



IUCN Asia and biodiversity data

James Tallant

**Senior Programme Officer – Species
IUCN Natural Resources Group, Asia**

June 2017



IUCN Overview

Founded in 1948, IUCN is the world's largest global environmental organization.

- A unique **democratic** Union with more than 1,200 State and NGO Member organizations in 160 countries.
- The leading provider of the **latest knowledge** about biodiversity, with more than 16,000 experts and scientists.
- The only environmental organisation with official **Observer Status** at the **United Nations** General Assembly.



What we do

- **Knowledge:** We provide the **latest science and knowledge** on ecosystems and biodiversity and their contribution to human well-being.
- **Action:** We run hundreds of **field projects** around the world to better manage natural environments
- **Governance:** We help governments, communities, NGOs and the private sector **develop environmental laws, policies and best practice.**





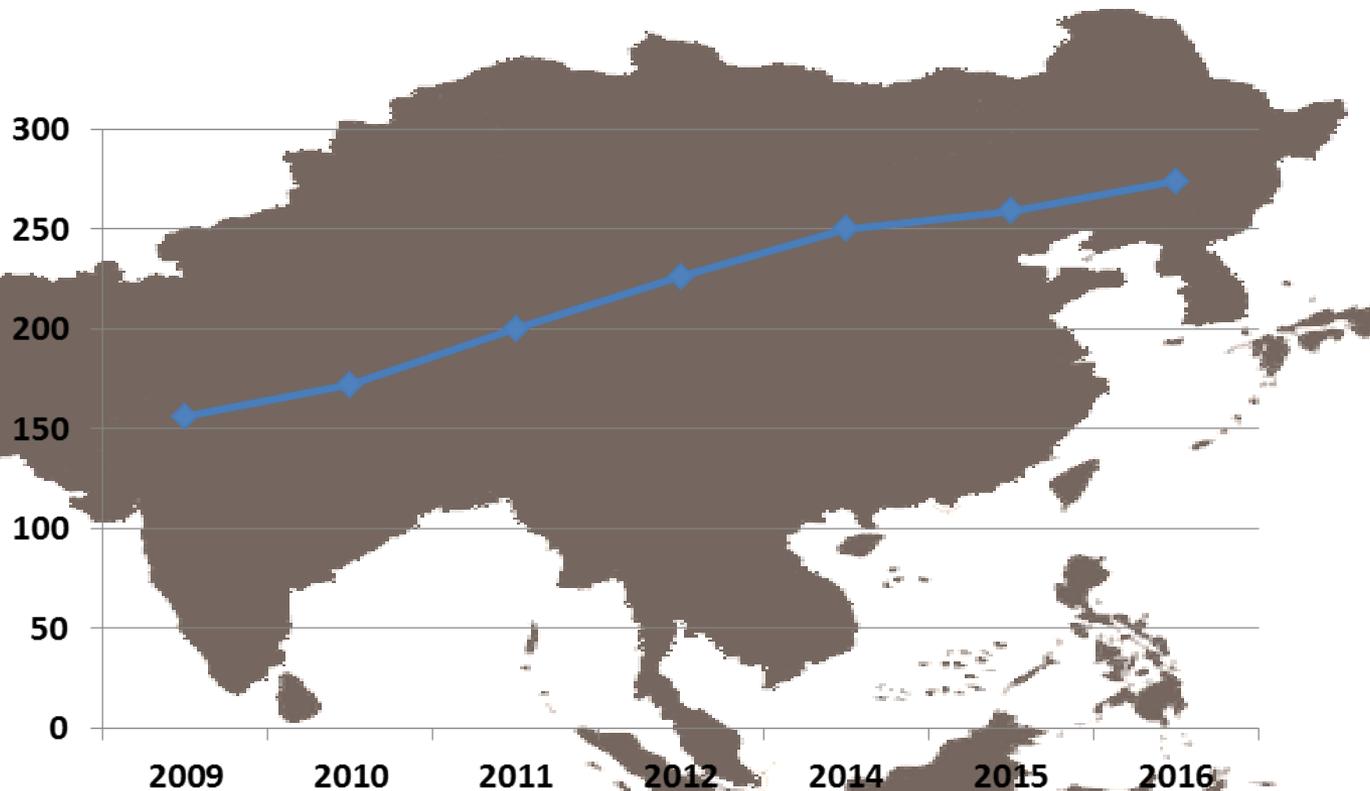
The IUCN Programme

Current programme : integrated framework emphasizing biodiversity conservation, good governance, nature based solutions



