



HIGHLIGHTS

LAOS

FY18

# CONSERVATION HIGHLIGHTS

JULY 2017 - JUNE 2018

WWF-LAOS



**Somphone Bouasavanh**  
**Country Director**  
**WWF-Laos**

# FOREWORD

“Together possible.” This is WWF’s call to action - a declaration that no one person or institution can save the planet by themselves. The threats are too large and the job is too big for us to go at it alone. But when we work together, anything is possible. Working together is how WWF means to achieve its ambitious goals for conservation in Laos. Whether it is fighting the illegal wildlife trade, building strong and resilient forest community networks, promoting a sustainable timber industry or conserving endangered species.

Partnerships are central to our work. This year, WWF-Laos continued and expanded its partnerships with Lao PDR Government agencies including the Departments of Forestry, Forest Inspection, Livestock and Fisheries, Industry and Handicrafts, of the Ministries of Agriculture and Forestry and Industry and

Commerce. We also partnered with corporations, donors, communities and international donors and multilateral agencies. Together, we have achieved a lot.

The illegal wildlife trade is now a top priority for the Lao Government, illustrated by the May 2018 promulgation of Prime Minister Order No.5 on “Strengthening Strictness of the Management and Inspection of Prohibited Wild Fauna and Flora.” Enforcement actions are now ongoing. Such an achievement was made possible by the combined efforts of the Lao Government, WWF-Laos, and all our partners, including international development stakeholders and multilateral agencies.

In Nam Poui Protected Area, Asian elephants are thriving thanks to the relentless efforts of 15 rangers, who this year walked more than 700 kilometres patrolling the forest and catching wildlife offenders. Our sustainable rattan and bamboo initiative worked with provincial authorities to review the natural resources taxation framework in order to make the sustainable rattan business more attractive to community groups and Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs). In the past 12 months, 29 fish conservation zones were created with the support of WWF Laos, amounting to the protection of an extra 182 hectares of the Mekong River mainstream.

Despite these accomplishments, threats still remain. Illegal wildlife traders are responding to law enforcement actions by switching to new modes of operation. Elephants in Nam Poui Protected Area continue to be targeted by organized poachers. Illegal logging decimates protected forests, and illegal fishing still destroys the efforts of local communities to protect their rivers and fish. Extinction is a very real risk that cannot be undone. Now more than ever it is time for all of us to unite and together, protect the natural wonders of Laos.

Join us on this journey: [www.wwf.org.la](http://www.wwf.org.la) | [www.facebook.com/wwflaosoffice](https://www.facebook.com/wwflaosoffice)

