



## ICCAs in Vietnam: A review for putting forward

Hoang Xuan Thuy, Nguyen Viet Dung & Dang Xuan Trung – PanNature  
21 June 2018

### Content

- ICCA status: What does it mean in country context?
- ICCAs – How does it be managed in Vietnam?
- ICCAs in Vietnam – Issues and Opportunities
- ICCAs in Vietnam – Way forward

### 1 ICCAs status – What does it mean in Vietnam’s context?

Forest managed by communities through practicing traditional cultures:

- 2001: 214.006 ha \*
- 2008: 247.000 ha \*\*

- These forest areas play important roles in:
- Maintaining intangible cultural values.
  - Conserving biodiversity values
  - Preserving indigenous knowledge of natural resources management and utilisation
  - To benefit from forests and ecosystem services: land-use certificate and payments for ecosystem services, REDD+, etc

ICCAs (might be named as “community conserved areas”) have been practiced and existing in various forms of management and called by different names in Vietnam for a long time.

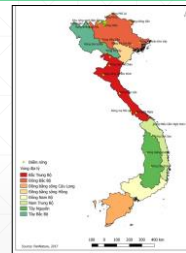


\* Phạm Xuân Phụng, 2004  
\*\* Tổng cục Lâm nghiệp, 2008

### 1 ICCAs status – What does it mean in Vietnam’s context?

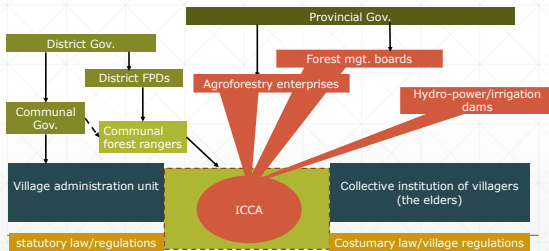
Fied assessment at 14 sites in 13 provinces (2017-2018):

- Various forms of community conserved areas:
- “Sacred forests”/“spirit forests”
  - “Cemetery forests”
  - “Village forests”/“community forest”
  - “Village watershed protection forests”/“sand prevention forest”
  - “Heroic forest”/“historical forest”.
  - “Community/village Fishery Area” and
  - a newly form of “Community-managed PFES forest”



### 2 ICCAs – How does it be managed in Vietnam?

“The community conserved areas are known as common properties – governance and management by communities by their own rules and regulations” – IUCN 2014



### 3 ICCAs in Vietnam – Issues and Opportunities

#### Issues:

- Overlapping of tenure: forest, land, biodiversity, water and ecosystem services;
- One site but different hirrachy/layers of authority -> conflicts in management and utilization;
- Highly mixed influences of statutory and customary to forest, aquatic resources and land use;
- Lost of beliefs and “degradation” of traditional cultures;
- Low capacity of the community;
- Low perception/awareness on ICCA in preserving traditional culture and biodiversity.

#### Opportunities:

- Community rights/tenure legally recognized;
- Common property and uncertainty of ownership (3.1ml. hectares being managed by CPCs);
- Collaborative management legally admitted in forest & fishery laws;
- Incentives for community engagement offered by PFES;
- Community access to water bodies for fishing in dams/reservoirs.

#### 4 ICCAs in Vietnam - Way forward

- Determining processes to realise ICCA;
- Adopting "hybrid community institution" for ICCA: adaptive and collaborative management approach (ACMA) ;
- Recognising full tenure rights of community to natural resources;
- Strengthening capacity for communities and collaborators

