

## Factsheet : Asean Heritage Parks

### Overview of Asean Heritage Parks (AHPs)

The Asean Heritage Parks are educational and inspirational sites of high conservation importance, preserving a complete spectrum of representative ecosystems of the Asean region. These parks embody the aspirations of the people of the ten Asean nations to conserve their natural treasures.

It was established to generate greater awareness, pride, appreciation, enjoyment and conservation of the Asean region's rich natural heritage through a regional network of representative protected areas. A designation as an AHP is both an honour and a responsibility. The country accepts the responsibility to ensure the best possible level of protection is afforded to the site.

### The Asean Declaration on Heritage Parks

In December 2003 at Yangon, all the Ministers of Environment of Asean member states accepted the principles of Asean Heritage Parks (AHPs) and jointly agreed to participate within the AHPs program to establish, develop and protect the designated parks. The 2003 declaration constitutes a reiteration of an earlier agreement in 1884, initiated by a smaller Asean. This declaration underscores the common cooperation between member states for the development and implementation of regional conservation and management action plans.

### Criteria for Nomination/ Award:

| Criteria                     | Description  |
|------------------------------|--|
| Ecological completeness      | An intact ecological process and capability to regenerate with minimal human intervention.   |
| Representativeness           | The variety of ecosystems or species typical of a particular region.   |
| Naturalness                  | In natural condition such as a second-growth forest or a rescued coral reef formation, with natural processes still going on.  |
| High conservation importance | Has global significance for the conservation of important or valuable species, ecosystems or genetic resources; evokes respect for nature when people see it, as well as feeling of loss when its natural condition is lost. |
| Legally Gazetted Area        | Must be identified, defined and allocated by law or any legally accepted instrument of member states; used primarily as protected areas with well-defined boundaries.  |

## List of Asean Heritage Parks

Before 18 October 2011, there were 28 Asean Heritage Parks.

On 18 October 2011 during the 13<sup>th</sup> Informal Asean Ministerial Meeting on the Environment at Phnom Penh (Cambodia), 2 more sites – Bukit Timah Nature Reserve and Mount Malindang Range Natural Park are added to the scheme, giving rise to a total of 30 Asean Heritage Parks.

| Asean Member States | Asean Heritage Parks/ Year Designated  |
|---------------------|--|
| Brunei Darussalam   | Tasek Merimbun (1984)  |
| Cambodia            | Virachey National Park (2003)<br>Preah Monivong National Park (2003)   |
| Indonesia           | Leuser National Park (1984)<br>Kerinci Seblat National Park (1984)<br>Lorentz National Park* (1984)  |
| Laos                | Nam Ha Protected Area (2005)   |
| Malaysia            | Kinabalu National Park* (1984)<br>Mulu National Park* (1984)<br>Taman Negara National Park (1984)  |
| Myanmar             | Alaungdaw Kathapa National Park (2003)<br>Meinmahla Kyun Wildlife Sanctuary (2003)<br>Indawgyi Lake Wildlife Sanctuary (2003)<br>Inlay Lake Wildlife Sanctuary (2003)<br>Khakaborazi National Park (2003)<br>Lampi Marine National Park (2003) |
| Philippines         | Mt. Apo National Park (1984)<br>Iglit- Baco National Park (1984)<br>Mount Kitanglad Range Natural Park (2009)<br><b>Mount Malindang Range Natural Park (2011)</b>  |
| Singapore           | Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve (2003)<br><b>Bukit Timah Nature Reserve (2011)</b>  |
| Thailand            | Khao Yai National Park (1984)<br>Kor Tarutao National Park (1984)<br>Ao Phangnga – Mu Koh Surin – Mu Koh Similan Marine National Park (2003)<br>Kaengkrachan Forest Complex (2003)   |
| Vietnam             | Hoang Lien Sa Pa National Park (2003)<br>Ba Be National Park (2003)<br>Kon Ka Kinh National Park (2003)<br>Chu Mom Ray National Park (2003)  |

\* AHPs which are also Unesco World Heritage Sites

## Review Procedure

The Asean Heritage Parks Program Secretariat, Asean Centre for Biodiversity (ACB), evaluates the nominations received for accuracy and checks carefully if the nominated site meets criteria agreed upon. Nominations are circulated to all Asean Member States' officers for comments and also reviewed by a minimum of three experts familiar with site. ACB prepares a recommendation for either acceptance or rejection of nomination. Accepted sites are sent plaque of recognition and receive immediate publicity. They become eligible to apply for support available under the AHP Program.