# WWF-LAOS LANDSCAPES & PRIORITY SITES 2015-2020

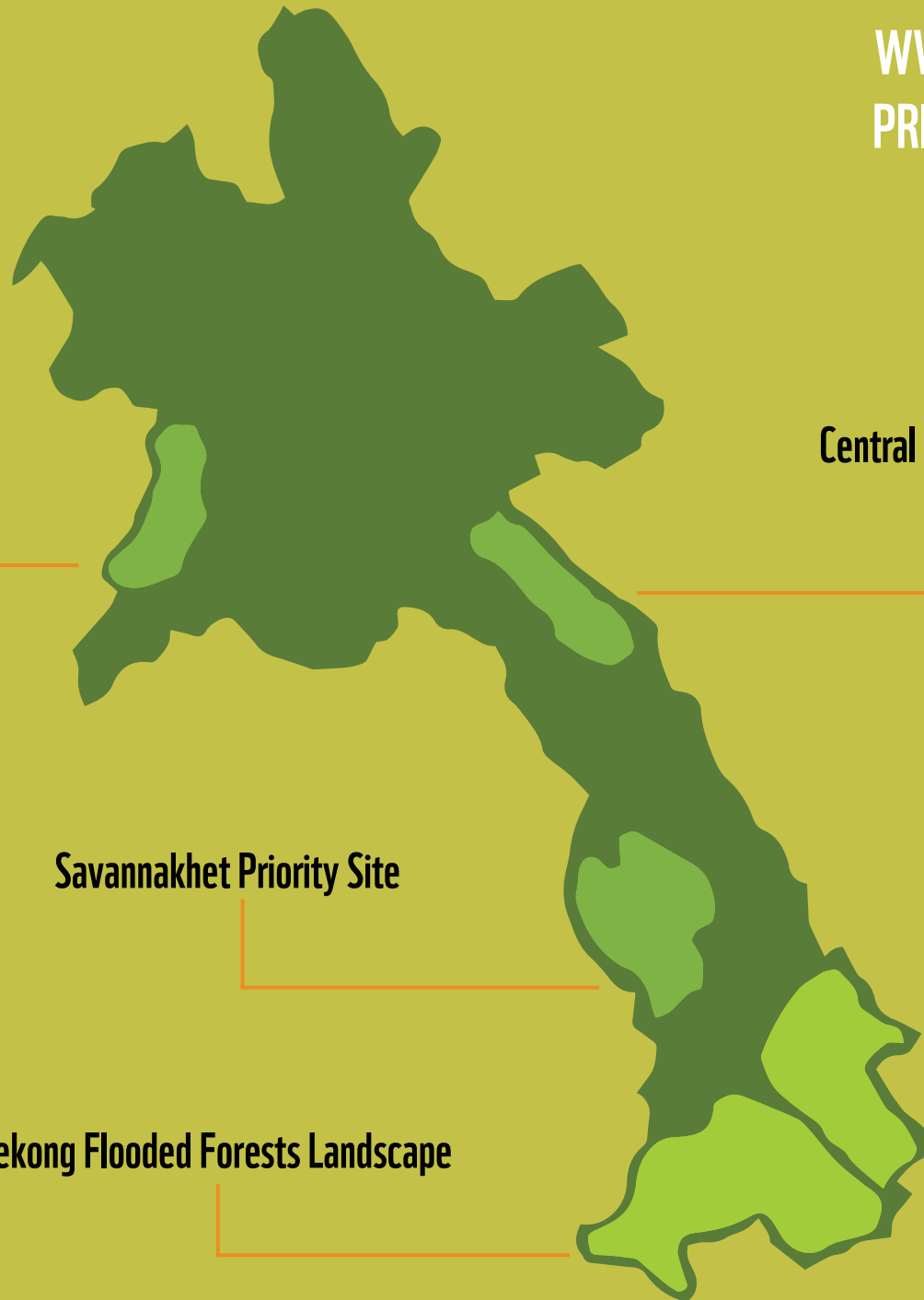
Nam Poui Priority Site

Central Laos Priority Site

Savannakhet Priority Site

Central Annamites Landscape

Mekong Flooded Forests Landscape





# FOREST

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Phu Ma Nai in Xesap, National Protected Area,  
Central Annamites, Laos



# RATTAN AND BAMBOO

10,949 ha FSC certified rattan forest maintained. |

New forest patrol teams set up in 2 villages. |

5,040 FSC rattan eastern baskets exported to Switzerland and  
100 FSC rattan bags sold to WWF Switzerland's online shop  
by 2 CoC certified companies. |

Business links created between community enterprises and one  
Vientiane-based company to produce BBQ sticks and chopsticks  
for the local market. |

Natural resources taxes reduced by more than 75% in Bolikhamay  
province, making sustainable rattan business more attractive to  
community groups and SMEs. |

Rattan and bamboo project MoU signed with National Agriculture  
and Forestry Research Institute for a phase 5 in June 2018. |

Rattan harvest quotas issued in May 2018. |

State of the art land use planning completed in 3 villages. |



1,116 ha of rattan and bamboo forest newly inventoried  
in the Central Annamites Landscape.



*Village Woman Weaving a  
FSC Rattan Product*



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# GOVERNANCE & TRADE

**Timber Legality Definitions (TLD)** drafted for conversion area, production forest, plantation forest, labour obligations, village use forest and wood processing and trade.

**21 wood-processing factories** in Attapeu trained in legal compliance, marketing, business planning, work safety and CoC systems.

**3 FLEGT videos** produced and disseminated.

**MoUs signed** between Khammouane and Quang Binh as well as Attapeu and Kon Tum forest provincial authorities, and annual joint action plan developed, including joint patrolling at border areas.

