



# STATUS OF BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION IN MYANMAR

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# INTRODUCTION

Myanmar possesses a great extent of forest biological diversity;

- Marine biodiversity in the coastal areas,
- Coastal and inland mangrove,
- Tropical evergreen forests in the south.
- Moist deciduous, dry deciduous forests
- Dry and sub-humid land in the central,
- Snow-capped mountains in the far north.



**Snow-capped Mountain**



**Central Region**



**Evergreen Forest**

# BIOGEOGRAPHY OF MYANMAR



**Mountain Ecosystem**



**Mangrove Ecosystem**



**Forest Ecosystem**



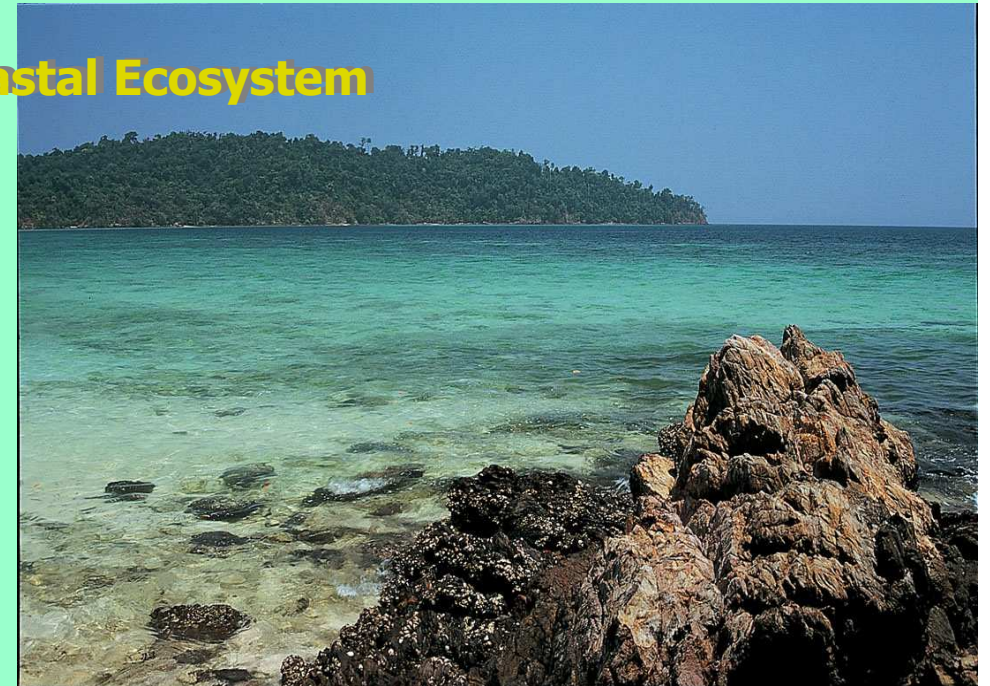
**Wetland Ecosystem**











**Grassland Ecosystem**



**Marine and Coastal Ecosystem**



# WILDLIFE STATUS IN MYANMAR

 Species of vascular plants of gymnosperms and Angiosperms			11,800
 Mammal species			360
 Bird species			1,027
 <u>Reptiles</u>		<u>Amphibian</u>	
Snake	153	Frog	79
Lizard	87	Caecilians	2
Turtle & Tortoise	36	Salamander	1
Crocodile	2		
 Fresh water fish species		310	
 Marine water fish species		465	
 Medicinal plant species		841	
 Bamboo species		90	