- Influencing change by generating and using knowledge, influencing policy and by demonstrating solutions to conservation and development challenges

Members



Total	275
Bangladesh	23
Bhutan	3
Cambodia	3
China	33
India	43
Indonesia	6
Japan	18
Korea (DPRK)	2
Korea (RoK)	33
Lao	2
Malaysia	7
Maldives	1
Mongolia	2
Myanmar	3
Nepal	20
Pakistan	42
Philippines	4
Singapore	3
Sri Lanka	12
Thailand	9
Vietnam	6

Has grown from 156 in 2009 to 275 today

21 of 23 countries represented

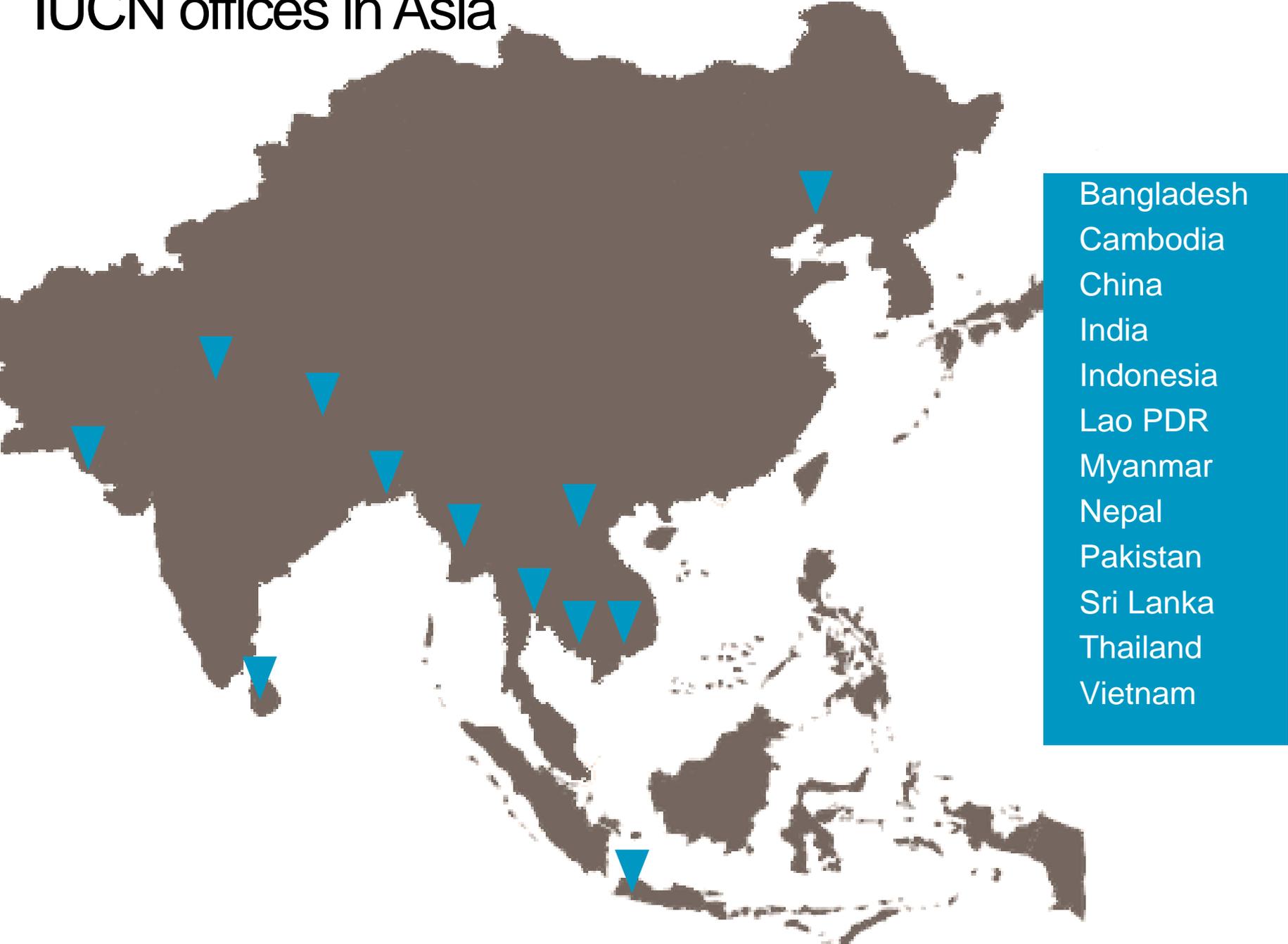
National Committee or equivalent in 10 countries