**Guidelines** for community consultation processes produced and printed in Lao and English languages.

**Local level radio programmes** and public signs produced in the 3 FLEGT pilot provinces.



Link to VDOs:

Community Engagement

FLEGT Overview

SMEs



**11 village** forest committees established in Khammouane and Attapeu provinces.



# WILDLIFE

PROTECT WILDLIFE AND COUNTER ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE





# NAM POUI PRIORITY SITE

27 camera traps set up for biodiversity monitoring.

4,438 wildlife photos snapped from camera traps.

719 kilometers patrolled by 15 rangers.

700 firecrackers and 3 kilometers of electric fence set up to prevent human-elephant conflicts.







# ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE

Continued market surveys at 6 markets in the Golden Triangle.

Continued market surveys in and around the Central Annamites Landscape at 14 markets in 7 provinces.

71 Forest Inspection officers (including 8 women) from Vientiane Capital and Oudomxai Province trained in investigation techniques.

More than 1,300 people, including traders, in 18 villages received briefings on the Wildlife Law.

One senior Forest Inspection officer was able to join a team of four representatives from the Lao government to participate in the 69th CITES SC meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, thanks to WWF support.

A total of 622 kilograms of bushmeat was confiscated from 33 vendors in 18 markets in 11 districts of Vientiane capital, Oudomxai, Vientiane, Luang Prabang and Bokeo provinces.





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*Lao Government law enforcement officers have shut down illegal wildlife trade in four shops at Don Sao Market in the notorious Golden Triangle, confiscating almost 400 items during surprise raids on 27 July 2018*

*VDO and Press Release*



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**CONSERVATION HIGHLIGHTS**  
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# CENTRAL ANNAMITES LANDSCAPE

**Mobile patrol team** established for Xesap Protected Area (6 members).

**2 new villages** entering into BCA in and around the Xesap NPA  
(total BCA villages to date = 9).

**MoA signed with the Department of Forestry** to continue community-based conservation in and around Xesap NPA.

**318 person/days patrolled** in Xesap NPA: 17 people warned, 120 snares removed, 44 illegal camps destroyed.

**2 schools** currently working to become green schools  
in and around the Xesap NPA.

**1,116 ha** of rattan and bamboo forest newly inventoried in villages  
around the Xesap NPA.





© William Robichaud

*120 snares removed in  
Xesap Protected Area*



# FRESHWATER

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Fish Conservation Zones on the Mekong Mainstream



# MEKONG MAINSTREAM

12 river patrolling teams set up and equipped in 6 districts on the Mekong mainstream.

18 new fish conservation zones established in 20 villages for a total of 108 hectares on the Middle Mekong, at the border between Thailand and Laos.

More than 2,100 people in 20 villages received briefings on Community Fisheries Regulations, Wildlife Law, endangered fish species and Fisheries Law.





Daily Patrols by Teams of Fishermen Around FCZs

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# MEKONG FLOODED FOREST LANDSCAPE

549 days and 634 nights patrolled 1,956 hectares  
of Mekong river in Siphandone.

11 new fish conservation zones established for a total  
of 74 hectares of Mekong river in Siphandone.

Livelihoods support: more than 2 tons of rice seeds  
and 700 chickens distributed in 10 villages.



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ឆេះប្រើ



ຫມໍ້ໄຟຊຸມ



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ໜ້າກາກ

**ສະຫັບສະໝຸນໂດຍ:**



ເຂດວັງສະຫງວນ  
ຈາກແຄມຝັ່ງ 132 ແມັດ



# Fish Conservation Zone Signs in Siphandone



## FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:

Web: [www.wwf.org.la](http://www.wwf.org.la)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/wwflaosoffice](http://www.facebook.com/wwflaosoffice)

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# WWF-Laos Head Office





# 2001

Although the WWF-Laos Country Office was officially established in 2001, WWF began working in Laos in the late 1980's

# 2018

17 years of WWF-Laos  
40 staff  
2 offices: Head Office is in Vientiane capital and the Southern Provinces Coordination Office is in Champassak province



# 2,000,000

USD (approximately) is WWF-Laos's budget for FY 18

# 03

Our 3 main areas of Practice are:  
Forest, Wildlife, and Freshwater



Working to sustain the natural world  
for people and wildlife

**together possible™**