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## Other Recent Work

### Title

Final Report of Summer Research 2007 Vietnam and Southeast Asia, June 6 - August 21

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**Final Report of Summer Research 2007**  
**Vietnam and Southeast Asia, June 6 – August 21**

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Respectfully submitted to:

**Trudeau Foundation**

**Human Rights Center (UC Berkeley)**

**Pacific Rim Research Program (University of California)**

**Center for Southeast Asian Studies (UC Berkeley)**

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## **Introduction**

This document is the Final Report of the research and networking that I carried out during the summer of 2007 to advance my doctoral studies at UC Berkeley. The Report has been prepared for the following organizations, who contributed generously to my international travel costs and various portions of the activities described below:

**Trudeau Foundation**

**Human Rights Center (UC Berkeley)**

**Pacific Rim Research Program (University of California)**

**Center for Southeast Asian Studies (UC Berkeley)**

I would like to *express my deep gratitude to each of these organizations for making possible this summer's research*, which has been extremely productive to my thinking on my dissertation research topic and my intellectual development in my doctoral program, as described in the pages below. The report begins with an outline of the main objectives of my summer research, followed by a description of activities and then remarks on achievements and remaining challenges.

## **Objectives**

The main objectives of my summer research were the following:

- Conduct preliminary dissertation research on the Asian Development Bank's (ADB) Biodiversity Corridor Initiative by gathering background information, testing current hypotheses, testing preliminary survey instruments and collecting preliminary data;



- Gain experience in human rights related research as part of the Human Rights Fellowship;
- Explore and assess potential of various field sites, institutional partners and data sources for my dissertation research; and
- Collect GIS data to support further training at UC Berkeley

### **Pre-Departure Activities**

Prior to departure, I attended a *pre-departure orientation meeting* organized by the Human Rights Centre, where I met with other fellows and discussed current debates in the field. I also submitted a *research proposal and application to the Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects* because I had intended to conduct research with potentially vulnerable subjects in the upland areas of Vietnam. Then I travelled to Banff, Canada, at the end of May to participate in the *Trudeau Foundation's Summer Institute*. Half of the time there was dedicated to discussions on current relevance and future directions for the Foundation's core themes of (1) human rights and social justice, (2) responsible citizenship, (3) Canada and the world, and (4) human and their natural environment. The other half was spent networking and participating in Working Groups on topics such as media relations, career management and web-based information technologies. The Institute was very enjoyable because it was my first opportunity to engage with the Foundation's inspiring network of scholars, fellows and mentors and enabled us to engage in productive discussions over the future of the Foundation and policy research in Canada.

En route to Vietnam, I also made a *visit to the Centre for Southeast Asian Research (CSEAR)* at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver and met with its Director, Dr. Michael Leaf. The meeting was useful for learning about the CSEAR's current research programs, resources and networks, which I expect to become more involved in as my dissertation research progresses.

### **Pre-Dissertation Research: Biodiversity Corridor Initiative**

My broad dissertation research interests are about how local communities in Southeast Asia are able to negotiate their claims to land and natural resources from within multi-scalar organizational networks for environmental governance. For my summer research, I was interested in the roles played by international environmental organizations and NGOs as mediators of local community responses to displacement by biodiversity conservation projects. I intended to explore these issues in the *Biodiversity Corridor Initiative (BCI)*, which is a \$36 million Asian Development Bank (ADB) driven project to manage vast and mostly transnational corridors of multiple-use landscapes for biodiversity conservation in the countries of Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, Myanmar and China's two southernmost provinces.

I selected the BCI for several reasons. First, it is one of the most ambitious biodiversity conservation projects in the Greater Mekong region today, targeting some of the largest and most important areas for biodiversity (see Map 1). Second, the project is extremely complex organizationally. Based out of the ADB's Environmental Operations Centre in Bangkok, the BCI strives to coordinate a wide network of partner organizations that includes donors, governments, international organizations, research and academic

institutions, and NGOs. Government includes the national governments of the Mekong countries, of the ADB member countries (notably Japan, as well as other countries from Asia, Europe and North America) and local governments in the BCI field sites. Third, NGOs play a key role in connecting local levels to national and international levels because, along with local government, NGOs are the main implementing organizations for the BCI field sites. Finally, the BCI is a fundamental part of the ADB's strategy to integrate environmental planning with its more mainstream development activities. One of the main criteria for selecting the nine conservation corridors was their geographical overlap with the ADB's Economic Corridors Program to build up transport and communications infrastructure between major cities in the Greater Mekong (see Map 2).

