



Regional Cooperation for the Management of Transboundary Ecosystems in Asia & the Pacific

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Presentation Overview

- ADB's approach on natural capital
- Regional cooperation on large-scale ecosystem
 - ▣ Greater Mekong Subregion
 - ▣ Coral Triangle
- Conclusions

ADB's Environment Operations

- Environmentally sustainable growth as one of 3 development agendas, and environment as a core area of operations



Promoting a
shift to
sustainable
infrastructure



Investing in
natural capital



Strengthening
governance and
management
capacities

← Climate change (mitigation and adaptation) →

Investing in Natural Capital

ADB's Approach



1. Investments

- Protect, & maintain the productive potential and performance of land and water resources.
- Support food, water and energy security, climate change mitigation and adaptation.



2. Technical assistance

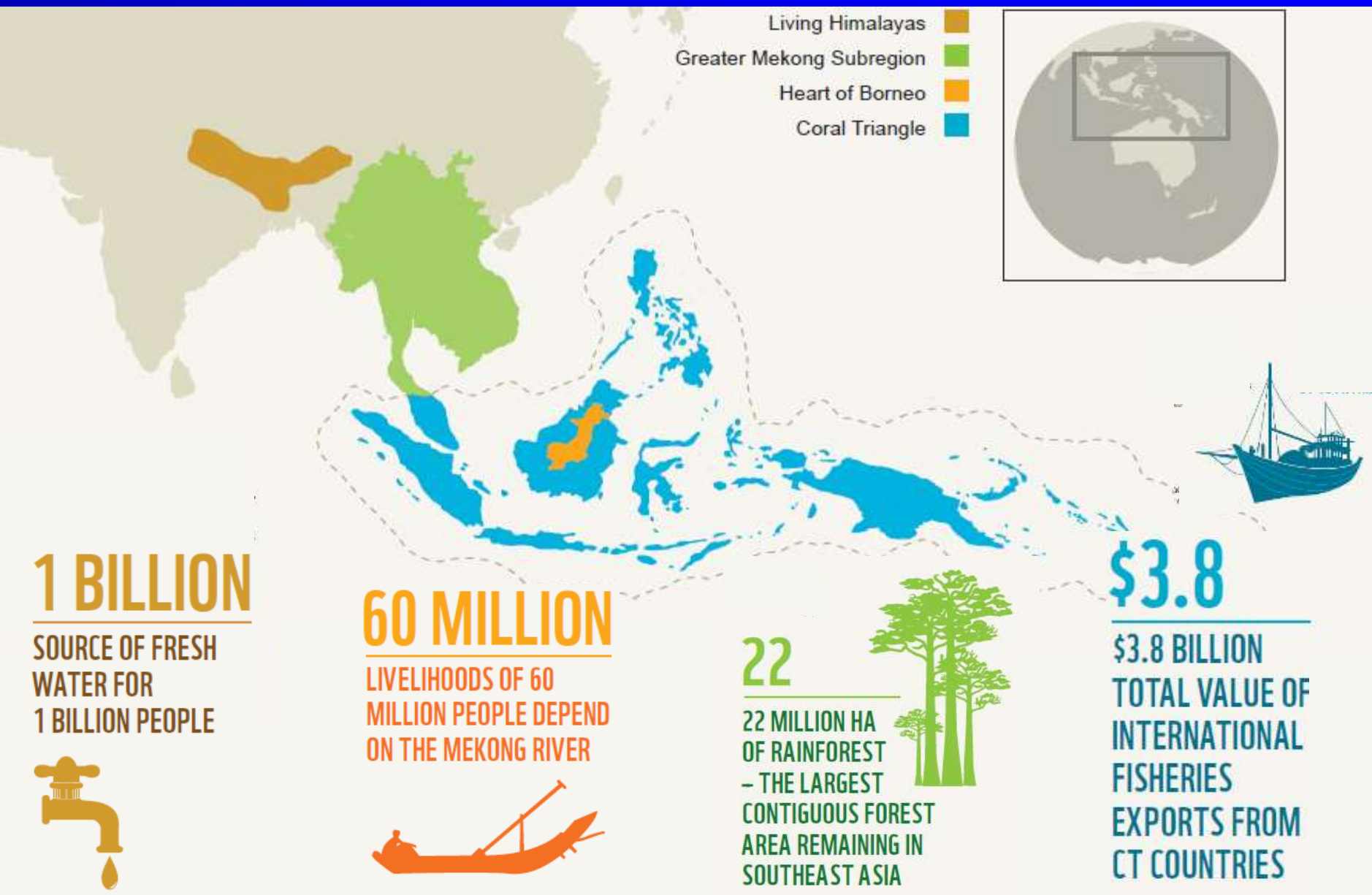
- Environmental governance strengthening
- Regional cooperation for large-scale ecosystems
- Valuation of natural capital



