

Cu Mong Proposed Marine Protected Area

Alternative site name(s)

Cu Mong lagoon

Province(s)

Phu Yen

Area

3,000 ha

Coordinates

13°30' - 13°39'N, 109°12' - 109°18'E

Agro-ecological zone

South Central Coast

Decreed by government

No

Management board established

No

Investment plan prepared

No

VCF eligibility criteria met

None

Social screening criteria met

None

Conservation needs assessment prepared

No

Operational management plan prepared

No

Tracking tool completed

No

Map available

Yes

Management history

The Asian Development Bank (ADB 1999) proposed establishing Cu Mong Marine Protected Area, with an area of 3,000 ha.

Topography and hydrology

Cu Mong lagoon is located in Song Cau district, Phu Yen province. The lagoon is 20 km long and about 3 m deep. The lagoon is connected to the open sea by a channel 400 m wide and nearly 5 m deep (ADB 1999).

Biodiversity values

Seagrass beds cover 200 ha of the lagoon, and are an important spawning and nursery area for marine organisms (ADB 1999). Scott (1989) mentions that the site is thought to be an important staging and wintering area for migratory waterfowl. However, during a rapid biodiversity survey conducted by BirdLife International and the Institute of Ecology and Biological Resources in January 2002, very few waterbirds were recorded, including no species of national or global conservation concern (Le Manh Hung *et al.* in prep.).

Conservation issues

The environment and aquatic resources of Cu Mong lagoon are currently under the management of Phu Yen Provincial Department of Fisheries. At present, however, there is insufficient capacity to manage the lagoon sustainably, and the site has become degraded as a result of over-exploitation of aquatic resources and unplanned aquacultural development (ADB 1999).

Other documented values

The lagoon is a breeding ground for *Penaeus merguensis* and other economically valuable shrimp species; annual shrimp production from the lagoon is in the range of 20 to 30 tonnes. Fish production is higher, at between 70 and 150 tonnes per year but the fish caught are typically of small size and low value (ADB 1999).

Related projects

No information.

Conservation needs assessment

A conservation needs assessment has not been conducted for the site.

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Operational management plan

An operational management plan has not been prepared for the site.

Eligibility against VCF criteria

The site is ineligible for VCF support because it is not a Special-use Forest.

Criterion	Eligibility
A _I	
A _{II}	
B _I	
B _{II}	
B _{III}	
C _I	
C _{II}	

Social screening requirements

A social screening report has not been prepared for the site.

Criterion	Eligibility
A	
B	
C	
D	

Literature sources

ADB (1999) Draft coastal and marine protected areas plan. Hanoi: Asian Development Bank.

Le Manh Hung, Nguyen Duc Tu, Nguyen Quang Truong, Tordoff, A. W. and Nguyen Viet Hung (in prep.) A rapid biodiversity survey of the coastal zone of central Vietnam. Unpublished report to the BirdLife International Vietnam Programme, the Institute of Ecology and Biological Resources, and Thua Thien Hue Provincial Department of Science, Technology and the Environment.

Scott, D. A. (1989) A directory of Asian wetlands. Gland: IUCN.