Initially, I intended to conduct in-depth interviews with local communities in the Vietnamese pilot site—jointly implemented by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and the People's Committee of Quang Nam Province—and partner organizations in Vietnam and Thailand. By understanding how these organizations perceived and interacted with one another and then how local communities perceived and interacted with some or all of these organizations, I intended to develop a model of how power (e.g., power to plan, power to decide, power to manage and enforce) was structured and flowed through the institutional configurations of the BCI. More particularly, I sought to understand how the BCI might have restructured or otherwise influenced power relations within which local communities are expected to negotiate claims to land and natural resources. I also intended to collect some basic geographic information systems (GIS) data to analyse local patterns of land and natural resource use in relation to spatial planning in the BCI.

However, upon arriving to Hanoi, I was met with the unanticipated problems of (1) complications among partner organizations that inhibited me from accessing the field site and (2) delays in the processing of my application to the Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects, which was necessary for conducting interviews with local communities and project beneficiaries because of their potential vulnerability. (Because of these obstacles, I opted to join the International Centre for Environmental Management (ICEM), my host organization, in a Strategic Environmental Assessment of hydro-power development in Quang Nam Province. This enabled me to conduct local-level research around conservation and development issues in the same province as the BCI field site, as discussed in next section.) Hence, my research on the BCI consisted primarily of content analysis of project documentation and interviews with national and international partner organizations. I conducted ten interviews at the national and international level with BCI partner and other associated organizations (including government, international organizations and NGOs – see Appendix 1) and a visit to the Environmental Operations Center in Bangkok. I was also able to interview one government official at the local level, who coordinated a corridor conservation project with WWF that was belatedly associated with the BCI. I kept extensive notes on all interviews, as well as a log of my observations and activities during my research experience to use for future analysis. The observations offered below are only preliminary remarks on the data to give a sense of where my research is heading.

While also gathering background information on the BCI and its organizational relations, I analysed project documentation mainly to explore how it conceptualized “local communities.” I felt that this would give me the first hints of how these

communities were expected to participate in the governance structures of the BCI. As it turned out, local communities were described primarily as "poor communities," whose stakes in the BCI were its poverty reduction. Indeed, one of the five main objectives of the BCI is poverty reduction, not least of all because the core objective of the ADB is poverty reduction (this was the reply given to me at the Environmental Operations Centre in response to a questions about the emphasis on poverty reduction in the BCI). While it is true that many local communities in BCI project sites are poor, the conflation is problematic because the particular problems and responses to problems caused by the conditions of locality and the conditions of poverty are different. As a result, I found that the conceptualization of these communities and their relation to the BCI was based on three key paradoxes:

1. Communities living within the biodiversity corridors were considered both the culprits and victims of environmental degradation. Poverty makes this paradox possible because poverty forces communities into environmentally destructive behaviour (e.g., forest clearing for agriculture) and, thus, makes them complicit in undermining their livelihood base for themselves and the rest of the world.
2. Economic development was both the problem of and solution to environmental degradation. It was the solution because it would help poor communities out of their environmentally destructive behaviours, but is also arguably the fundamental cause of environmental degradation, especially as exemplified by the highways and high voltage towers of the Economic Corridors Program.
3. Sustainable development was conceived as a development opportunity for these communities, who, being poor, have little other types of development

opportunities, in contrast to other wealthier actors for whom sustainable development is a restricted form of development.

These paradoxes suggested a double standard of conservation and development policy that affect differently the local communities subject to displacement (e.g, access restrictions, land exclusions, relocations) by biodiversity conservation. By conceptualizing these communities as primarily “poor”, biodiversity conservation is magically transformed into a (sustainable) development opportunity for these communities rather than a threat of exclusion to traditional territories and livelihood resources.

Unfortunately, I was unable to follow-up on these initial observations during my interviews partly because I found that, apart from the NGOs implementing the field sites, most partner organizations showed limited awareness of what was actually happening at local levels; and partly because the more I interviewed, the more the topic of organizational relations came to dominate discussion, as they seemed to become progressively complex, confused and obscure. Perhaps my first surprise from these interviews was how seemingly little awareness there was among partner organizations about the respective roles of each organization in the BCI, the particular role of the ADB, and agreement on the fundamental goals of the project.

These were signs of what is called in organizational theory a “loosely-coupled” system, perhaps to the extreme. Loosely coupled systems provide enough flexibility and ambiguity to allow widely diverse organizations operating in diverse settings to work together cooperatively. (In contrast, a tightly coupled system is based on clear and rapide feedback mechanisms that would bring out these differences excessively and in ways that

risk conflict and competition.) The problem with loosely coupled systems is that transparency and accountability mechanisms are inevitably weakened. This type of organization is particularly problematic for local communities, who do not participate directly in project governance structures. Rather, local communities depend on indirect representation via other organizations, notably international NGOs. Organizational representation is always problematic, but such problems are only exacerbated in systems with inherently weak transparency and accountability mechanisms. However, understanding the particular dynamics of this relationship within the BCI would need field research with the communities themselves, which is where, unfortunately, this stage of my dissertation research fell short.