3. Strengthening biodiversity safeguards

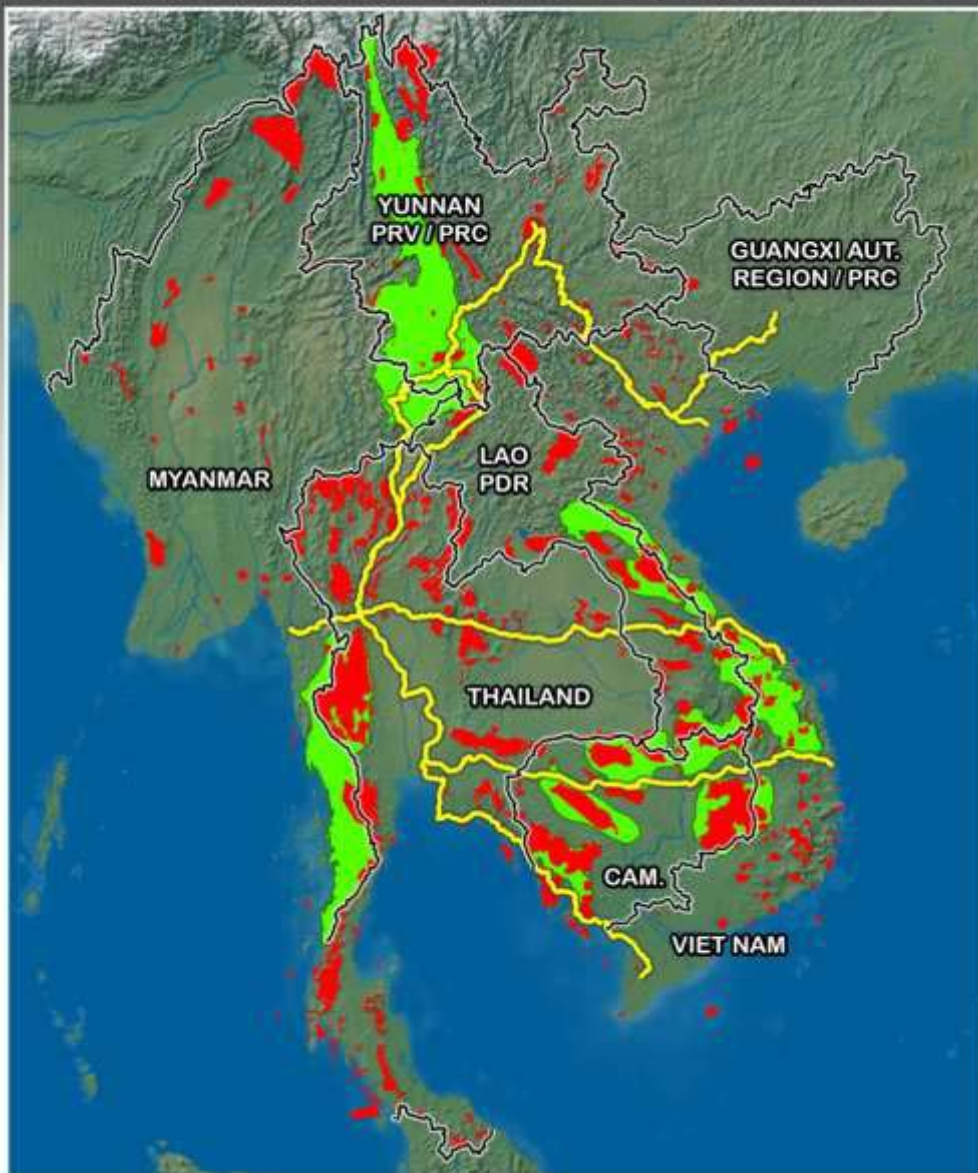
4. Partnerships and financial resource

Focus on Critical Large-scale Eco-regions



GREATER MEKONG SUBREGION

ECONOMIC CORRIDORS, BIODIVERSITY LANDSCAPES & PROTECTED AREAS

