



## ABOUT US

Established in 2004, PRCF Vietnam has now expanded to three provinces in northern Vietnam.

We aim to improve sustainability of both the natural environment and local livelihoods.

Our collaborative conservation programs run in five forest areas, each with high national & international conservation value.

## OUR MISSION

We seek solutions that support local communities develop their capacity to improve natural resource management while addressing important biodiversity conservation needs and the risk of climate change.



Francois' Langur mother & baby  
 Photo: Xu Jianming

**PRCF Vietnam** works in northern Vietnam's highland limestone forests, particularly in the Ba Be / Na Hang Limestone Forest Complex. This is a global biodiversity hotspot, rich in rare and endemic species.

A number of Vietnamese ethnic minority groups live in the area, including Dzao, H'mong, Nung and Tay. We value community-based management approaches that promote local people's involvement in natural resource planning and decision making while addressing important biodiversity conservation needs.

Vietnam has been identified as a country particularly vulnerable to climate change (*Cities and Climate Change*, United Nations, 2011). PRCF has designed activities to support community-based adaptation to climate change, targeting households within and adjacent to protected areas.

## Programs

### Ba Be National Park

Established in 1992, Ba Be National Park in Bac Kan Province is home to Vietnam's largest natural lake, which covers an area of 10,048 hectares. This is a spectacular landscape, with a network of rivers and streams connecting the lake to the surrounding tropical forests and limestone karst mountain ranges.

The protected area contains significant biodiversity with over 410 named plants, 300 wildlife species and 355 butterfly species. The national park is under considerable pressure due to the unsustainable use of land, water and forest resources — activities incompatible with conservation. PRCF currently runs four programs at Ba Be National Park:

#### 1. Ba Be Lake community-based stewardship

Promotes village-led collaborative management of Ba Be Lake and surrounding areas. Aims to support sustainable fisheries and diversified farmland economies while also conserving biological resources.

#### 2. Ba Be Ecological Research Station

PRCF established this research station in collaboration with the national park to increase understanding of the interactions between culture, socioeconomics, ecology and biological diversity. Past projects include research on insects, ecotourism, geographical information systems, cave fauna (including bats), climate change, fisheries and the attitudes and perceptions of local people toward conservation.

#### 3. Conservation awareness support

Develops environmental education modules to promote behavioral change among residents, tourist guides, boat operators, schools, park rangers and local people living and conducting business within Ba Be National Park.

#### 4. Francois' Langur conservation program

This program aims to conserve the small population of Ba Be National Park's iconic species, Francois' Langur. Activities include population surveys, threats assessment, conservation planning and, more recently, implementation of the Francois' Langur conservation action plan.

## SPECIES LIST

### Eastern Black Crested Gibbon (Cao Vit Gibbon)

**Scientific name:**  
*Nomascus nasutus*

**IUCN Status:**  
Critically Endangered

### Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey

**Scientific name:**  
*Rhinopithecus avunculus*

**IUCN Status:**  
Critically Endangered

### Francois' Langur

**Scientific name:**  
*Trachypithecus francoisi*

**IUCN Status:**  
Endangered

### White-eared night heron

**Scientific name:**  
*Gorsachius magnificus*

**IUCN Status:**  
Endangered

## South Xuan Lac

Established in 2004, the South Xuan Lac Species and Habitat Conservation Area is a 1,788 hectare reserve that links Ba Be National Park to Na Hang Nature Reserve in Tuyen Quang Province.

The habitat of critically endangered species, this area holds some of the region's last remaining high-quality limestone forests.

Local communities treating the area as an 'open access resource' and limited law enforcement have resulted in unsustainable and destructive use of the forest.

PRCF currently runs two programs at South Xuan Lac:

### 1. Collaborative community natural resource management

Promotes the involvement of local people in reserve management and sustainable use of natural resources.

PRCF supports community conservation teams from four buffer zone villages to patrol inside the reserve and monitor illegal activities.

### 2. Species conservation

Focuses on primates and conifers, nest protection for the White-eared Night Heron and development of conservation action plans for priority species in the reserve. These include the Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey, Loris and Francois' Langur.

