International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) has a long history in Viet Nam since the middle of 1980s. In 1993, Vietnamese Government became an IUCN state member and IUCN Viet Nam Country Office also opened on the same year. Since then, IUCN has made important contribution to biodiversity conservation and environmental protection, primarily through support to the development of laws and policies such as National Biodiversity Action Plan (1995), Law on Forest Protection (2004), Law on Environmental Protection (2005), the Biodiversity Law (2008). In addition, IUCN works with partners to both support and bring pressure to increase transparency and accountability of government. Our partners include the National Assembly, Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics and Public Administration, ministries, and businesses, and local NGOs.

**IUCN programmes**

IUCN works in two main thematic areas: water and wetlands and coastal and marine. Our programmes include the formation of multi-stakeholder groups to supervise project activities, support local NGOs though small grant financing, finance pilot projects to test improved practices, improve the quality of environmental news, engaging business to improve their environmental performance, and cooperate with provincial governments to demonstrate the benefits of nature-based solutions to environmental problems. IUCN also implements the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) programme in the Indo-Burma Hotspot. For further information, pls. visit: www.iucn.org/vietnam.

**IUCN membership**

In addition to IUCN’s international members such as Fauna and Flora International (FFI), Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), and World Wildlife Fund (WWF), IUCN Viet Nam has six local members: one state member (Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, MONRE) and four NGOs/research centers including the Centre for Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (CRES), the Institute of Ecological Economy (ECO-ECO), Live and Learn (L&L), the Centre for Marine Life Conservation and Community Development (MCD), and the Center for Environment and Community Research (CECR). By joining IUCN, members can advance their own cause and add to our collective strength in overcoming environmental barriers for sustainable future.

To become IUCN member, please contact info.vietnam@iucn.org.