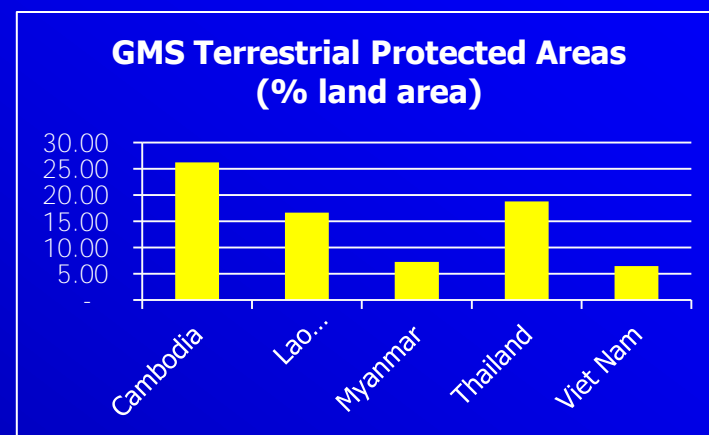


— GMS Economic Corridor Road
— Protected Area
— Biodiversity Conservation Landscape



GMS Values:

- High biodiversity
- Transboundary ecosystems
- PAs – 13.1% of land area (2012, excluding PRC)



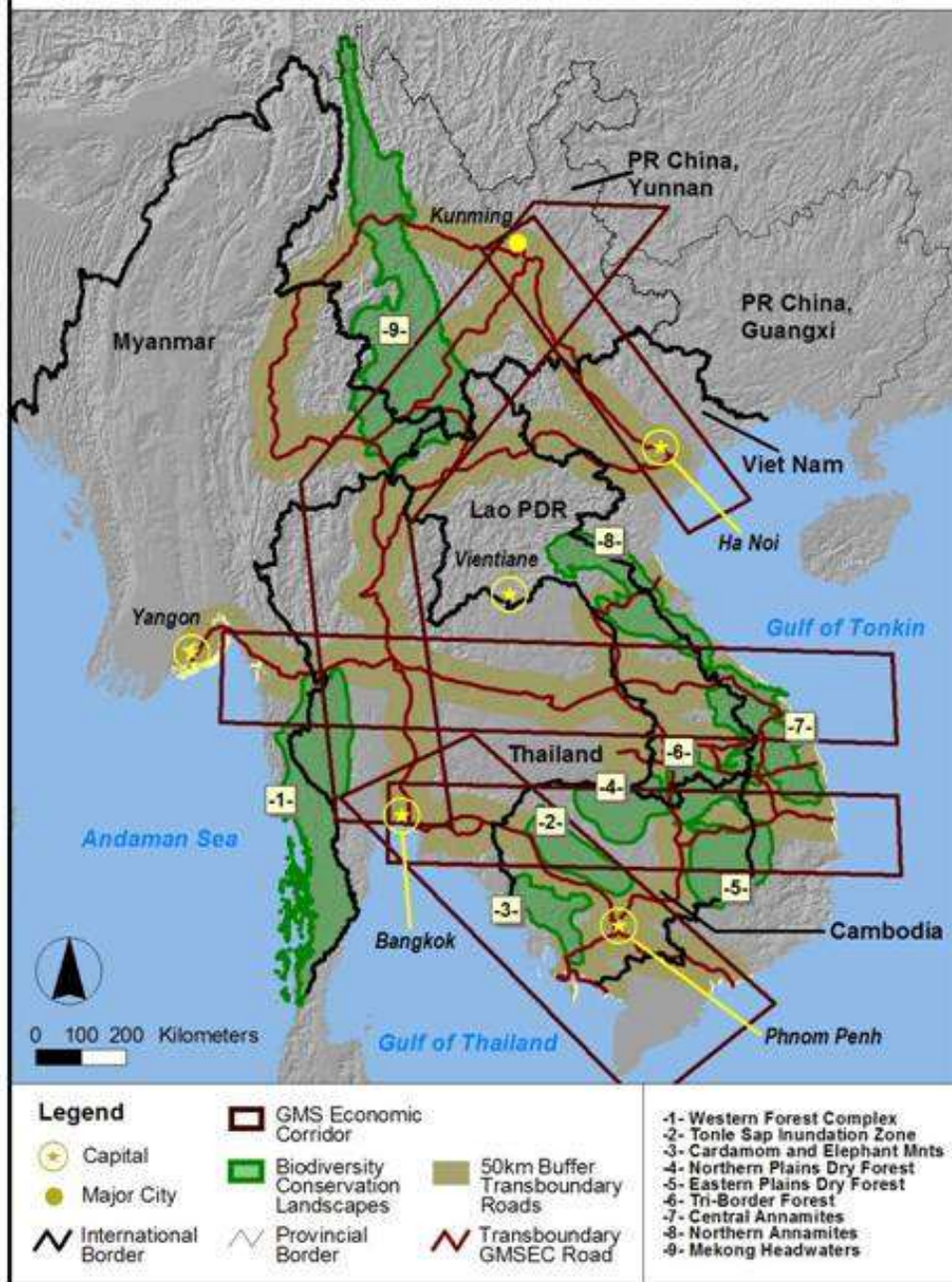
Threats:

- Rapid economic growth
- Deforestation, degradation and fragmentation
- Wildlife poaching & forest product trade.



Biodiversity Conservation Landscapes, GMSEC & Transboundary Roads

ADB RETA 6213, GMS Biodiversity Conservation Corridors Initiative



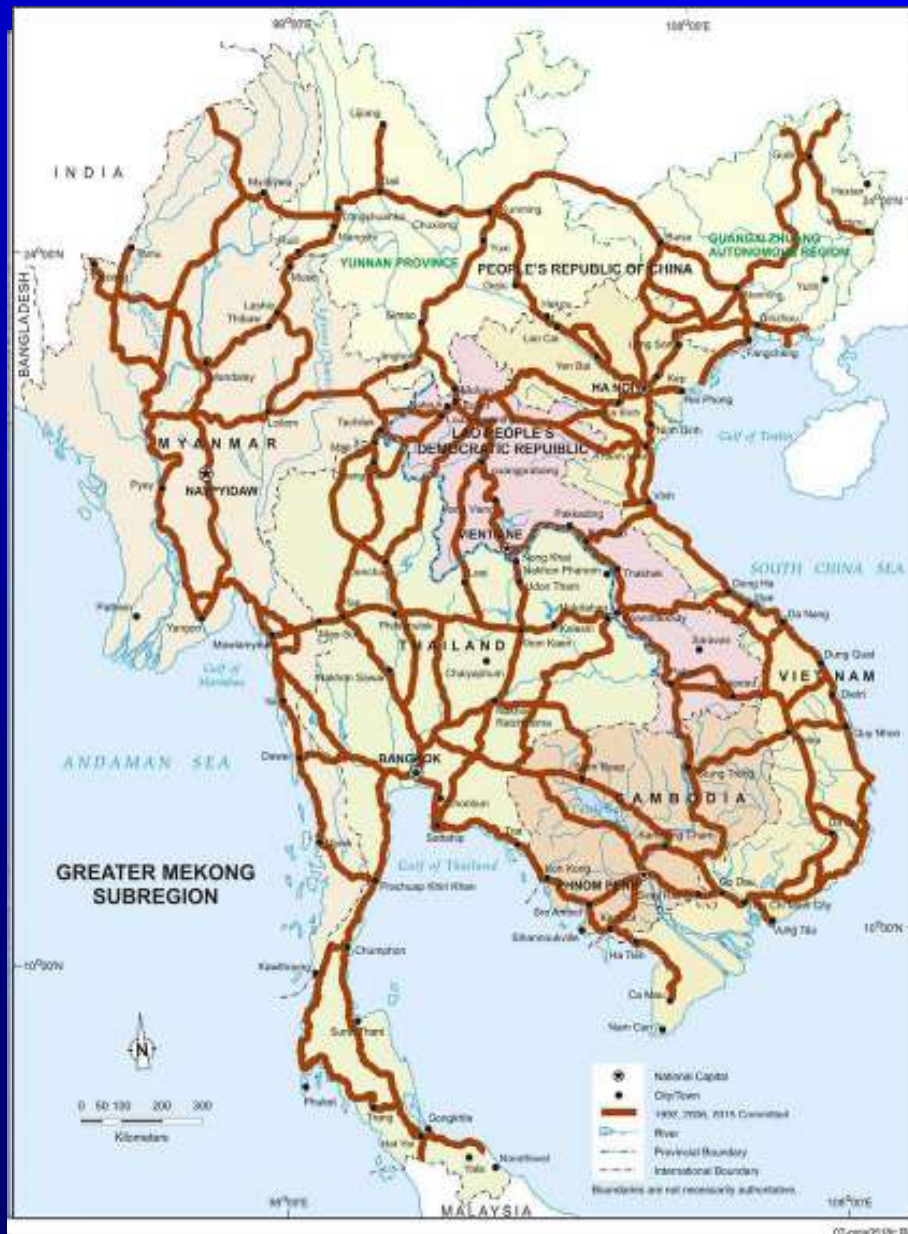
Economic Development & Ecosystem Interface