**MYANMAR ENDEMIC SPECIES**



**Star Tortoise**



**White-browed Nuthatch**



**Leaf Deer**



**Golden Deer**

**RICHNESS OF BIODIVERSITY**



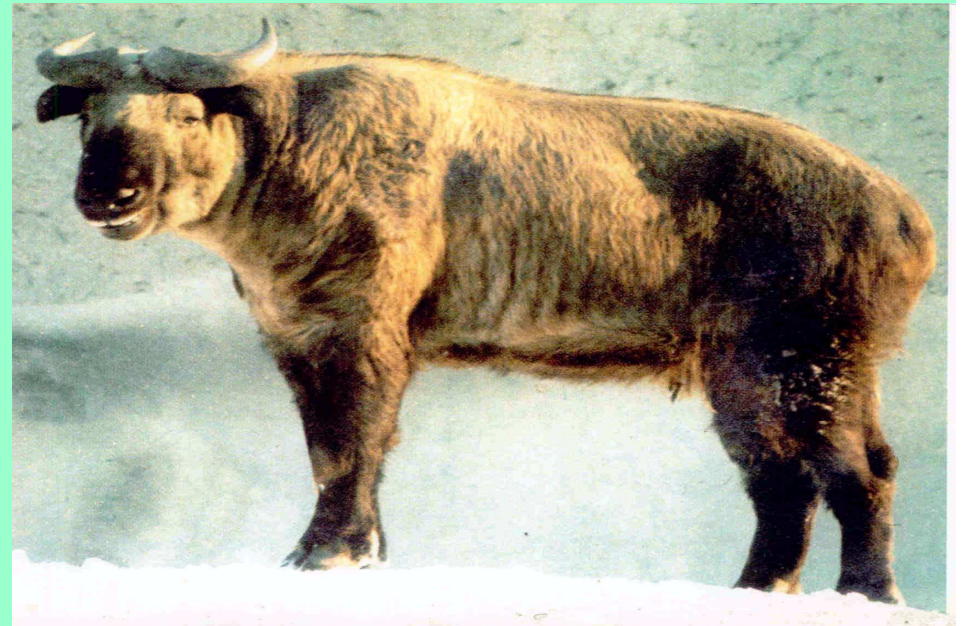
**Leopard**



**Golden Cat**



**Tiger**



**Takin**





**Asian Elephant**



**Red Goral**

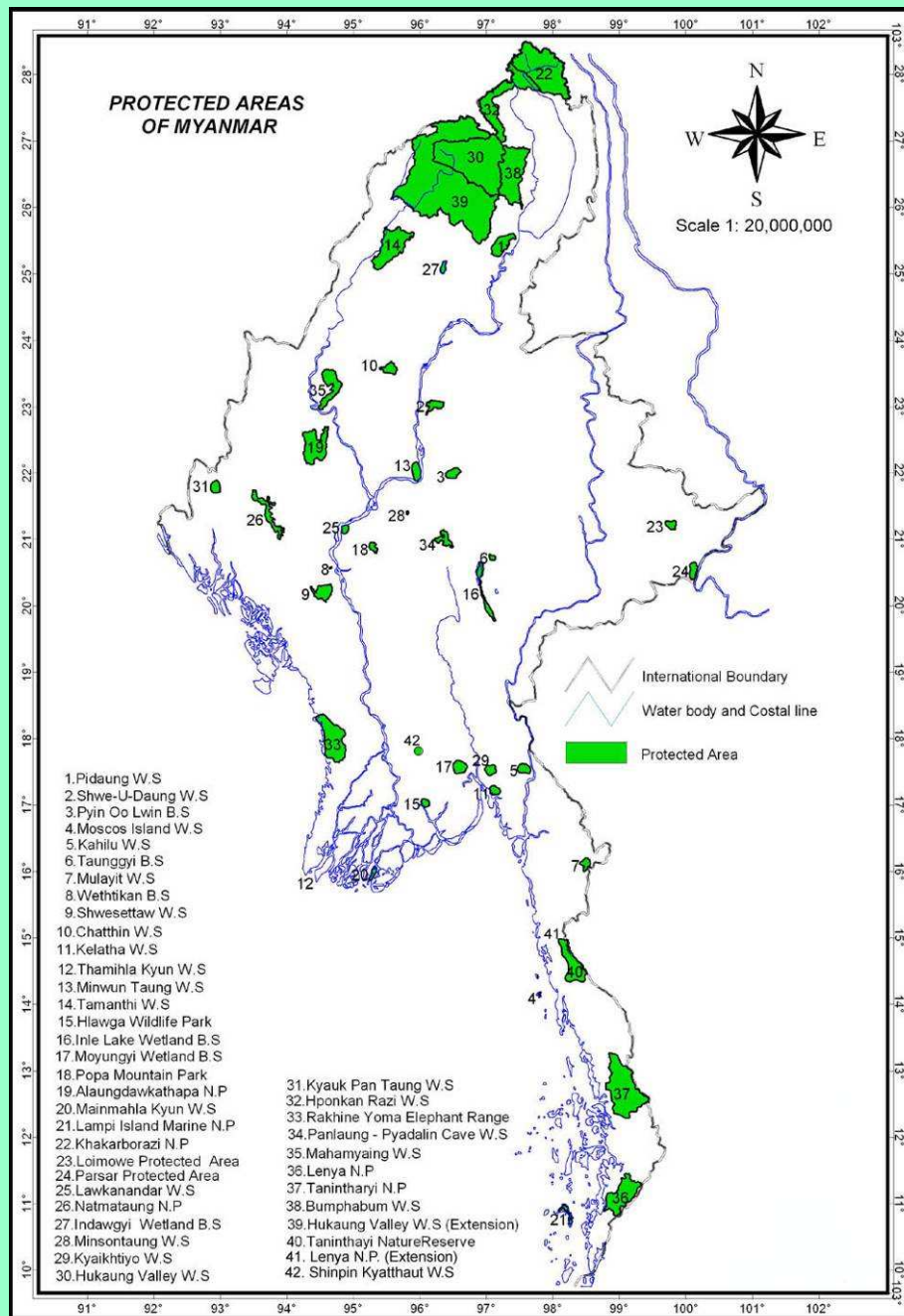


**Cobra**



**Sea Turtle**

# Existing Wildlife Sanctuaries and National Parks in Myanmar



1. Pidaung Wildlife Sanctuary.
2. Shwe-U-Daung Wildlife Sanctuary.
3. Pyin-O-Lwin Bird Sanctuary.
4. Moscos Islands Wildlife Sanctuary.
5. Kahilu Wildlife Sanctuary.
6. Taunggyi Bird Sanctuary.
7. Mulayit Wildlife Sanctuary.
8. Wethtikan Bird Sanctuary.
9. Shwesettaw Wildlife Sanctuary.
10. Chatthin Wildlife Sanctuary.
11. Kelatha Wildlife Sanctuary.
12. Thamihla Kyun Wildlife Sanctuary.
13. Minwuntaung Wildlife Sanctuary.
14. Htamanthi Wildlife Sanctuary.
15. Hlawga Wildlife Sanctuary.
16. Inle Wetland Bird Sanctuary.
