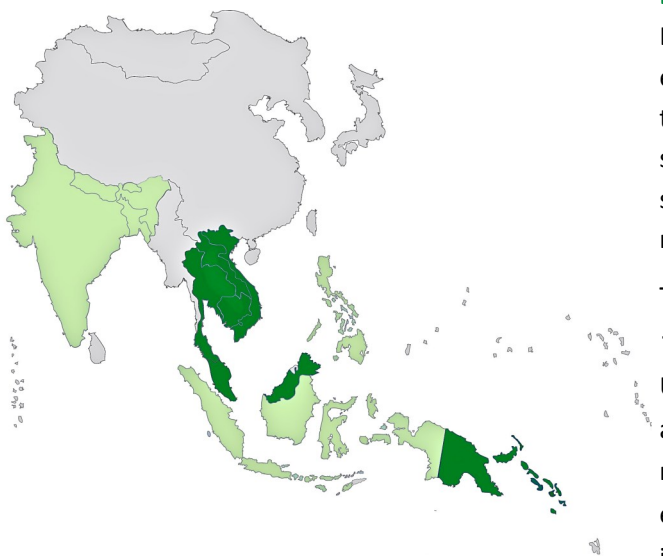


Lowering Emissions in Asia's Forest-Thailand

Background: The Lowering Emissions in Asia's Forests (LEAF) Program, a five-year cooperative agreement, is funded by the United States Agency for International Development's (USAID) Regional Development Mission for Asia (RDMA). Lasting from July 2011 to January 2016, the project employs a regional approach to produce meaningful and sustainable reductions in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the forest-land use sector across six target countries: Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, Malaysia, and Papua New Guinea. In Thailand, the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation (DNP) is designated as LEAF's main government counterpart.



LEAF's Goal and Mission in Thailand: The primary goal of LEAF\Thailand is to support and build upon current capacity and emerging policy and planning procedures to sustainably and equitably pay the custodians of Thailand's forests and natural resources for the restoration and maintenance of forest ecosystems services through robust and transparent market based mechanisms.

To achieve the targeted goal, the mission for LEAF\Thailand is to:

- 1) Develop a forest resources management plan within four UNESCO – Man and Biosphere Program (MAB) sites called 'Man and Biosphere Reserves' including the establishment of policy and market incentives to support the management plan;
- 2) Strengthen capacity for the identified target groups;
- 3) Increase the participatory action and benefits from the international REDD+ network

to the target groups; and 4) Develop and test the implementation mechanism and/or new tools to support the policy-based decision making of forest resources and land use management. The identified targets are governmental counterparts and local communities in Thailand. The activities that lead to LEAF\Thailand's achievement, for example are:

- Establishment of Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES)
- Reforestation/ Forest Restoration
- Fire Prevention and Management
- Sustainable Agriculture/Land Use Management



LEAF –Thailand is implemented by:

LEAF –Thailand Implementing Site

- **Nakhon Ratchasima:** Sakaerat Biosphere Reserve, established in 1977, administered by the Thailand Institute of Scientific and Technological Research (TISTR)
- **Chiang Mai:** Mae Sa-Kog Ma Biosphere Reserve, established in 1977, administered by the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant conservation (DNP)
- **Lam Pang:** Haui Tak Teak Biosphere Reserve, established in 1977, administered by the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant conservation (DNP)
- **Ranong:** Ranong Biosphere Reserve, established in 1997, administered by the Department of Marine and Coastal Resources (DMCR)



Consortium Partners in Thailand

- Winrock International
- SNV—The Netherlands Development Organization
- Climate Focus
- RECOFTC—The Center for People and Forests



Implementing Partners in Thailand

- The Protected Area Administration Office 16 (PARO 16 – Chiang Mai) and 13 (PARO 13 – Lam Pang) a designated agency from the central DNP office in Bangkok
- The Ranong Mangrove Forest Research Centre (RMFRC, Ranong) administered by DMCR
- Sakaerat Environmental Research Station (SERS, Nakhon Ratchasima) administered by TISTR
- Local communities in site areas
- Related governmental agencies
- Identified private sectors counterparts

The Man and Biosphere Reserve Program (MAB)

The Man and Biosphere Reserve Program (MAB) was established by The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to promote interdisciplinary approaches to management, research and education in ecosystem and natural resources conservation towards a balanced relationship between mankind and nature. MAB is a sustainable development approach using protected areas known as 'Biosphere Reserves' (BR) which can be any type of ecosystem widely accepted by the international community. The objectives of BRs are to: 1) Conserve biodiversity and natural habitats; 2) Provide natural resources research and study sites; and 3) Promote the education of biological diversity to the public. Before the designation of a Biosphere Reserve, a candidate ecosystem must be nominated by the national government and the area needs to meet the criteria required by the UNESCO's Man and Biosphere Program.



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