



**Thailand's National Report on State of Conservation
Kaeng Krachan Forest Complex
(Thailand) (N1461)
December 2024**



Submitted to World Heritage Centre, UNESCO

Executive Summary

This report on State of Conservation of the Kaeng Krachan Forest Complex (KKFC) has been prepared for submission to the World Heritage Centre in accordance with the World Heritage Committee's Decision adopted at the Extended 45th Session of the World Heritage Committee, held in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in 2023. It is intended to be presented for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 47th session. The report summarizes as follows:

The first part of the report mentions Thailand's actions in response to the decision of the Extended 45th Session of the World Heritage Committee as follows:

1) Thailand is fully prepared to advance collaboration with the State Party of Myanmar in transboundary conservation, contingent upon Myanmar's readiness.

2) Thailand has considered the implementation of recommendations provided by the expert from the IUCN Advisory Mission conducted in November 2022. These actions are aimed at safeguarding, protecting and maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the KKFC World Heritage site.

3) The management of natural resources in Thailand is governed by the National Park Act, B.E.2562 (2019) and the Wild Animal Conservation and Protection Act, B.E. 2562 (2019). These Acts place significant emphasis on public participation, ensuring that stakeholders and the public are involved at every stage of the law-making process.

4) The Protected Area Committee (PAC) for the KKFC World Heritage site has been established. This is to promote and support local authorities, communities, the government sector, the private sector, and non-government organizations (NGOs) to participate in natural resource management by playing a role in providing advice, recommendation, supporting conservation activities to safeguard, protect and maintain the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the KKFC World Heritage site in accordance with the obligations of the World Heritage Convention and the country's natural resource conservation policies.

5) Thailand has consistently addressed the issues related to the habitation and livelihood of the Karen community in Ban Bang Kloy, with a focus on improving their quality of life in an effective, tangible, and sustainable manner. Efforts have been expedited to resolve conflicts that have arisen, fostering peaceful coexistence while balancing collective interests at the national level in the conservation of forest and wildlife resources. These actions are carried out with appropriate consideration for the well-being of ethnic groups, all within the framework of national law to which all must adhere.

6) At present, no authorization has been granted for the construction of the Nong Ta Dang Reservoir project within the Mae Nam Phachi Wildlife Sanctuary in Ratchaburi Province, which is adjacent to the KKFC World Heritage Site. Should the project move forward, the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) guidelines will be thoroughly considered prior to any further actions.

7) The management of the corridor area between Kui Buri National Park and Kaeng Krachan National Park is currently underway. This includes the incorporation of parts of the national reserved forest into Kui Buri National Park, along with ongoing discussions with the military agency responsible for the area to coordinate collaborative conservation efforts within the army reserve zone. Additionally, conservation activities are being considered within the framework of Other Effective Conservation Measures (OECMs).

8) A working group has been established to determine and formalize a buffer zone for the KKFC World Heritage site. The aims are to collaboratively discuss the factors for determining the boundaries, management models, and measures for formalizing the buffer zone of the KKFC World Heritage site. Additionally, it aims to raise awareness and understanding among stakeholders to further propose the draft buffer zone of the KKFC World Heritage site through the boundary modification procedure.

Part Two of the report outlines the continued strategy under the 2nd Thailand Tiger Action Plan (2022-2034), focusing on increasing the tiger population in the wild within the carrying capacity of forest complexes capable of supporting tiger habitats. This includes improving area management, effective monitoring, and stakeholder participation, with the goal of positioning Thailand as a leader in tiger conservation in Southeast Asia by 2034.

The report also discusses the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on conservation and management of forest and wildlife resources in World Heritage Sites and protected areas, signed between the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation (DNP) and 5 conservation organizations. This MoU promotes integrated cooperation and strengthens efforts among the involved parties in conserving and protecting forests, wildlife, and biodiversity, managing protected areas, and managing wildlife and its habitat in Thailand.

Furthermore, the report mentions conservation activities with international organizations in the KKFC Heritage site, such as collaborations with the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) Thailand and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Thailand.

Finally, the report discusses the MOU for integrated cooperation on the promotion, support, and coordination between the DNP and the Department of Local Administration Promotion. The agreement aims to integrate efforts in 4 key areas: 1) Prevention and control of forest fires in protected areas, 2) Prevention and resolution of wildlife conflicts affecting communities outside protected areas, 3) Infrastructure development and livelihood improvement for individuals residing or earning a living in national parks, wildlife sanctuaries, and non-hunting areas, and 4) Development and promotion of livelihoods or quality of life of individuals in the communities.