

VIETNAM'S NATIONAL ECOSYSTEM ASSESSMENT

10
YEARS

50%

1

Seagrass bed - one of the most important ecosystems of Vietnam - is reduced in area and degraded in quality. In the last 10 years, an average of 40-50% of coastal seagrass has been lost causing devastating impacts to a large number of species including the Sea Dugong which has not been seen for many years.

200
POLICY
DOCUMENTS

2

By 2020, the legal framework on conservation and sustainable use of the country's biodiversity, particularly for the natural ecosystems, has been gradually improving in Vietnam, with almost 200 policy documents issued to guide the implementation of the Law on Forestry (2017), the Fisheries Law (2017) and the Biodiversity Law (2008). The concept of ecosystem services is yet to be incorporated and institutionalised in national laws. There is an opportunity to develop policy documents for marine and wetland ecosystems given their crucial role in supporting socio-economic development and well-being improvement in Vietnam.

7.6%

176 PROTECTED AREAS
2,512,530.78 HECTARES

3

Based on the level of contributions to the economy and social welfare, the following ecosystems are considered as the main and most important ecosystems of Vietnam: forest, inland wetland, and marine and coastal ecosystems. Most of the native ecosystems are located in 176 protected areas, covering a total area of about 2,512,530.78 ha (7.6% of the national area).

\$728.09 MILLION

2011

2020

5

Due to the huge success of the payment for forest ecosystem services (PFES), which collected over 728.09 million USD from parties using forest services between 2011 and 2020 to maintain and enhance forest ecosystems and their services, Vietnam has identified it as necessary to have a legal basis for a policy on payment for wetland and marine ecosystem services, which was recently mentioned in the Law on Environmental Protection in 2020.

4

Ecosystems which provide the most services and are high in biodiversity and biological productivity contribute with significant benefits to the socio-economy. For example, about 20 million Vietnamese people derive either their main or partial income from aquatic resources; and about 25 million people living in or near forests have 20-50% of their incomes based on non-timber products such as medicinal plants, oil crops and dyes.

20
MILLION

25
MILLION

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

For more information on the assessment

