



Annual Report

2020



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2020

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Foreword

2020. A year most of us will certainly remember as a challenging one. The year an outbreak of a pandemic disease struck the world.

*Association Anoulak has been actively working for now **over six years** on the **front line of biodiversity conservation**. A difficult task indeed. This year 2020 was, **once again**, a challenge, but even more than usual and challenging in a different way. When I look back at these **past 12 months**, I see how much we have **accomplished**, on the ground in Laos, despite the struggles. This **Annual Report 2020** is a **testimony** of our **continued dedication**.*

*This year 2020 also **reaffirmed** and brought **deeper reflections** on the **importance of nature conservation**. This year more than ever, many realized the importance of **nature for human well-being** (both **physically and mentally**).*

*People can be as **vulnerable** as they can be **resilient**. This is what keeps us **optimistic for the future**.*

*At Association Anoulak, we are convinced that the solutions will arise from **local initiatives**, driven by communities themselves, taking on challenges. We must remember that **every day**, we have **the power to make a difference**. From **the tiniest of gestures** (such as looking at that tree in front of you and be grateful for the oxygen it is producing or a simple act of kindness towards a stranger) **to bigger actions** (such as community initiatives to support local farmers or local minorities or contribute into an association). **All of these actions**, your actions, are like little drops of water. But **taken all together** across the planet, they produce an ocean of **generosity, reciprocity, solidarity, optimism**. Your actions are like small twigs, but put all together, they can form a bird's nest that will support new life. **Our little actions lead to much much more**. But let us not forget that you should always **be kind and take care of yourself first**.*

Camille.

~Founder and director of Association Anoulak.
Laos, January 2021.





About us

Association Anoulak (*conservation* in Lao language) is a French-registered association dedicated to the long-term nature conservation in the Annamite Mountains of Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR or **Laos**) and the support of human local communities for resilient livelihoods.

Our **mission** is to develop and implement innovative, multidisciplinary and sustainable approaches to the long-term conservation and study of the biodiversity and ecosystems in Nakai-Nam Theun National Park, with a skilled, passionate and dedicated team of nationals and internationals.

Since 2019, Association Anoulak signed a **Memorandum of Understanding** (MoU) with the Nakai - Nam Theun National Park Authority, governed under the Department of Forestry of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Lao PDR for the long-term implementation of our programs.



Our Team

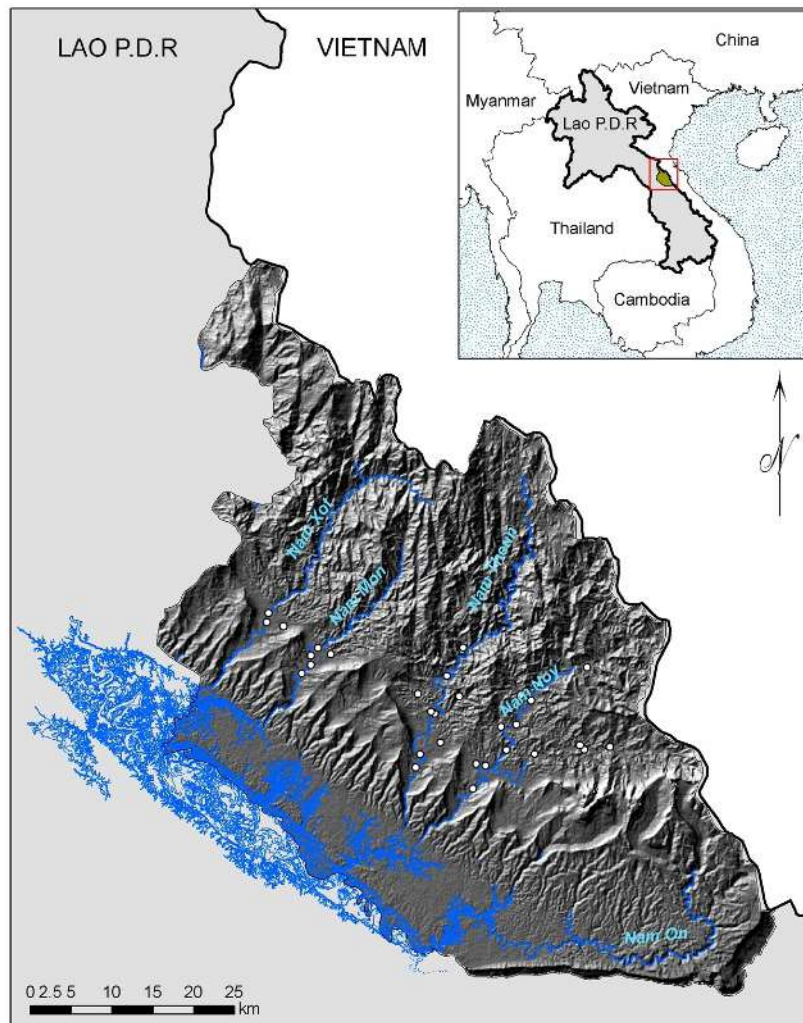
Association Anoulak currently employs 45 people (4 women):
1 foreigner and **44 Lao people** (41 locals from Nakai):