Economic development corridors

Biodiversity conservation landscapes

Growth in Regional Trade (1990-2010)

- Rapid expansion of regional trade and regional road network
- Threats to ecosystems originate beyond administrative boundaries



GMS Core Environment Program & Biodiversity Corridors Initiative (2006-2016)

- **Regional platform** for environmental management - linked to GMS Economic Cooperation Program & led by GMS WGE
- **Funding:** \$130 million investment to date.
- **Outcome:** Environment friendly and climate resilient GMS Economic Cooperation Program



1: Environment planning systems

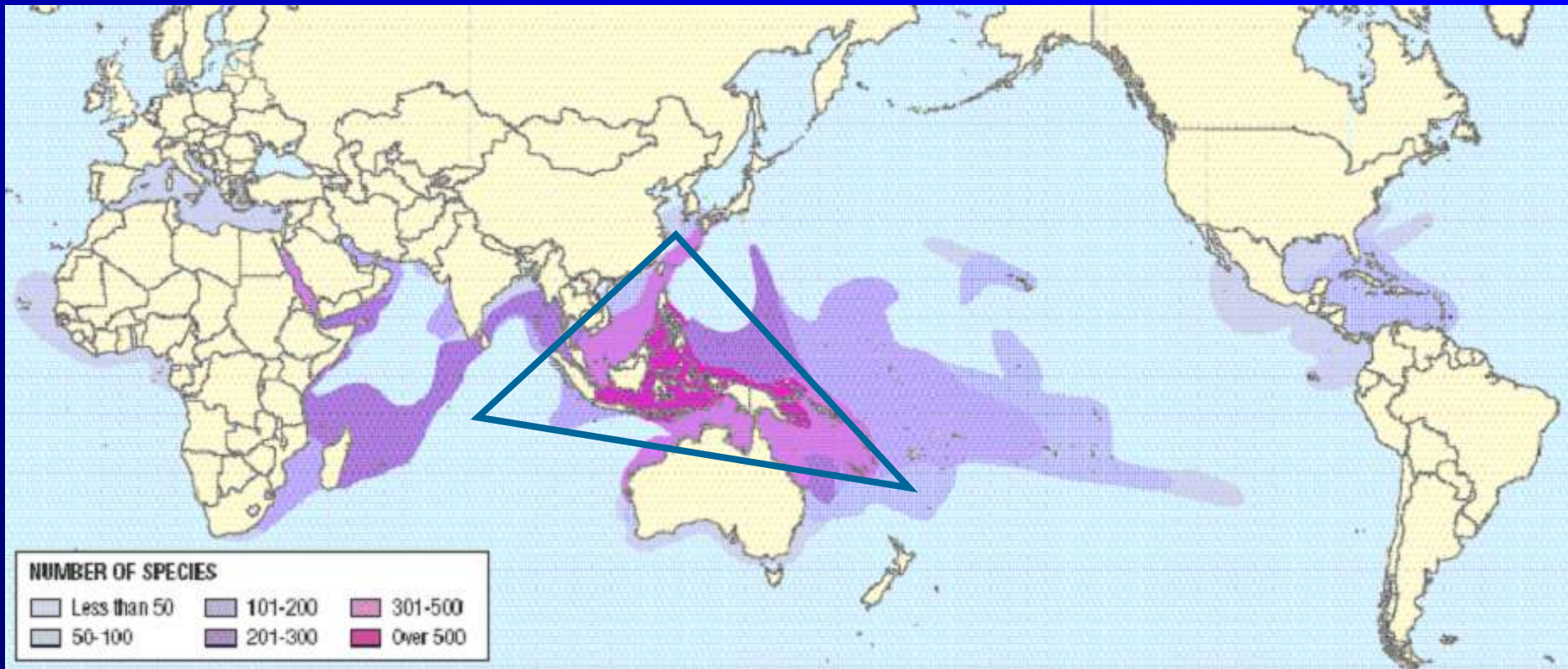
2: Management of conservation landscapes for sustainable livelihoods

