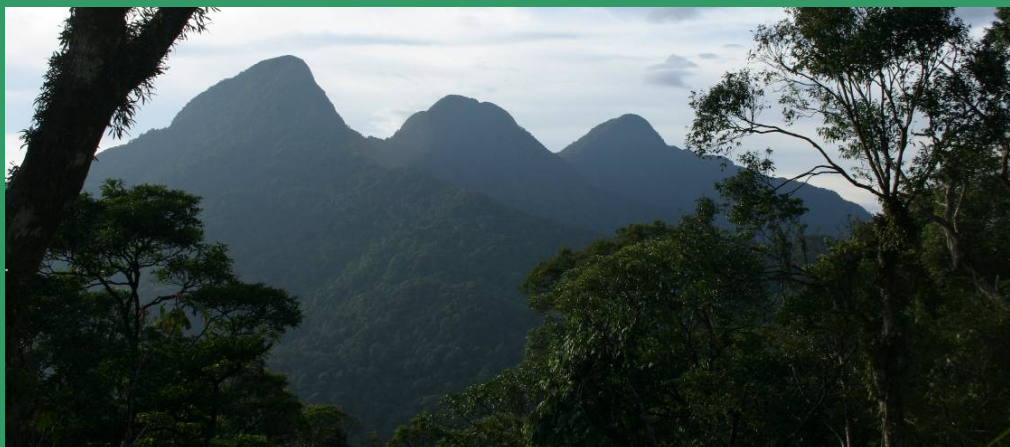


Biodiversity & Climate Change



*Biodiversity Action Day, Tam Dao National Park (May 19) &
Symposium on Biodiversity and Climate Change, Hanoi (May 22 and 23)*

**Where ever you are, what ever you do:
Biodiversity and Climate Change affect you, too!**

Join us to make a difference!



Global climate change is happening fast and no region of the planet is spared. The densely populated river deltas and coastal areas in Asia will be among the worst affected regions worldwide, according to the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. The impacts of climate change on natural resources and labour productivity will reduce economic growth and aggravate the situation of the poor or vulnerable. According to a new World Bank report, Vietnam will be among the countries worst hit by climate change, with over one third of the population and one sixth of the land area affected.

Climate change is also one of the major threats to the planet's biological diversity, as some 20 to 30 percent of all species face a high risk of extinction. In Vietnam alone, around 700 species are threatened and this number will increase as coral reefs decline, salt marshes and mangrove forests diminish and tropical rainforests degrade. Climate change and biodiversity loss will negatively affect the livelihoods of hundreds of millions of people worldwide and compromise the achievement of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

As the far-reaching consequences of climate change and biodiversity loss are increasingly felt around the world, politicians and decision makers struggle to develop global, national and local adaptation and mitigation strategies. To support these efforts and to raise understanding and public awareness of biodiversity and climate change, GTZ and DED, on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), in cooperation with the Vietnamese Ministry for Natural Resources and Environment (MoNRE) and the International Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD Montreal) and the World Conservation Union (IUCN) together with other national and international partners organize the following events:

***Biodiversity Action Day in Tam Dao National Park (May 19) and
Symposium on Biodiversity and Climate Change (May 22 and 23).***

May 22 coincides with the *International Day of Biodiversity* which is observed in 2007 under official theme of "Biodiversity and Climate Change".

Biodiversity Action Day (May 19)

Venue:

Tam Dao National Park is located about 70 km north of Hanoi. Tam Dao is notable for its scenic landscape and rich biodiversity, including a large number of rare and endemic species, such as the "Tam Dao" Salamander.

Participants:

Visitors from all walks of life are invited to participate in the events. Participants will include local residents, scientists, government officials, entrepreneurs, representatives of national and international development agencies, journalists, teachers and students.

Program:

The "Biodiversity Action Day" in Tam Dao National Park will give visitors a direct experience of nature and "wilderness". The 24 hour program of events will be organized around "Biodiversity Stations" within the National Park and its buffer zone, which are operated by different stakeholder groups and designed to provide visitors with an insight into the natural diversity of the area. Visitors will be given the opportunity to explore nature with the help of scientists and local guides and to share their findings and experiences. A series of cultural and artistic performances will accompany the events to create a unique situation of joint learning and enriched experiences in the middle of nature.

Symposium Biodiversity and Climate Change: Links with Poverty and Sustainable Development (May 22 and 23). Signing of Countdown 2010 Declaration

Venue:

The Symposium venue will be at an international hotel in central Hanoi.

Participants:

National and local decision makers, international and national researchers, development agencies, non-governmental organisations, concerned communities, journalists, company representatives and the concerned public.

Program:

The Symposium on Biodiversity and Climate Change will foster the understanding of climate change impacts on biodiversity and their links to poverty and sustainable development. The symposium will provide a forum for the exchange of expertise and experiences on biodiversity and climate change in the regional context. Participants will discuss and assess emerging adaptation strategies and construct a platform for networking and collaboration among relevant actors. The symposium program will focus on:

- International climate change research findings and the interconnection of climate change and biodiversity
- National and regional climate change scenarios and adaptation strategies
- Priorities of action and recommendations for decision makers
- Examples and solutions from Vietnam and South East Asia

The Symposium will feature the launch of **Countdown 2010 Initiative for Vietnam** and the signing ceremony of the Countdown 2010 Declaration. Countdown 2010 is a powerful network of active partners that was created to help those that committed to the 2010 biodiversity target to collaborate to save biodiversity. Each partner commits additional efforts to tackle the causes of biodiversity loss. Please see the Declaration or visit for more information on the Countdown 2010: www.countdown2010.net.

For more information on the symposium and the Biodiversity Action Day please refer to the symposium announcement and the Biodiversity Action Day program or contact:

German Development Cooperation (GTZ/DED)

Ms. Nguyen Thi Huyen Linh
Km 13, Ho Son Commune, Tam Dao District
Vinh Phuc Province
Tel.: +84 (0211) 853 011 (Ext. 108)

Mobile: +84 (0) 912 965 681
Email: linh.tdmp@gtz-vietnam.com.vn

Ms. Ines Igney
6th Floor, Hanoi Towers
49, Hai Ba Trung, Hanoi, Vietnam
Tel.: +84 (0) 4 934 4951
Tel. direct: +84 (0) 4 936 2280-124
Mobile: +84 (0) 917 511 447
Email: inesig@gmail.com

www.biodiversity-day.info