17. Moyungyi Wetland Bird Sanctuary.
18. .Popa Mountain Park.
19. Alaungdawkathapa National Park.
20. Meinmahla Kyun Wildlife Sanctuary.
21. Lampi Island Marine National Park.
22. Hkakaborazi National Park.
23. Loimwe Protected Area.
24. Parsar Protected Area.
25. Lawkananda Wildlife Sanctuary.
26. Namataung National Park.
27. Indawgyi Wetland Bird Sanctuary.
28. Minsontaung Wildlife Sanctuary.
29. Kyaikhtyoe Wildlife Sanctuary.
30. Hukaung Valley Wildlife Sanctuary.
31. Kyauk Pan Taung Wildlife Sanctuary.
32. Hponkanrazi Wildlife Sanctuary.
33. Rakhine Yoma Elephant Range
34. Panlaung-Pyadalain Cave Wildlife Sanctuary.
35. Maharmyaine Wildlife Sanctuary.
36. Lenya National Park.
37. Tanintharyi National Park.
38. Bumhphabum Wildlife Sanctuary.
39. Hukaung Valley Wildlife Sanctuary. (extension)
40. Taninthayi Nature Reserve.
41. Lenya National Park. (extension)
42. Shinpin Kyatthaut Wildlife Sanctuary.

