

Project Profile: Vietnam

WLT's largest self-certified Carbon Balanced project, Khe Nuoc Trong, is spread over 52,000 acres in the Annamite Mountain Range of North-Central Vietnam. A precious remnant of biodiverse tropical forest in a land blighted by deforestation, Khe Nuoc Trong provides a sanctuary for a rich array of threatened wildlife, including Critically Endangered species like the Sunda Pangolin, Red-shanked Douc Langur, and one of the world's rarest large mammals: the Saola, or "Asian unicorn".

Community and Biodiversity Alliance (CCBA). The third-party certification will give an independent assessment of net positive climate, social and biodiversity benefits. Through the natural regeneration of degraded areas and protection of existing carbon stocks, Khe Nuoc Trong produces both avoidance and regenerative offsets.

As part of the project, WLT are currently working with local communities to establish three cooperatives within the reserve's buffer zone, an initiative that will bring benefits to over 2,000 households in some 30 villages. Local authorities and conservation groups are also coming together with the people of Khe Nuoc Trong to report poaching, remove snares, and conduct forest patrols.

As a Watershed Protection Forest, Khe Nuoc Trong provides clean water to these communities and feeds downstream rice paddies – just one example of the gifts the forest provides. Viet Nature are now engaging with individuals who were once involved in illegal timber harvesting, showing them how sustainable management of their forest home – such as improving existing acacia plantations – can provide beneficial alternative livelihoods.

“The new Nature Reserve status enshrines biodiversity protection as a key objective

In 2020, following years of hard work by our partner Viet Nature, Khe Nuoc Trong was finally upgraded to official Nature Reserve status – the highest level of government protection in Vietnam. This new status enshrines biodiversity protection as a key objective and confers additional legal safeguards for this carbon-rich habitat.

This Carbon Balanced project is being designed to meet the internationally recognised standards of the Climate,



Your Impact in Khe Nuoc Trong

-  **Project area:** 52,210 acres
-  **Project timeframe:** 20 years
-  **Biomass carbon stocks:** Measured in 2017 and 2019
-  **Total estimated carbon benefit:** 1,000,000 tCO₂e
-  **Climate benefits:** Forest protection and regeneration
-  **Trees protected:** 10,681,025
-  **Terrestrial species protected:** 717
-  **UN Sustainable Development Goals:** 9



Top image: Red-shanked Douc langur feeding on runner beans in the trees. © nathan726 / Shutterstock
Middle image: Ranger Quoc Hieu and Ranger Dang Hieu in the protected area of Khe Nuoc Trong. © Viet Nature Conservation Centre
Bottom image: Stejneger's Pit Viper. © Pham The Cuong/Viet Nature Conservation Centre