## Na Hang Nature Reserve

This collaborative community natural resource management program promotes the involvement of local communities in reserve governance and conservation planning.

Government supported community-based conservation teams from four buffer zone villages patrol inside the reserve and monitor illegal activities.

## Cave fauna

Bat communities within the karst complex, threatened by disturbance and inappropriate management, require urgent conservation measures.

Results of the **Conservation of Cave Fauna in the Ba Be / Na Hang Karst Complex Project** included the discovery of three new bat species and record levels of species diversity including numerous rarely-recorded and poorly known species.

This provided the basis for the development of bat conservation strategies including capacity-building programs and awareness-raising campaigns.

### First discovered in Kim Hy Nature Reserve:



Elery's tube-nosed bat  
Photo: Neil Furey



Fairy tube-nosed bat  
Photo: Neil Furey



Eastern Black Crested Gibbon  
(Cao Vit Gibbon)  
Photo: Zhao Chao, FFI

## Cao Vit Gibbon Conservation Area

Straddling the international border between Vietnam and China, a block of forest in Cao Bang Province is the habitat of the only known population of Eastern Black Crested Gibbon (Cao Vit Gibbon), considered to be one of the rarest primates in the world.

In 2002, Fauna & Flora International (FFI) implemented a community-based primate conservation project in this area and has since been working with local government forestry agencies and local communities to reduce threats to the gibbon population. In 2007, PRCF joined FFI in their long-term conservation efforts.

We currently collaborate with FFI on two programs:

### 1. Buffer zone threat abatement program

PRCF works with FFI to reduce the impact of local communities on the gibbon population, particularly through reduced fuel wood collection, controlled livestock grazing and alternative livelihoods development.

### 2. Cao Vit Gibbon habitat restoration program

This program started in 2010 and aims to restore and expand the critical habitat of the Eastern Black Crested Gibbon, principally in Vietnam.

Activities incorporate a trans-boundary collaborative approach with protected area managers in China.

## Lam Binh Forest Area

Located in northern Tuyen Quang Province, this area covers approximately 5000 hectares and is managed by local government and the community.

Recent surveys have confirmed that the region holds national and global biodiversity significance. It has suitable habitat for the White-eared Night Heron and Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey and holds Vietnam's largest population of Francois' Langurs.

Major threats to biodiversity include shifting cultivation related forest clearance, timber extraction, hunting, over-harvesting of non-timber forest products and habitat fragmentation.



White-eared Night Heron  
Photo: Le Manh Hung



Ba Be Lake, northeastern Vietnam

## OUR PARTNERS

Fauna and Flora International

Ba Be National Park

Bac Kan Province People's Committee

Bac Kan Forest Protection Department

South Xuan Lac Species and Habitat Conservation Area

South Xuan Lac Community Conservation Team

Tuyen Quang Province People's Committee

Tuyen Quang Forest Protection Department

Centre for Plant Conservation, Vietnam

Birdlife International

Thai Nguyen Agriculture and Forestry University

Institute of Ecology and Biological Resources

## MAJOR DONORS

Arcus Foundation

Mc Knight Foundation

Critical Ecosystem Partnership Program

United States Fish and Wildlife Service



Community conservation project – Vietnamese language 'Have you seen the Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey?' Postcard: PRCF

## New projects

PRCF Vietnam is investigating payments for ecosystem services as one way to provide long-term and sustainable funding mechanisms for conservation activities.

We are also actively exploring opportunities for community-oriented nature-based tours to view Francois' Langur and its habitat.

## Future directions

Our future activities will focus on:

- species conservation and habitat restoration
- collaborative community-based conservation
- environmental awareness and education
- market-based initiatives to promote sustainable conservation activities
- mitigation of threats from the risk of climate change.

## Contact

### Michael Dine

Chief Technical Officer

e: michael.dine@prcfoundation.org

### Ba Be National Park

Bac Kan, Vietnam

t: +84 281 3 894 063

### Hanoi office

65A, Ngo 310/63 Nghi Tam

Phuong Tu Lien

Quan Tay Ho

Ha Noi, Vietnam

t/f: +84 4 3718 5677