### **Human Rights Research: Strategic Environmental Assessment**

The main goal of the Human Rights Fellowship program is to provide graduate students with an opportunity to engage in human rights related research or work over the course of one summer. The aim is that this experience will encourage students to think about and develop their research projects in reference to human rights. Because my initial proposal for the Human Rights Fellowship did not pan out in the field (as discussed above), I became directly involved with my host organization, the International Centre for Environmental Management (ICEM), in a *Strategic Environmental Assessment of hydro-power development on the Vu Gia – Thu Bon River Basin*. My role in the Strategic Environmental Assessment was to apply a “*Right, Risks and Responsibilities*” (*3R-Model*) framework adapted from the World Commission on Dams

to assess and plan for the social and environmental impacts of hydro-power development on the upland ethnic minorities in the River Basin.

At the time of the research, the Province of Quang Nam had planned or proposed forty to fifty hydro-power dams for the River Basin, including eight large dams with capacities ranging from 60 to 225 MW. These dams, which are almost entirely constructed in upland areas, present numerous risks to the livelihoods, health, cultural traditions, and territories of the ethnic minority populations. The most immediate and often the most severe risks result from resettlement of communities out of the reservoir (an area to be inundated behind the dam wall that can cover several square kilometers so as to provide a constant flow of water through the electricity-generating turbines). Some 8,760 people have been resettled or are being planned for resettlement for hydro-power projects in the River Basin so far, including about 1500 people in the A Vuong and Song Giang projects alone. Other risks of hydropower, which can be equally or even more severe, relate to disruption of river ecologies (causing risks to livelihood sources and increased waterborne disease among riparian communities) and indirect consequences related to dam construction (such as influx of construction workers leading to resource degradation and new demands for prostitution, drugs and gambling and increased competition for land and resources facilitated by the building of new roads and public infrastructure). Of course, dams make possible important benefits to ethnic minorities and local communities too, such as new economic opportunities and investments in public infrastructure. However, capture of these benefits by ethnic minority groups is not automatic and often it is highly problematic.



The 3R-Model that I applied to assess and plan for these risks consisted of a legal and policy review of the legal *rights* and policy entitlements for ethnic minorities and local communities in Vietnam, an assessment of the specific *risks* to these rights and entitlements created by the hydro-power projects, and the formulation of concrete recommendations to avoid and mitigate against these risks based on the *responsibilities* of relevant organizations, notably national and provincial government. I carried out the analysis by extensive review of Vietnamese laws and policies related to ethnic minorities and the environment, interviews with provincial government departments, and field visits to several dams in construction and resettlement sites, which included field observation and further interviews with local government, project management units, and displaced communities. Over the course of my field work, I visited five dam sites, four resettlement sites and one eviction site (i.e., community was being planned for resettlement) and I conducted a total of 20 interviews (see Appendix 2). Research for this project also enabled me to conduct some basic global positioning system (GPS) exercises and collect a geographic information system (GIS) dataset from the project to use in my further training at UC Berkeley. For outputs, I submitted a final report to ICEM on my application of the 3R-Model, prepared a power point presentation on social and environmental impacts of hydro-power development on ethnic minorities for the project's final provincial workshop, and helped draft a chapter on this same topic for the final report of the Strategic Environmental Assessment.

For detailed results of the 3R-Model, please see the final report included in Appendix 3. Here I will comment only briefly on the analysis. Our analyses confirmed, perhaps not surprisingly, that displacement was by far the most important risk facing the

ethnic minorities created by hydro-power development. Although Vietnamese policy and practice in resettlement have shown marked improvements in recent years (notably, standards for compensation and rehabilitation as defined by Decree 197/ND-CP/2004 are very near to those of World Bank and Asian Development Bank resettlement guidelines), an extremely important and commonly overlooked problem in Vietnam is how to develop effective transparency and accountability mechanisms that enable displaced communities to hold relevant authorities responsible for avoiding and mitigating against the risks created by resettlement.

Furthermore, current conditions at the dam sites seemed inevitably to lead to one of two possibilities for resettlement sites, which is probably characteristic in all of Vietnam. Either the displaced community is resettled in nearby areas, but land for production is inadequate because of high population density; or the community is resettled to areas with sufficient production land and ample residential space, but these areas are considerably more remote than their previous settlements. Each of these possibilities requires far more financial and institutional commitment to the resettlement process than is normally provided for under national and international resettlement guidelines. Meanwhile, other potential impacts related to disruption of river ecology and dam construction were also deemed important, but not likely as severe.