- Ms. Dr. Camille Coudrat - Association Anoulak's Founder and Director
- Ms. Dr. Lampheuy - Community project Manager
- Ms. Sisamay Inthaphone - Community project local leader
- Ms. Laythong - Community project officer
- Mr. Khongphet - Community project officer
- Mr. Ouphakhone (Done) - Wildlife Fieldwork officer
- Mr. Chaolor - Wildlife Research Fieldwork officer
- Mr. Khammai - Patrols quality control and coordinator officer
- Mr. Khantaly - Patrols quality control and coordinator officer
- 36 rangers from local community

Behind every one of them there is a story and a family. What keep us motivated is their smiles, their hard work, their dedication... In the end, what will remain from our efforts is how we support the community and the results this has on their livelihoods, on nature and on biodiversity.

Region of focus and intervention

Nakai-Nam Theun National Park (3500 km²) is one of the largest remaining contiguous forest blocks in the Indochinese peninsula and holds numerous **rare, endemic and highly threatened species**. It falls in the heart of one of the richest regions of Southeast Asia in terms of biodiversity and endemism and is one of the identified 'Key Biodiversity Areas' within the Indo-Burma biodiversity hotspot. In Laos, Nakai-Nam Theun is ranked as a **priority for its National and Global biodiversity importance**.



Nakai - Nam Theun is located in the heart of the **Annamite Mountains** with a unique climatic pattern and ecosystem characterized by a very high species richness and endemism. The Annamite Mountain range is where some of the **last mammals discoveries** took place (Critically Endangered saola *Pseudoryx nghetinhensis*; Critically Endangered large-antlered muntjac *Muntiacus vuquangensis*; Data Deficient Annamite muntjac *M. truongsongensis*; Data Deficient Annamite Stiped Rabbit *Nesolagus timmins*).

The challenge: Southeast Asia has long been identified (including by the IUCN) as being the region of the world with the **highest biodiversity extinction risk** principally from **unsustainable harvesting of forest resources** and this pattern is observed throughout Laos and in Nakai-Nam Theun.

Association Anoulak implements activities on:

***Biodiversity research and monitoring for conservation**

Objective: to understand the distribution, monitor wildlife populations and to increase our knowledge on in-situ species ecology and status of the threatened and endemic species in the Annamite Mountains which will inform conservation management

***Community anti-poaching patrols**

Objective: to reduce illegal poaching of species in the wild, allow their populations to remain stable or recover from unsustainable hunting