3: Climate resilience & low carbon development

4: Strengthened institutions and sustainable financing

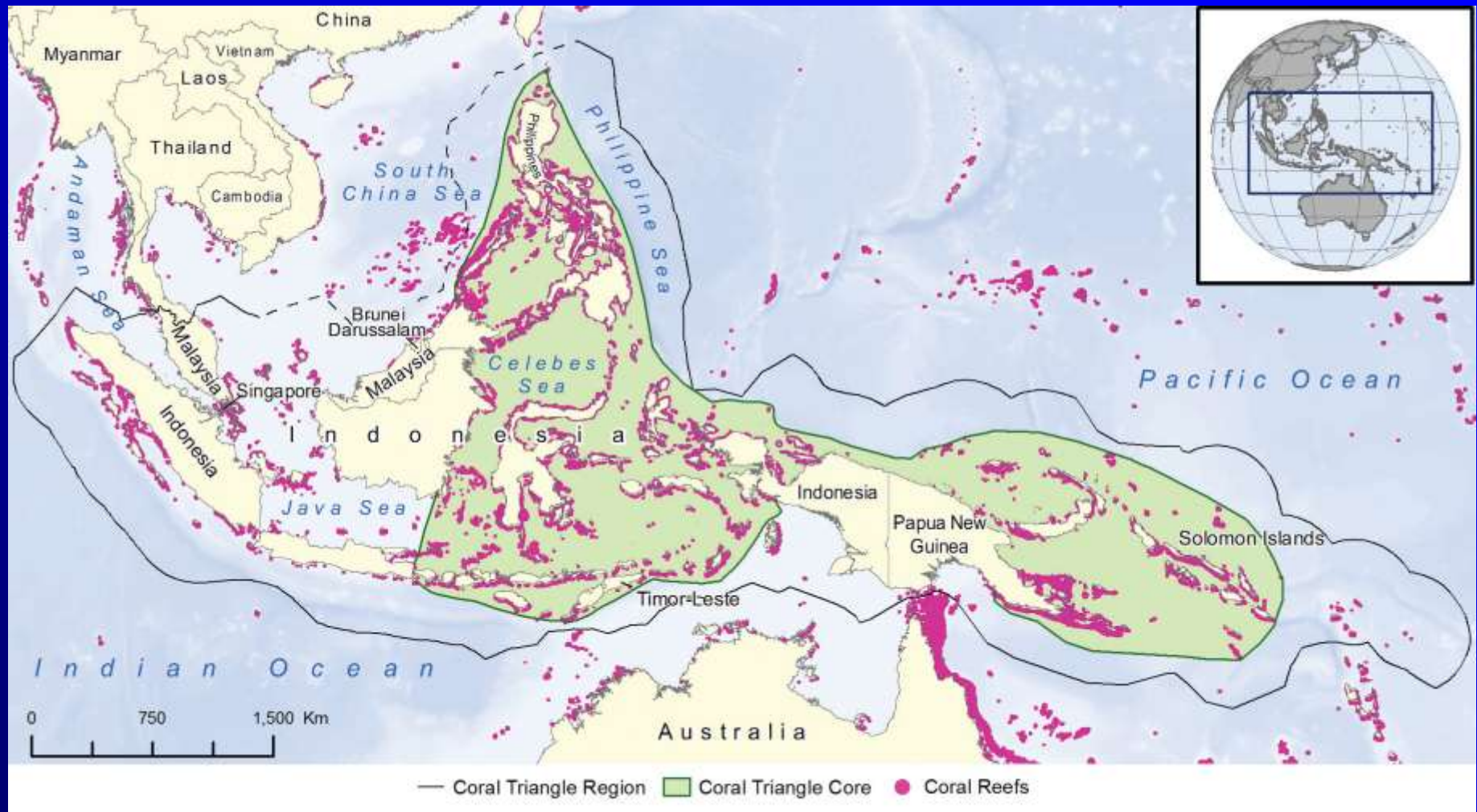
The Coral Triangle

- Global distribution of coral reefs and species richness



- Source: J.E.N. Veron and Mary Stafford-Smith.
Corals of the World (Cape Ferguson: AIMS, 2000)

Distribution of coral reefs



■ Source: WRI (2012)

Why reefs matter in the Coral Triangle?