Carrying out this research as part of the Human Rights Fellowship helped me to recognize both the potential and the limits of rights-based approaches and, more particularly, legal instruments for advocating for and negotiating local community claims to land and natural resources. (I believe this experience is at least partly responsible for inspiring me to enrol in a law course on biodiversity at UC Berkeley this past semester.)

Of course, legal rights do not always cover human rights, but several key problems that I encountered during my research seemed to reflect problems discussed in the human rights literature. For example, I found the constant need to expand on a strictly legal definition of rights (e.g., protection against ecological degradation) with one based on policy entitlements (e.g., national programs to reduce poverty or provide safe water supply in rural areas). This helped to cover various livelihood and cultural risks not easily recognizable under national law, but it also lacked the more concrete protections and specific institutional responsibilities that make the legal framework powerful. I found this ongoing dilemma to be similar to debates on first and third generation human rights. I also struggled with absence or inadequacy of institutional structures and processes to make real the legal and policy framework, which suggested to me that human rights is as much about institutional development as it is about establishing laws and conventions.

In sum, the Fellowship was very helpful to get me thinking about the more formal legal and institutional processes that underpin justice and democracy in modern society. And actually, now that I really think about it, I realize that the ways my thinking about my dissertation research—which have shifted importantly over this past semester from beyond social movements and contentious politics to thinking more broadly about the formal structures of law, citizenship and democratic participation—may very well have their roots in this research experience sponsored by the Human Rights Fellowship.

## **Other Activities**

### ***Field site visit to Cat Tien National Park***

I also managed a two-day visit to Cat Tien National Park in southern Vietnam, where I had previously worked as an advisor to WWF on a resettlement and boundary re-demarcation project. I have been considering Cat Tien as a potential field site for my dissertation research because of my history and insider knowledge with the area and the poignant issues related to biodiversity conservation, displacement and community participation there, as I have previously written and published on. The purpose of my visit was to re-establish institutional contacts with park management (which had changed hands since I departed in 2004) and visit one of the villages that had been resettled by the project to scope out potential for future research interest there.

On the first day, I met with the park's Director and Vice-Director, who expressed enthusiastic support for the possibility of my conducting research there. This was a relief given the high tensions that had arisen over the resettlement project back in 2004, as well as a nice contrast to some of the frustrations I had experienced with the BCI. We discussed briefly the procedures for obtaining research permits and then they updated me on the resettled communities and current international cooperation with park projects. On the next day, I visited the relocated community of the Ma ethnic minority group in Van Minh village. There I was able to see, for the first time, the completed resettlement site and visit with several families, whom I knew previously when they were still living inside the national park.

Obviously, my trip was too brief to come to any responsible conclusions, but still the experience made me realize how the negotiation processes mediated by the WWF project was also a form of displacement in itself. By defining particular times, places and processes for negotiations, the project brought these discussions out of the realms and

beyond the influence of the communities themselves. I was given this distinct impression by several villagers, who seemed like they still wanted me to advocate for them certain things back to the national park. For them, they were still partaking in the negotiation process, but for the project and the national park the negotiating process was over, not least of all because the project itself had since terminated and its institutional structures were disbanded.

### ***Visit to national archives and libraries in Hanoi***

I visited National Archives 1 and 3 in Hanoi to get myself more familiar with the archive system and their holdings in Vietnam. I was not able to secure permission to enter the archives at this time, but I did meet with the Head of Access Services, Mr. Dinh, at the National Archives 3. I was able establish a personal contact with him that will be really helpful for me to organize access permissions in the future and from overseas. I also visited several libraries with development literature in Hanoi, namely the NGO Resource Center, World Bank Resource Center, Asian Development Bank and the United Nations Development Program. These libraries were mostly disappointing, however.

### ***Meetings at the Institute of Policy and Strategy for Agricultural Research and Development (IPSARD)***

By way of mutual friend, I was introduced to Mr. Hoang, the Head of the Division of Environment and Natural Resources at the Institute of Policy and Strategy for Agricultural Research and Development (IPSARD) under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. Mr. Hoang graduated from the Master's Program at FES, Yale

University, while his Director, Mr. Son, graduated from Stanford University. I worked in the IPSARD offices for several days, helping them to prepare a research proposal for a forest policy review and discussing the possibility for potential collaboration in my dissertation research. I am interested to work with IPSARD because I would rather conduct my research under a national organization (as opposed to, for example, an international NGO), while the academic qualifications of Mr. Son and Mr. Hoang could also provide me with useful intellectual support in developing my research project while in Vietnam, particularly as it relates to the socio-cultural and political context.