IUCN COMMISSIONS

	<p>World Commission on Environmental Law Members: 1,198 Asia: 218</p>
	<p>Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy Members: 1,105 Asia: 185</p>
	<p>Commission on Education and Communication Members: 1,281 Asia: 253</p>
	<p>Commission on Ecosystems Management Members: 1,126 Asia: 212</p>
	<p>Species Survival Commission Members: 9,814 Asia: 1,446</p>
	<p>World Commission on Protected Areas Members: 2,232 Asia: 233</p>

IUCN offices in Asia



How Does IUCN Support Biodiversity Data?



Implement Biodiversity Surveys

- Recent examples include:
 - Karst biodiversity surveys in the Mekong delta and Kampot;
 - Fish-catch data in the Xekong River, Lao PDR;
 - Fish surveys in the Gulf of Mottama – for Ramsar Information Sheet;
 - Marine surveys in the Myeik Archipelago – BOBLME;
 - Marine turtle nesting data in Vietnam;
 - Dolphin surveys in Thailand and Cambodia;
 - Xe Champhone Ramsar site surveys;
 - Species distribution maps in Sahyadri Tiger Reserve, Maharashtra;
 - Economic valuation of vulture scavenging services, in India;
 - Vulture surveys in Bangladesh.



Grant-making

- Manage grant-making mechanisms providing funding to other organizations for generating biodiversity data.
- Such as CEPF, MFF, SOS, and ITHCP
- CEPF:
 - to CI in Cambodia (fisheries data)
 - to BirdLife International in Cambodia (vultures)
 - to GWC in Lao PDR and Vietnam (saola)
 - to MBNS in Myanmar (dry-zone wetlands)
- MFF:
 - biodiversity surveys in the Gulf of Mannar.
 - to the Wildlife Trust of India (WTI) (whale shark migratory patterns and aggregation zones)
 - supporting State Biodiversity Boards in establishing Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) in coastal villages in India



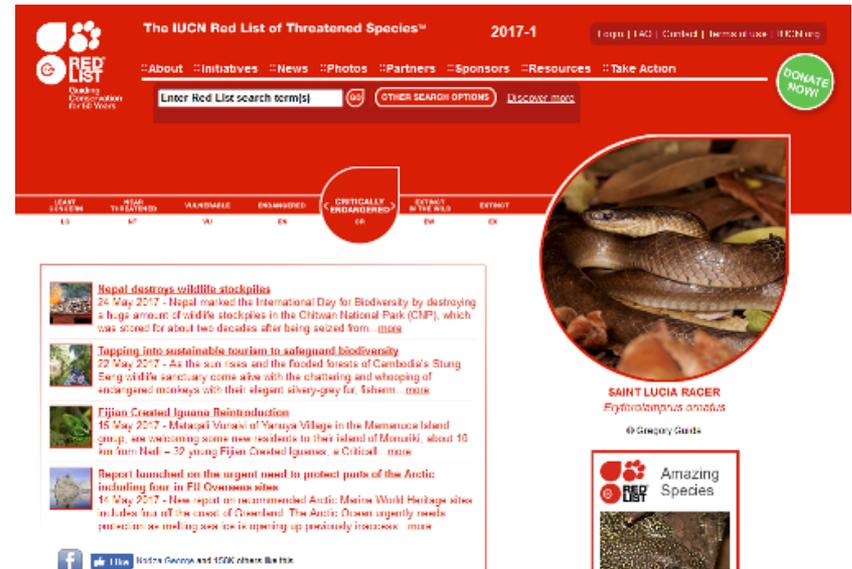
Maintain/Support Global Databases and Tools