■ Food and livelihoods

- 120 million people living in coastal areas
- Export income - \$4 billion in fisheries exports.
50% global tuna catch
- Employment – 5 million+ people employed in fisheries processing.

■ Tourism

- \$12 billion in annual revenue from coastal tourism

■ Coastal protection

- 45% of shorelines protected by coral reefs

International Pressures on Coral Triangle Assets

■ Top Consumers: Japan, US, EU, China, Thailand



Local Fishing Communities



Fishing Fleets

Local Challenges to Maintain Assets

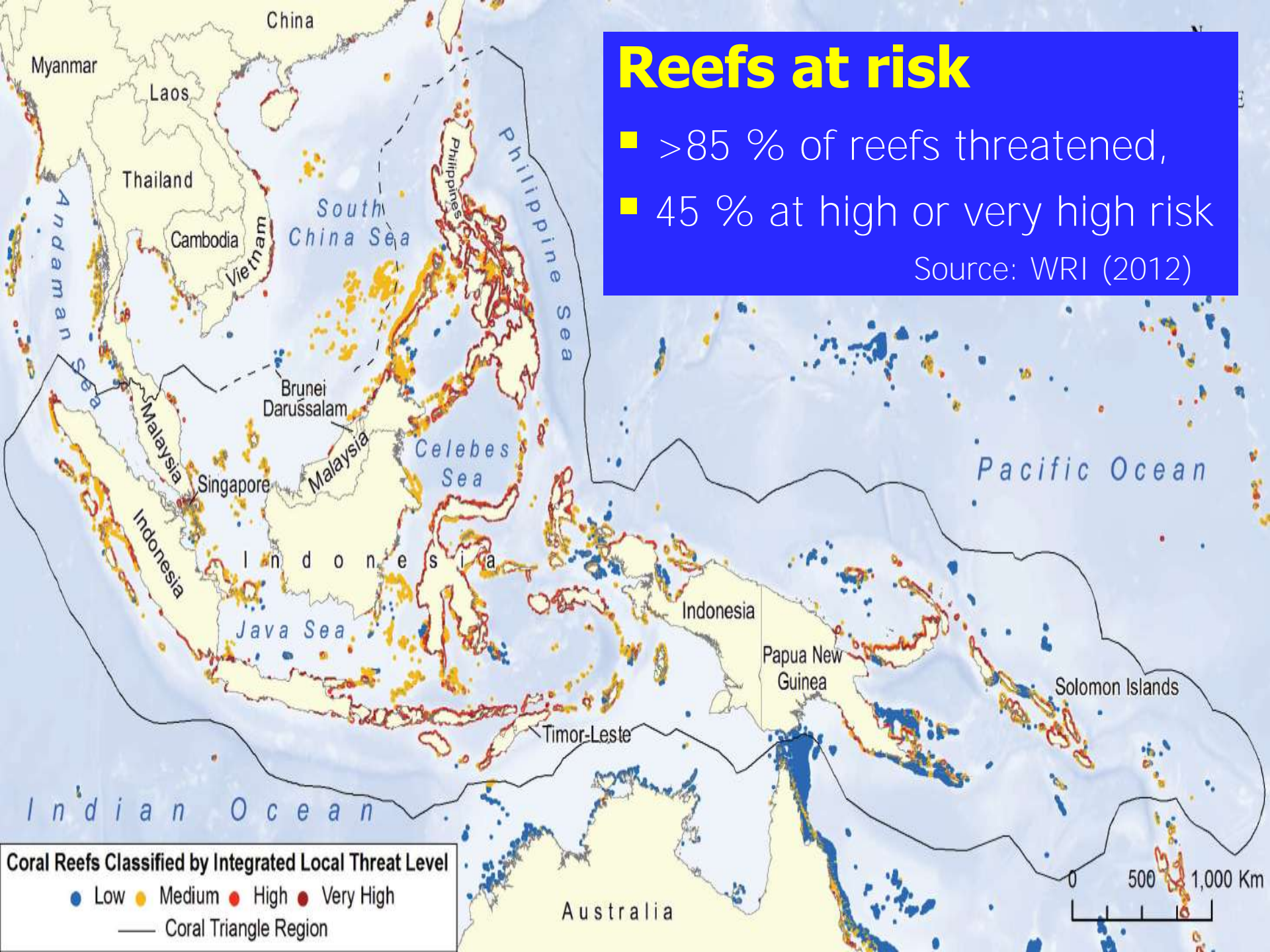
- Habitat loss due to pollution and effects of climate change and acidification
- Unsustainable fishing levels and destructive fishing practices
- Unsustainable coastal development