***International conference on “Alternative Development and the Sufficiency Economy”***

In mid-July, I attended an international conference on “Alternative Development and the Sufficiency Economy” presided over by the Thai Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn. The conference was organized by the Thai National Institute of Development Administration with support from various professors from UC Berkeley. It began with a presentation of the His Majesty the King’s concept of the Sufficiency Economy by the National Institute of Economic, followed by presentations and commentaries from leading national and international academics in development studies, including Amartya Sen (keynote), Peter Evans (UC Berkeley), Ahiwa Ong (UC Berkeley), Walden Bello, Amita Baviskar and Mechai Viravaidya. The conference was an extremely stimulating cross-cultural academic exchange on future development options for Thailand and Southeast Asia.

**Post-Arrival Activities**

Upon returning to Berkeley in August 2007, I also engaged in a few other activities directly related to this summer's research, which I will only mention here. I participated in another *reunion meeting of the human rights fellows* in preparation for the annual *Human Rights Conference at UC Berkeley*. At the Human Rights Conference, I presented my research in Vietnam on a panel for "Displacement and Migration." I also attended a half-day *training workshop organized by Geospatial Imaging and Informatics Facility (GIIF)* in the Dept. of Environmental Sciences, Policy and Management on "Introduction to Geographic Information Systems." This is one of a series of courses on GIS training offered throughout the year by GIIF, which I intend to take more of in the spring semester (see below "Challenges").

## **Achievements**

The following are what I consider as the main achievements of my summer's research:

- *Furthered thinking on my dissertation research*: Clearly, this summer's activities have been extremely useful in helping me to think through intellectually and logistically my research project for my doctoral program. In particular, it allowed me to *explore my emerging hypotheses* related to how internationally networked structures of global governance create impossible realities for local communities to negotiate claims to land and natural resources. Despite the many concrete benefits that communities gain from such projects, the imposition of project structures can result in increased vulnerability to displacement and exclusion. However, I cannot discern yet to what degree that projects such as the BCI may actually be producing

such displacement and exclusion (it could be that such projects are also extremely limited in their power to do so). This would depend on the particular power struggles occurring at local levels, which I did not have an opportunity to explore this summer. I will also need to rework my hypotheses to ensure that they also capture possibilities for the successful resistance by local communities against national and international forces.

I believe this summer's research has also pushed me to *think more about the formal structures of human rights and justice*, as protected by the law, government and social institutions. Rather than conceptualizing local participation in globally networked projects primarily through social movements, NGOs and contentious politics, I think I am now more interested in how local communities are able to participate in formal structures and what is the relationship of social movements, NGOs and contentious politics to the functioning (or lack of) these formal structures for local communities.

I discuss logistical matters more in the next section on "Challenges."

- *Gathered more options for potential field sites:* The summer's research exposed me to many projects currently going on in Vietnam and Southeast Asia that would be very relevant to my research interests. This has been positive in that several organizations invited me to collaborate with them, which broadened my possibilities for dissertation research. However, it is also difficult because I feel like it has also broadened the possibilities of what I could study, which will require some going back to the drawing board to refocus my interests. I will speak more specifically about the possibilities presented by the BCI as a field site under "Challenges."



- ***Identified potential institutional partners:*** I also had the opportunity to meet with several organizations that could potentially host me during my dissertation research. They included both government and non-governmental organizations inside Vietnam and, possibly, Thailand. The opportunity to have face-to-face discussions with these organizations was extremely useful because it allowed me to make that first contact on which I can build on for my research project even while I am at UC Berkeley, which, especially in the context of Southeast Asia, is often not possible without that first face-to-face contact. Furthermore, most of these contacts were positive. I highlight in particular the possibility of working with IPSARD (see above) or a network of Southeast Asian universities, who, as I belatedly found out, are also formally associated with the BCI.
- ***Made productive contributions to human rights related work:*** In my work on the 3R-Model, I believe I made useful and productive contributions to the ICEM team responsible for the Strategic Environmental Assessment, which will hopefully also be useful to local and national government and other relevant organizations for addressing some of the very serious risks facing the ethnic minority communities because of hydro-power development in the Vu Gia – Thu Bon River Basin.

## **Challenges**

In each achievement, there is also usually a challenge lurking and vice-versa. But for the purposes of this report, I have divided them into two separate categories here. The following are what I consider as the main challenges of my summer's research:

- ***Logistical challenges:*** Once I had arrived in Vietnam, getting my research started was quite slow and sometimes it felt like wasted time. And then when it did get rolling, I felt I did not have enough time to accomplish everything that I had originally planned. However, I realize that there are good reasons for this and it was a good reminder to me that research is often a slow and time-consuming process, which I will keep in mind when I plan the scope and timeframe for my dissertation research.
- ***Ethical challenges:*** While most organizations were generally supportive of my research interests, I also felt an underlying suspicion about my activities as a researcher. Would he speak negatively about us? Will he just criticize everything? How will he expose us to the public? Will he even understand what we are trying to accomplish and will he be sympathetic to that? This made me more aware of the potential ethical dilemmas of engaging directly and working with organizations that I intend to study. I will need to find ways to integrate my academic freedom to critically analyse projects and organizations with my responsibilities and loyalties towards the organizations that will have assisted me to do my research. These dilemmas will be even more complex in my relations with the local communities that I study.
- ***BCI for field sites?*** While the BCI still seems like great case study for the reasons already mentioned and I have been welcomed by members of the Environmental

