

# Cu Mong Proposed Marine Protected Area

## Alternative site name(s)

Cu Mong lagoon

## Province(s)

Phu Yen

## Status

Proposed

## Management board established

No

## Latitude

13°30' - 13°39'N

## Longitude

109°12' - 109°18'E

## Bio-unit

05b - South Annam



## Conservation status

The Asian Development Bank (ADB 1999) proposed establishing Cu Mong Marine Protected Area, with an area of 3,000 ha.

## Topography and hydrology

Cu Mong lagoon is located in Song Cau district, Phu Yen province. The lagoon is 20 km long and about 3 m deep. The lagoon is connected to the open sea by a channel 400 m wide and nearly 5 m deep (ADB 1999).

## Biodiversity value

Seagrass beds cover 200 ha of the lagoon, and are an important spawning and nursery area for marine organisms (ADB 1999). There is little other information available about the biodiversity of Cu Mong lagoon, although Scott (1989) mentions that the site is thought to be an important staging and wintering area for migratory waterfowl.

## Conservation issues

The environment and aquatic resources of Cu Mong lagoon are currently under the management of Phu Yen Provincial Department of Fisheries. At

present, however, there is insufficient capacity to manage the lagoon sustainably, and the site has become degraded as a result of over-exploitation of aquatic resources and unplanned aquacultural development (ADB 1999).

## Other documented values

The lagoon is a breeding ground for *Penaeus merguensis* and other economically valuable shrimp species; annual shrimp production from the lagoon is in the range of 20 to 30 tonnes. Fish production is higher, at between 70 and 150 tonnes per year but the fish caught are typically of small size and low value (ADB 1999).

## Related projects

No information.

## Literature sources

ADB (1999) Draft coastal and marine protected areas plan. Hanoi: Asian Development Bank.

Scott, D. A. (1989) A directory of Asian wetlands. Gland: IUCN.