- Maintain the global IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™ database - <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>

“the world’s most comprehensive information source for extinction risk of species”

- Support the World Database on Protected Areas (in collaboration with UNEP-WCMC) - <https://protectedplanet.net/>

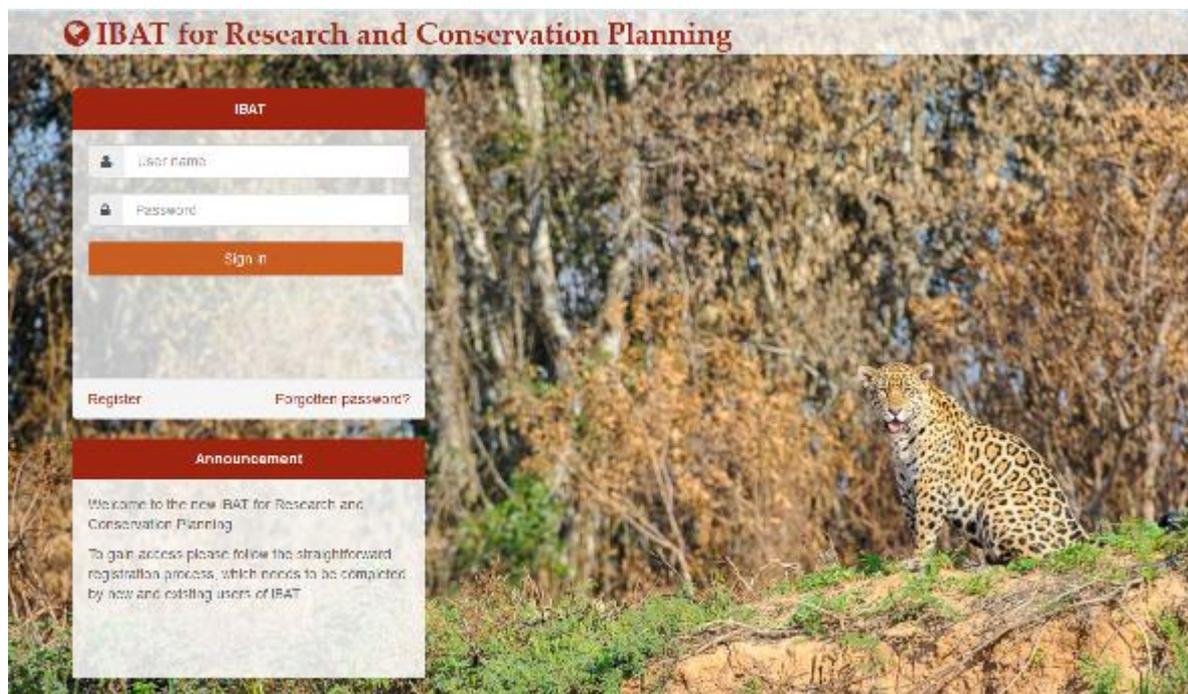
“the most up-to-date and complete source of information on protected areas”



Maintain/Support Global Databases and Tools

- IBAT (Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool) for Research and Conservation Planning (partnership with BirdLife International, Conservation International, and UNEP WCMC) – <https://www.ibat-alliance.org/ibat-conservation/>

“to facilitate access to a range of global and national data layers ... for research and conservation planning purposes”



Lead the Development of Global Standards

- Such as the recently-agreed standard on Key Biodiversity Areas <http://www.keybiodiversityareas.org>

“sites that contribute significantly to the global persistence of biodiversity”