# Existing Wildlife Sanctuaries and National Parks in Myanmar

- \* According to Forest Policy, the coverage of Protected Areas will be increased to 5% of the country's area in the short term.
- \* In the long term it is intended to increase up to 10%.
- \* 42 Parks and Sanctuaries representing 7.3% of total land area of the country.



**Pidaung W.S**  
**(oldest sanctuary established in 1918)**



**Hkakaborazi National Park**



**Moeyungyi Wildlife Sanctuary**



**Alaungdaw Katthapa National Park**

# LEGISLATIONS RELEVANT TO BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

- **Elephant Preservation Act (1879)**
- **The Wild Bird and Animals Protection Act (1912)**
- **The Wildlife Protection Act (1936)**
- **Forest Law (1992)**
- **The Protection of Wildlife and Conservation of Natural Areas Law (1994)**
- **Forest Policy (1995)**
- **Rules relating to the Protection of Wildlife and Conservation of Natural Areas (2002)**

# Biodiversity Conservation Activities in Myanmar



# Law Enforcement & Monitoring Activities



# Threats to Biodiversity

- Hunting and poaching of wild animals for numerous purposes
- Conversion of natural forests for other land uses
- Shifting cultivation traditionally practiced by national races in the uplands
- Disposal of toxic chemicals into the water bodies such as rivers, lakes and seas
- Failure to use fishing gears with turtle escape devices
- Introduction of alien invasive species that will cause negative impacts on native biodiversity
- Weak enforcement over the control of illegal trade of wildlife and their parts



# Recommendations

- Effective protection is needed
- Review on the status of wildlife species in States and Divisions is needed
- Community participation in biodiversity conservation needs to be strengthened
- Involvement of INGOs, NGOs and stakeholders will have to be encouraged
- Community Livelihood Development programs need to be increased
- Research activities will have to be promoted
- Sustainable utilization of biodiversity is needed
- Increased public education and awareness are needed
- Increased capacity building in areas relating to biodiversity is needed

# Recommendations

- Sufficient funds is needed
- Adequate staff needs to be appointed to do effective patrolling and monitoring
- Increased collaboration between scientific institutions in order to promote technical know how of the staff in the field of taxonomy of flora and fauna
- Close coordination and cooperation with neighbouring countries to control illegal trade of wildlife and their parts
- Technical support as well as other relevant assistance from the UN Conventions, such as CITES and Ramsar are needed to up grade the staff development and performance
- To prepare management plans for parks and wildlife sanctuaries

# **NBSAP in Myanmar**

- The inception workshop on National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan of Myanmar was held on 7 June, 2006. The Ministry of Forestry hosted this workshop in collaboration with UNEP.
- After the workshop Government Agencies responsible to develop the NBSAP will continue data and necessary information and put together step by step along with seeking financial and technical sources.
- Even though Myanmar has not finished the National Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and National Action Plan, the exerted efforts have been made to meet the needs for biological diversity conservation, performing the separate conservation plans in cooperation with international agencies.

# NBSAP Team

National Steering Committee

High level guidance & integration of NBSAP in government policy across Ministries

National Project Director

Monitoring Process of NBSAP

## **Project Management Team**

- Project Manager
- Assistants & Secretariat
- Heads of Working Groups

Day to day coordination, management, implementation of NBSAP Process. Technical Assistance

## **Thematic Working Groups**

- Natural Resource Use
- Conservation & Ecology
- Sust Developm, Economy, Policy

Technical assistance & advisory role. Stocktaking process (data sharing, input) Gap analysis, Prioritize Issues, Assist PMT

# Conclusion

- Myanmar is still endowed with forests and biodiversity.
- Wildlife biodiversity is declining.
- Urgent measures such law enforcement, punishment, increased patrolling and monitoring and allocation of adequate staff with funds and logistic supports are needed.
- Country wide review on biodiversity and appropriate measures so as to preserve the remaining species are urgently needed.

**Thank You!**