Reefs at risk

- >85 % of reefs threatened,
- 45 % at high or very high risk

Source: WRI (2012)



Coral Triangle Initiative for Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security

- **CTI Plan of Action (2009): Overarching Goals:**
- Designate and effectively manage priority seascapes
- Apply ecosystem approach to fisheries management
- Establish networks of MPAs
- Strengthen resilience and adaptation to climate change
- Strengthen measures to protect threatened marine species



CTI-CFF Coordination Processes

- Regional Secretariat establishment
- National and Regional Coordinating Committees
- Regional Plan and National Plans of Action
- Partner Group of key donors and NGOs
- State of Coral Triangle reporting process
- High Level political support – working towards next Summit in 2014.

Regional priority activities

- **CTI MPA System**

- Protect 20% of marine and coastal areas by 2020

- **Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management**

- Regional guidelines; & national legislative, policy and regulatory frameworks

- **Regional Early Action Plan for Climate Change Adaptation**

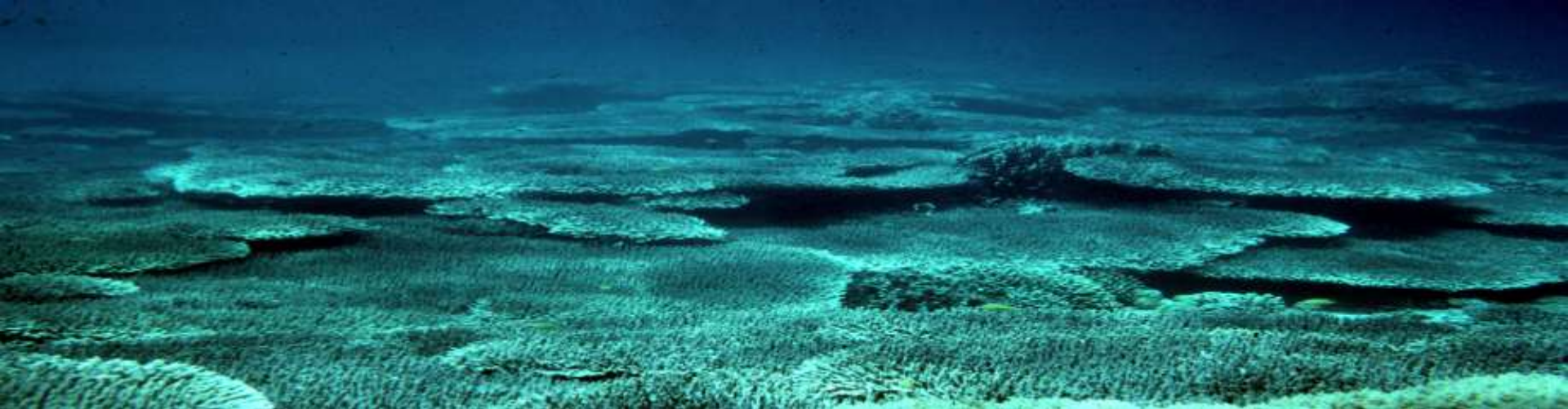
- Vulnerability assessments, coastal planning

Status of Protected Areas

- Coverage of coral reefs within MPAs in the Coral Triangle Region is low.
- ~ 16 % compared to the global average of 28 %.
- ~ 6% of reefs are in MPAs with effective or partially effective management.
- Institutional, finance and capacity gaps

Final points

- Regional cooperation important
 - addressing biodiversity loss and PA management at landscape & seascape levels
- PA management needs to be integrated with planning and management at landscape and seascape levels
- PA management effectiveness remains weak
- Economic values and livelihood linkages
 - need to be better integrated with planning.



Thank you

For more information:

<http://www.adb.org/themes/environment/main>

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