

World Parks Congress
Climate Change adaptation and mitigation actions to enhance food security and livelihoods.
Supporting human life.

Sustainable livelihood through innovative mangrove protection policy in Kien Giang Province, Vietnam

Authors:

¹ Luong Thanh Hai and ² Sharon Brown

¹ Kien Giang Department of Science and Technology

² University of Tasmania

Overview

The Province:

- Classified all remaining mangroves as **protection forest**
 - Estimated to maintain carbon stock – 3million ton carbon dioxide
 - Acts as protection barrier during storm and flood events
 - Reduces erosion



- Kien Giang Province has 200km of coastline in gulf of Thailand.
- 85% of province is below 1m asl.
- Sea level rise is causing coastal erosion and salt inundation:
 - destroying mangroves
 - threatening poor coastal communities



Overview

The Province:

- In 2005, enacted the “7:3 Policy” to:
 - protect mangroves
 - provide livelihoods



The 7:3 policy



The 7:3 Policy

- allocates long-term (**50 years**) land use rights for 2 – 3 ha of mangrove protection forest
- landholders must maintain 70% of allocated land under forest cover.

Aquaculture

- In the northern districts - farms use mostly **intensive shrimp** culture systems
- In the southern districts farms use **extensive poly culture** (shrimp, crab, fish and cockles) system.

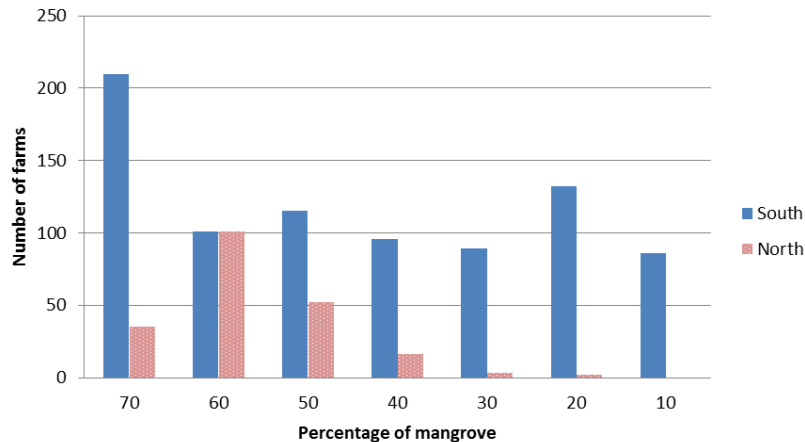


Implementation

- Not always successful
 - Limited capacity of rangers
 - Limited land area
 - Mangrove site X species matching



Compliance – maintaining mangrove cover



- 68% of **intensive farms** are compliant
- 24% of **extensive farms** are compliant

For a detailed technical report on the implementation of the 7:3 policy in Kien Giang refer to

http://www.kiengiangbiospherereserve.com.vn/project/uploads/doc/aquaculture_in_kien_giang2013_gay_en_.pdf

Conclusions

The 7:3 policy....

Maintaining protection forests contributes to:

Disaster risk reduction

- human safety during storms, flooding, erosion
- food security for poor communities

CC mitigation

- mangrove significant contribution to carbon store

Key lessons

Positive

- Very strong political will and eager participation by communities
- People with ownership contracts become custodians of the forest
- With good management practice people can earn a living

Challenges

- Regulations need to be flexible – more site specific in terms of:
 - Mangrove species used
 - Area of land allocated

Acknowledgements

- Kien Giang Peoples Committee
- Kien Giang Biosphere Reserve Management Board
- Conservation and Development of the Kien Giang Biosphere Reserve Project

www.kiengiangbiospherereserve.com.vn



Mr. Luong Thanh Hai