

O Loan Proposed Marine Protected Area

Alternative site name(s)

O Loan lagoon

Province(s)

Phu Yen

Area

2,650 ha

Coordinates

13°14' - 13°19'N, 109°15' - 109°20'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 a marine protected area at O Loan, with a total area of 2,650 ha, comprising a terrestrial component of 200 ha and a marine component of 2,450 ha.

Topography and hydrology

O Loan lagoon is located in Tuy An district, Phu Yen province. O Loan lagoon has been formed by coastal deposition and is separated from the sea by a sandy peninsula, with a narrow channel at the mouth of the lagoon. The maximum depth of the lagoon is only 2 m (ADB 1999). In addition to the lagoon, ADB (1999) proposed that the marine protected area include nearby marine waters and Mai Nha island.

Biodiversity values

There is little information available on the biodiversity of O Loan lagoon. Mai Nha island is surrounded by coral reefs. There are about 10 ha of seagrass beds at the site. Past surveys have recorded 30 species of seaweed, 16 species of mollusc and 20 species of crustacean (ADB 1999). During January 2002, O Loan lagoon was visited during a rapid biodiversity survey of the coastal zone of central Vietnam, conducted by BirdLife International and the

Institute of Ecology and Biological Resources. However, the site was found to have high levels of human disturbance and no waterbirds were recorded (Le Manh Hung *et al.* in prep.).

Conservation issues

Unplanned development of aquaculture has had serious negative impacts on the marine ecosystem at the site (ADB 1999).

Other documented values

The landscape of the site is very picturesque, although it is reportedly being destroyed by construction (ADB 1999).

Related projects

No information.

Conservation needs assessment

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

Operational management plan

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

O Loan Proposed Marine Protected Area

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.