Operations Centre to focus my dissertation research on it, I also gained a few insights about the BCI that have given me new reservations to contemplate. First, many of the partner organizations showed disillusion with the project itself, suggesting that it may not be a good model for studying issues of global environmental governance.

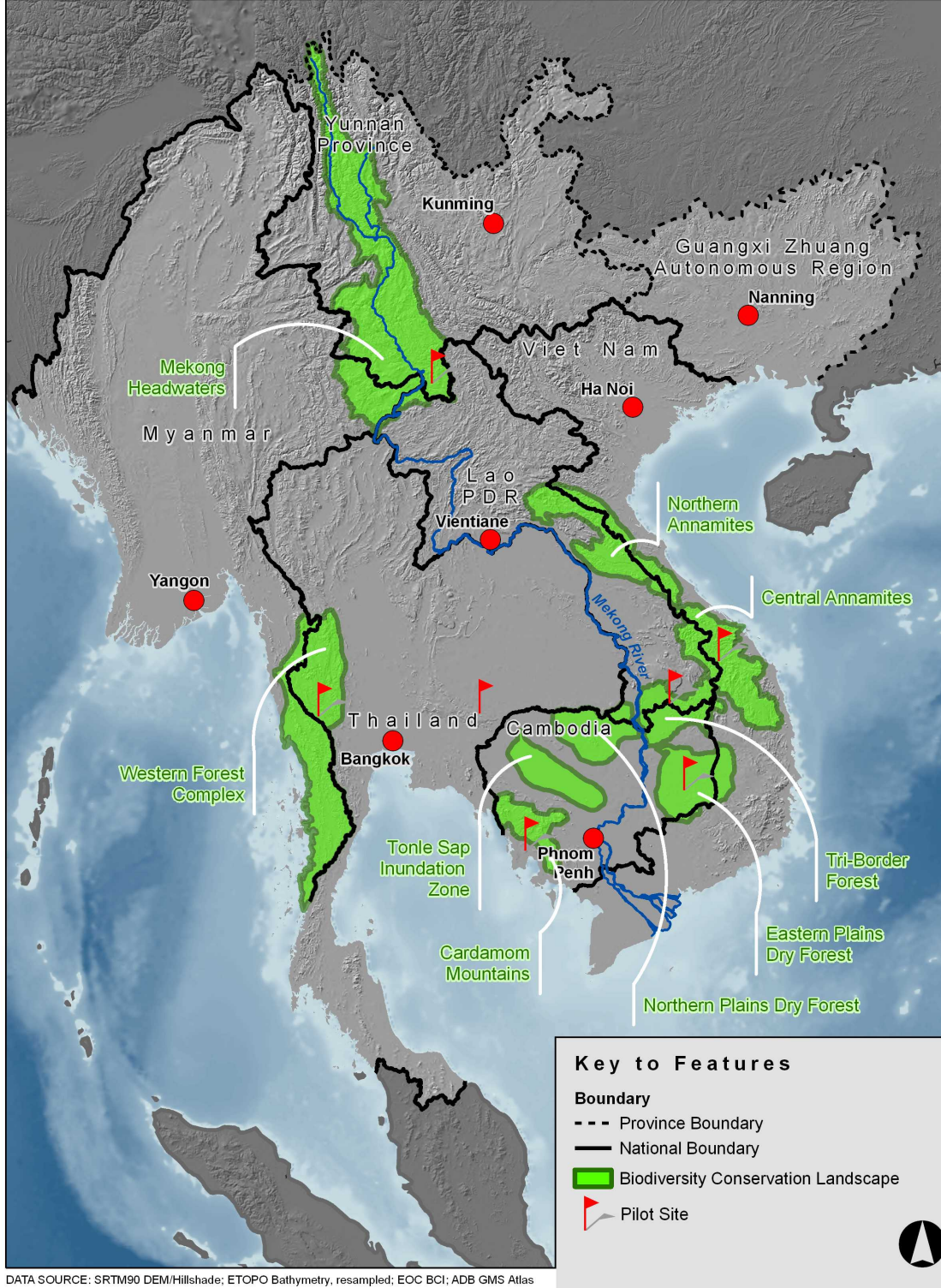
Second, although the BCI was designed as a comprehensive biodiversity conservation strategy for the Greater Mekong, members of the project do not seem to have such a vision of it. The Environmental Operations Centre, for example, tended to portray itself as largely supportive and advisory to the partner organizations and governments, rather than trying to forge regional cooperation and build enforceable environmental regulatory standards. Certain partner organizations expressed that the best achievement for the BCI would be to regulate the ADB, rather than developing a larger environmental regulatory capacity for the region. These comments suggest that the project may, indeed, be more marginal to biodiversity conservation in the region than I had previously expected.

