

# Vietnam

## Cu La Cham- Hoi An

**Declaration date:** 2009

**Surface area:** 33,146 ha

**Administrative division:**

People Committee of Hoi An City, Quang Nam Province

### **Human activities:**

Fisheries are the most important income generating activity in Cu Lao Cham, and tourism is regarded as a sector with potential to increase income. Many households use resources from the forest, though it is only a few that fully depend on the forest. These households are some of the poorest on the island, and typically consist of families with no other income generating alternatives, e.g. single women, the elderly and non-fishermen households. Various single women live alone with their children and have their only income from firewood collection. Also many elderly people earn their only income through use of natural forestry resources, e.g. from medicinal plants.

The proposed biosphere reserve is coordinated by the People Committee of Hoi An City as a modality of sustainable development with environment services to help local people incomes through following services:

- conserving biodiversity, cultural diversity and natural resources through active human intervention with cultural values
- conservation of anthropogenic ecosystems in harmonious landscapes resulting from traditional patterns of land use (e.g. grasslands, hedgerows, terraces, ponds etc.); adapted land use/ sea use in order to foster biodiversity; fostering land stewardship
- enhancing the natural environment e.g. cleaning up rubbish, burying unsightly electricity lines, maintaining aesthetic tree-lined routes, planning and building new constructions such that they blend into the landscape, etc.
- restoration/rehabilitation areas assisting the natural recovery of an ecosystem that has been degraded, damaged or destroyed
- serving as corridor, part of ecological networks, stepping-stone patches or stand-alone polygons.

### **Ecological characteristics:**

The topographical formations of maritime-marsh origin lie to the east of the township of Hoi An, in the villages of Cam Chau, Cam An, and Cam Thanh and with a stretch along the coast south of the Thu Bon River running past Trung Phuong (Duy Xuyen district). The most typical are the deposits at Cam Chau, with a maximum height of 0.8-1.2 m and sediment of black mud due to the presence of organic matter. They are, in essence, of ancient seas, and after the sea receded, they remained as swamps and marshes and have been filled up gradually. They are approximately 2000 years old.

There are the two core areas, long-term and concentrative conservation are strongly focusing on land/seascape diversity in order to conserve the ecosystems, habitats, species and genetic resources, and to preserve the intactness of the ecosystems, the wild areas from the upset made by people. The corridor between two core areas is considered as the ecological buffer and transition areas linking the River mouth (Cua Dai) and the archipelago outside. This zone contributes a lot to recover the marine ecosystems in the whole area.

### **Contact information:**

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