan this QR code to know more about the grant projects supported by SGP II



CONNECT WITH US

- aseanbiodiversity.org
- [TheASEANbiodiversity](https://www.youtube.com/TheASEANbiodiversity)
- [ASEANBiodiversity](https://www.facebook.com/ASEANBiodiversity)
- [ASEAN_Biodiversity](https://www.tiktok.com/ASEAN_Biodiversity)
- [ASEANBiodiversity](https://www.instagram.com/ASEANBiodiversity)