- ***No visit to other BCI field sites:*** Originally, I had hoped to visit other BCI field sites to consider for my dissertation research. However, the somewhat uncertain conditions and rather slow-going with which I introduced myself to the BCI made this ambition unfeasible. Instead, I made a trip to Cat Tien National. I will still like to consider other pilot sites in the BCI for my dissertation research, but I will probably be unable to determine them before I visit Southeast Asia again.
- **GIS data collection and training have been postponed:** My initial intentions to do some mapping at the field sites with GPS were obviously inhibited by my lack of access. Still, I was able to carry out some basic GPS exercises during the field trip in

Quang Nam and collect GIS datasets from the Strategic Environmental Assessment that will be useful for my further training. Furthermore, the GIS course and training workshops that I wanted to take this past semester at UC Berkeley both conflicted with other essential classes. However, I did manage to take at least the introductory course that introduced me to, among other things, many other resources to build competency in GIS. I also intend to attend further GIIF workshops in the spring semester in preparation for my dissertation research.

# Map 1: Nine Corridors of the Biodiversity Corridors Initiative

GMS Core Environment Program and Biodiversity Conservation Corridors Initiative - ADB TA 6289  
**Greater Mekong Subregion**  
 Biodiversity Conservation Landscapes and Pilot Sites



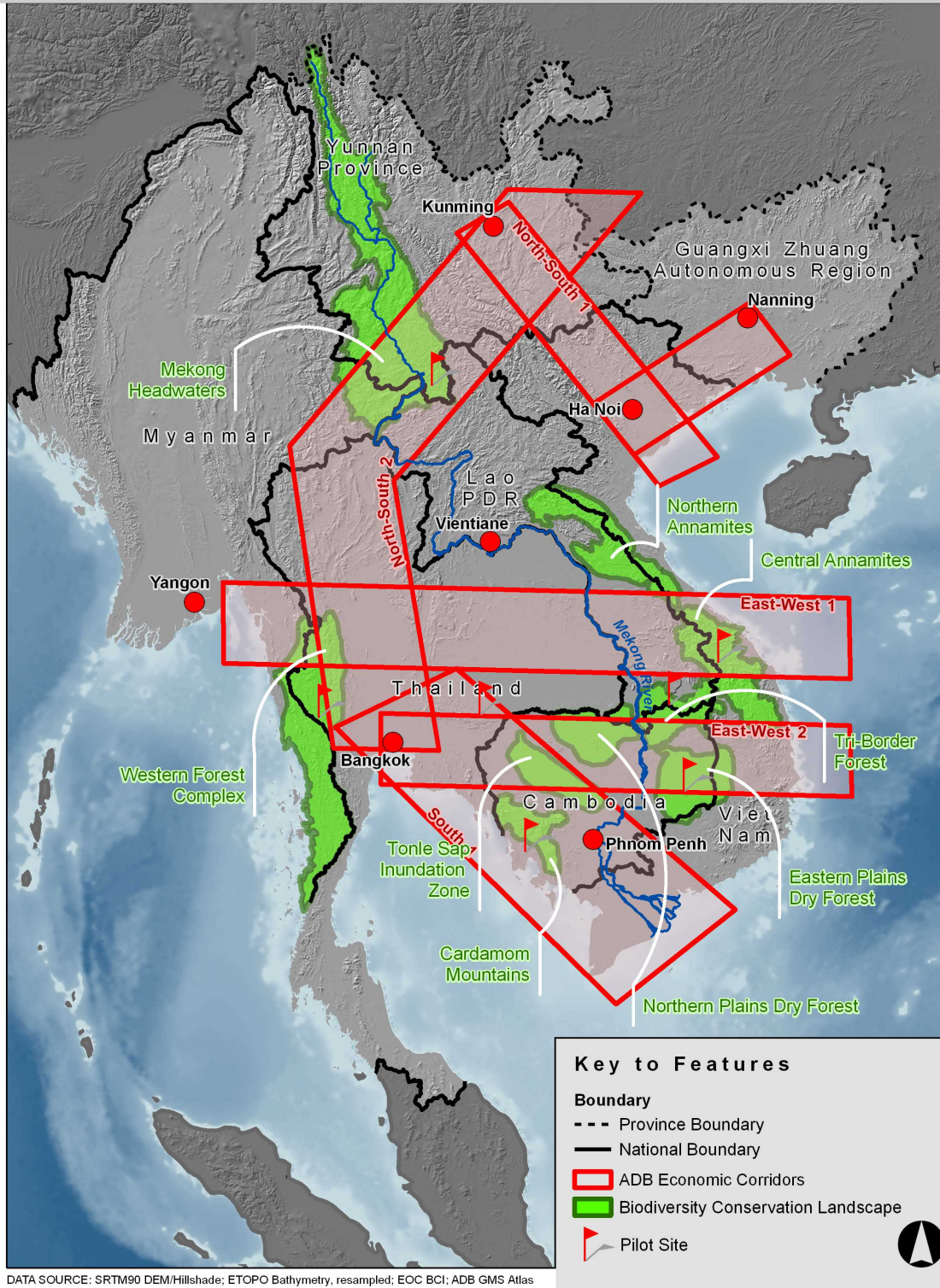


## Map 2: Biodiversity Corridors overlaid with Economic Corridors

GMS Core Environment Program and Biodiversity Conservation Corridors Initiative - ADB TA 6289

### Greater Mekong Subregion

Biodiversity Conservation Landscapes and Economic Corridors



## Appendix 1: List of interviews for Biodiversity Conservation Initiative

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Relation to BCI</i>
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	Hanoi	National coordinator for Vietnam
Forest Protection Dept.	Quang Tri Province	Local government partner
World Bank	Hanoi	For perspectives on BCI
Worldwide Fund for Nature	Hanoi	Implementation partner for field site in Vietnam
Birdlife International	Hanoi	Biodiversity monitoring in corridors
Winrock International	Hanoi	Unofficially associated via work in Cat Tien
Environmental Operations Centre (ADB)	Bangkok	Coordinator
World Conservation Union	Bangkok	Technical Committee
Institute for Global Environment and Society	Bangkok	Research institute
Poun Ba (formerly WildAid)	Bangkok	Participant to Advisory Panel Meeting