***Conservation awareness**

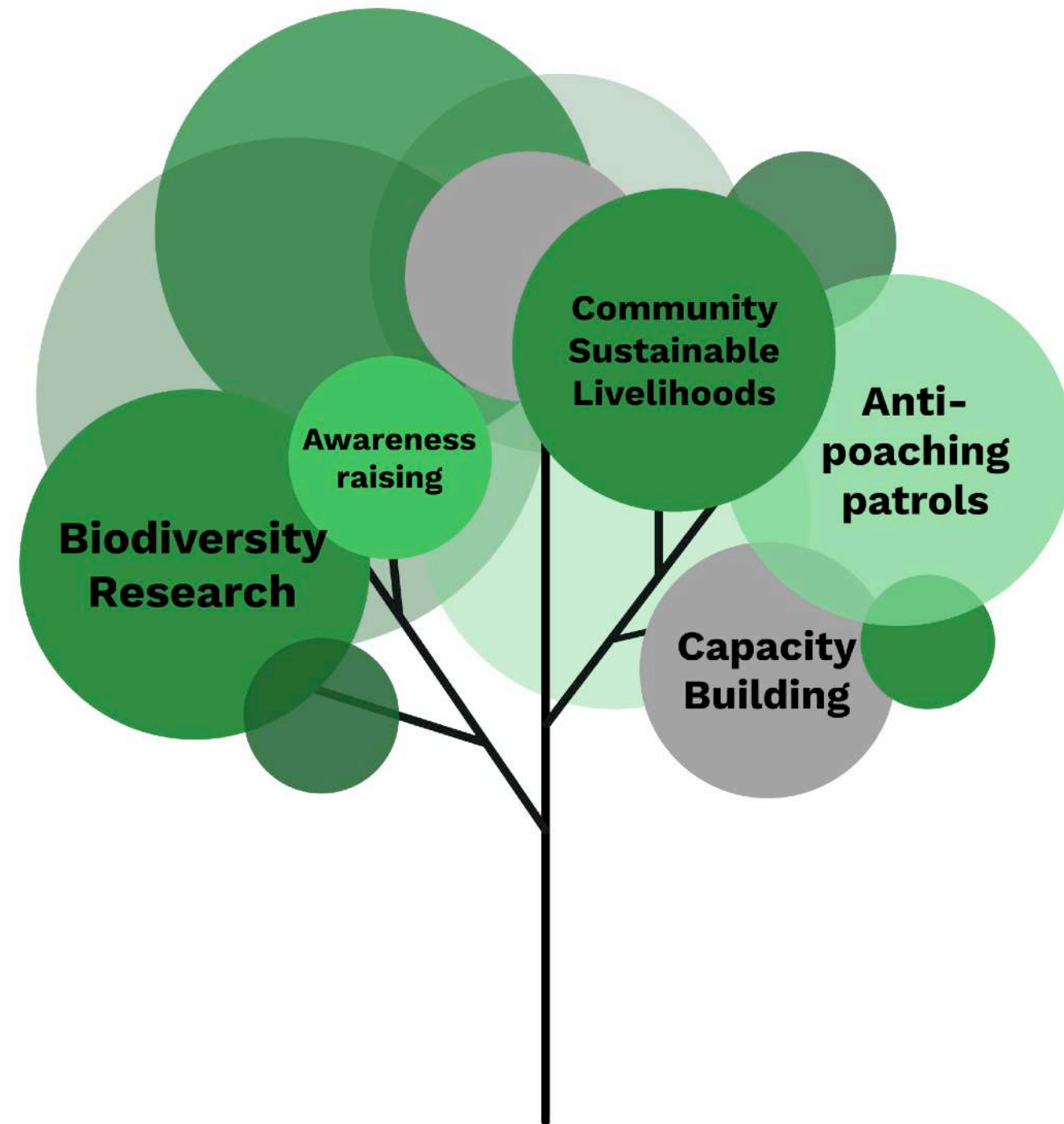
Objective: to raise awareness of the local and international community about the biodiversity of the Annamite mountains and the importance of protecting it.

***Community sustainable livelihoods**

Objective: to provide alternative and sustainable livelihoods and income to local communities to reduce their reliance on natural resources

***Capacity building**

Objective: to inspire and train the new generation of Lao conservationists and biologists and ensure the sustainability of and sense of ownership of all our projects at the national level