## Appendix 2: List of interviews for Strategic Environmental Assessment

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Location</i>
Dept. of Finance	Quang Nam Province
Dept. of Planning and Investment	Quang Nam Province
Dept. of Natural Resources and Env.	Quang Nam Province
Dept. of Tourism	Quang Nam Province
Dept. of Labour, Invalids and Soc. Affairs	Quang Nam Province
Dept. of Health	Quang Nam Province
Dept. of Construction	Quang Nam Province
Committee for Ethnic Minorities	Quang Nam Province
K'Brun District People's Committee	K'Brun District, Quang Nam
Office of Natural Resource and Env.	K'Brun District, Quang Nam
Ma Cooih Commune People's Committee	K'Brun District, Quang Nam
Two resettled communities	K'Brun District, Quang Nam
A Vuong Dam Project Management Unit	K'Brun District, Quang Nam
Office of Natural Resources and Environment	A Nghia District, Quang Nam
Dai Linh Commune People's Committee	A Nghia District, Quang Nam
An Diem Dam Project Management Unit	A Nghia District, Quang Nam
Office of Natural Resources and Environment	Tra My District, Quang Nam
Xa Bui Commune People's Committee	Tra My District, Quang Nam
One community planning for relocation	Xa Bui Commune, Tra My, Quang Nam
Two resettled communities	Xa Bui Commune, Tra My, Quang Nam



## **Appendix 3: Ethnic Minorities Report for VGTB River Basin SEA**

**[Separate attachment]**

## Photos of Field Visit for Strategic Environmental Assessment



Photo 1: A challenging road into the uplands of Quang Nam Province



Photo 2: Building new roads to construction sites for A Vuong Dam



Photo 3: Moving mountains to build dams



Photo 4: The dam wall and entrance to the tunnel that diverts the river water through electricity-generating turbines and then back into the river bed several km downstream



Photo 5: Illegal logging? Some of the unintended impacts of dam construction...



Photo 6: Much needed energy supply to the national grid



Photo 7: Vacated reservoir



Photo 8: Resettlement site with insufficient land





Photo 9: Resettlement site with sufficient land but located in more remote area



Photo 10: Cultural house of the Ka Tu ethnic group as built by the resettlement project



Photo 11: Consultations with a family in a community that was being resettled from a reservoir for a hydro-electric dam



Photo 12: Consultations with the Committee for Ethnic Minorities in Quang Nam Province

## Photos of Field Visit to Cat Tien National Park



Photo 13: Cat Tien National Park Head Office



Photo 14: One family from the Ma ethnic group, who rebuilt their house in the resettlement site when they were resettled from the national park





Photo 15: View of resettlement site and its paddy land in Van Minh area



Photo 16: Standard house built for resettled families