Biodiversity research and monitoring in 2020

White-cheeked Gibbons (*Nomascus siki*/*N. leucogenys*) distribution

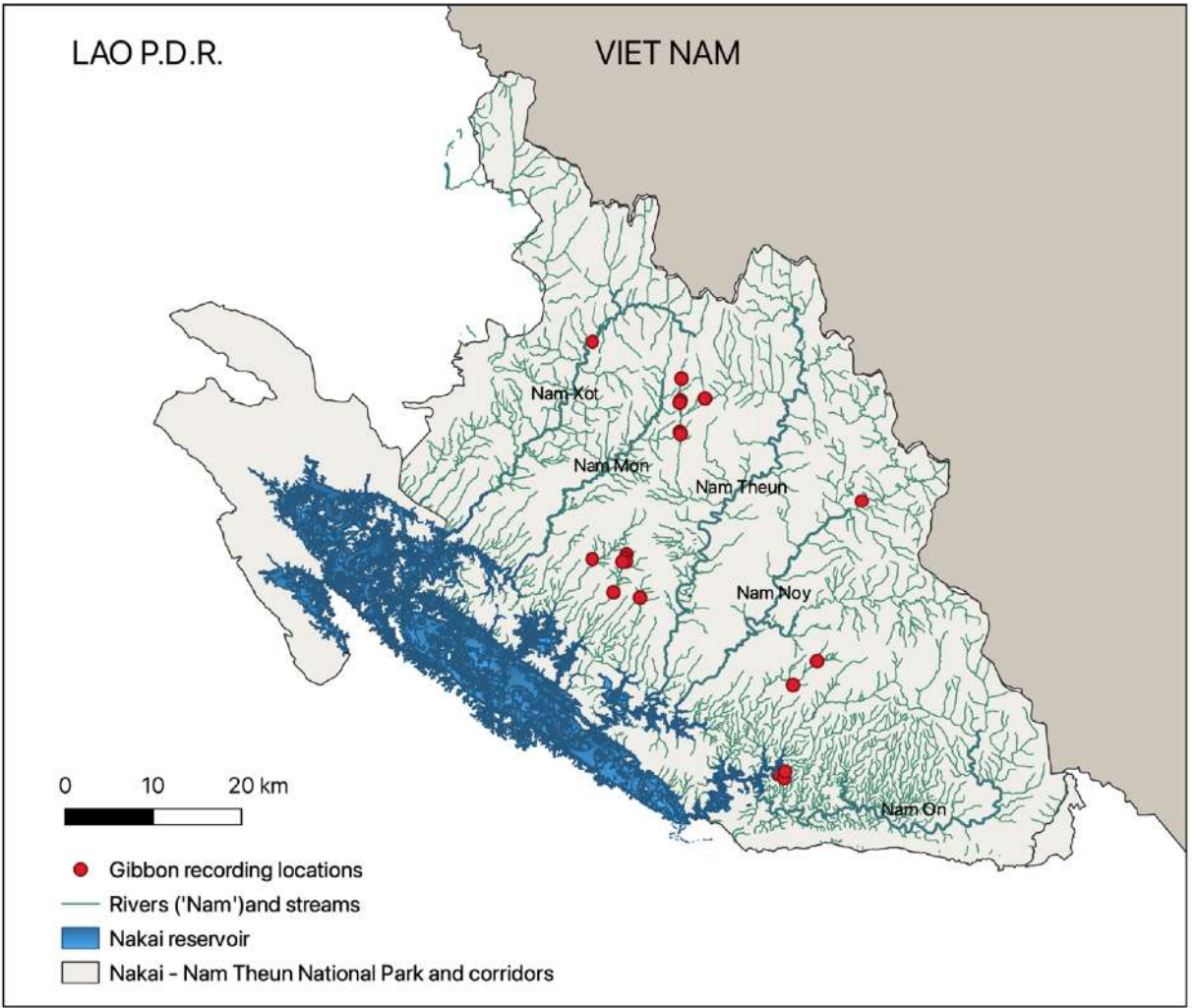
Rationale: The current taxonomic status and distribution range limit of the population of gibbons occurring in Nakai-Nam Theun remains uncertain. It may hold both the Northern and Southern white-cheeked gibbon and/or a hybrid population. To better plan conservation actions on these species, it is crucial to know their distribution across the landscape. Because gibbon vocalizations are species specific we are recording gibbon calls in as many sites as possible across Nakai-Nam Theun, which we will identify to species.

We are collaborating with Dr. Michal Hradec from the University of Life Sciences of Prague, Czech Republic for the analysis using computer softwares.

In **2020**, we continued the collection of gibbon recordings and visited six different locations from which we recorded gibbon calls. Data analysis, reporting and publications will be carried out in 2021.



Mr. Done and Mr. Chaolor recording gibbon data in the field



All gibbon recordings locations surveyed in Nakai - Nam Theun National Park **since the beginning of the project**

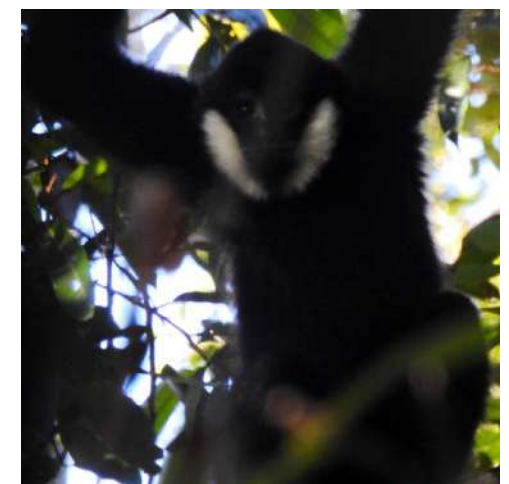
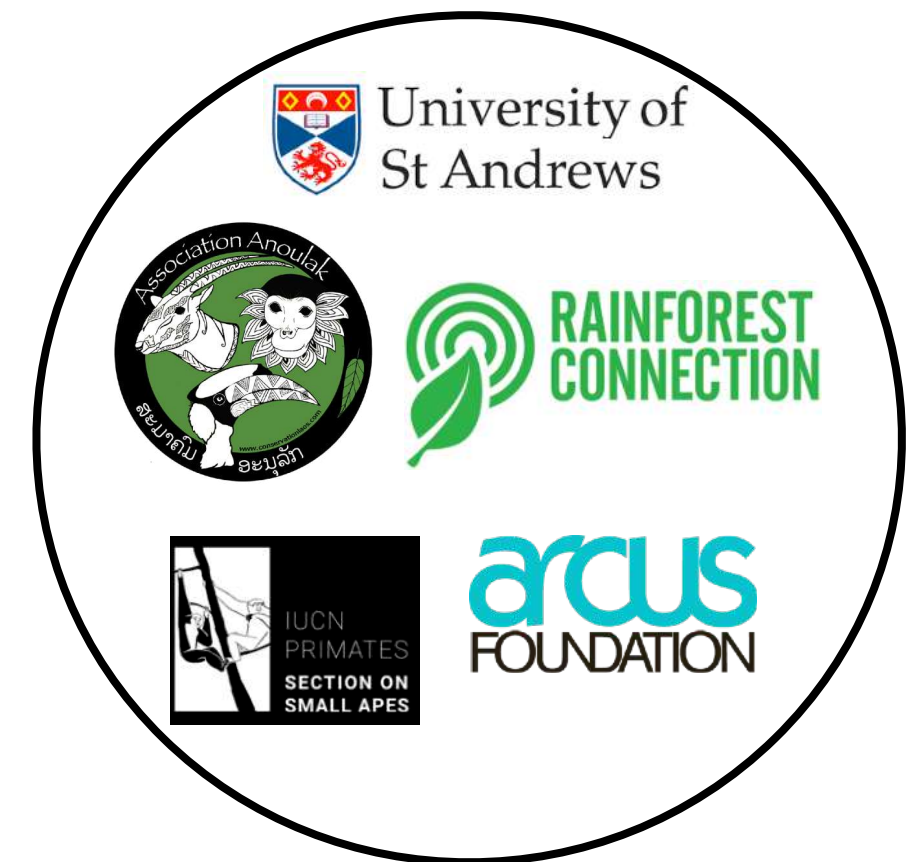
Gibbon survey methods development

Rationale: Gibbons are some of the **most threatened primates in the world**, due to habitat loss, illegal pet trade, and hunting for food and traditional medicine. All twenty species of gibbons are threatened with extinction on the [IUCN Red List of Threatened Species](#): five are Critically Endangered, fourteen are Endangered, and one is Vulnerable. **Effective conservation measures and actions** to mitigate threats to gibbon populations **require accurate and precise estimates of their abundance, distribution, and population trends**. However **reliable survey**

Acoustic surveys are the most applicable method for gibbon, as they produce territorial calls that can be heard from large distances. Acoustic survey methods (with human detectors) have commonly been used to survey gibbons but there is subjectivity in the data from these surveys as they require surveyors to estimate gibbon locations without ever seeing them, resulting in unreliable abundance estimates. There is also no existing standardized survey protocol and/or analysis method, which prevents long-term population monitoring across time and space.

In **2020**, we initiated a new collaborative project between Association Anoulak, The [Centre for Research into Ecological and Environmental Modelling \(CREEM\)](#), University of St Andrews in Scotland, and [Rainforest Connection](#) with the aim to produce and test affordable, easily deployable acoustic recorders that generate data designed for use with cutting-edge statistical abundance estimation methods, to estimate gibbon abundance. The first prototype of this hardware and software will be tested in 2021 at our research site in Laos.

This collaborative project (which is funded by Arcus Foundation) is endorsed by the [IUCN Species Survival Commission Primate Specialist Group \(PSG\)](#) [Section on Small Apes \(SSA\)](#) and will have considerable applications for gibbon conservation across their range in Asia.



Wildlife populations monitoring with systematic camera-trap surveys

Rationale: The current **conservation status** of several globally threatened species remains unknown in Nakai-Nam Theun. In addition, in order to **evaluate the management efforts** (especially patrol efforts) being implemented it is critical to obtain **baseline population estimates of key indicator species and monitor their populations trend over time**.

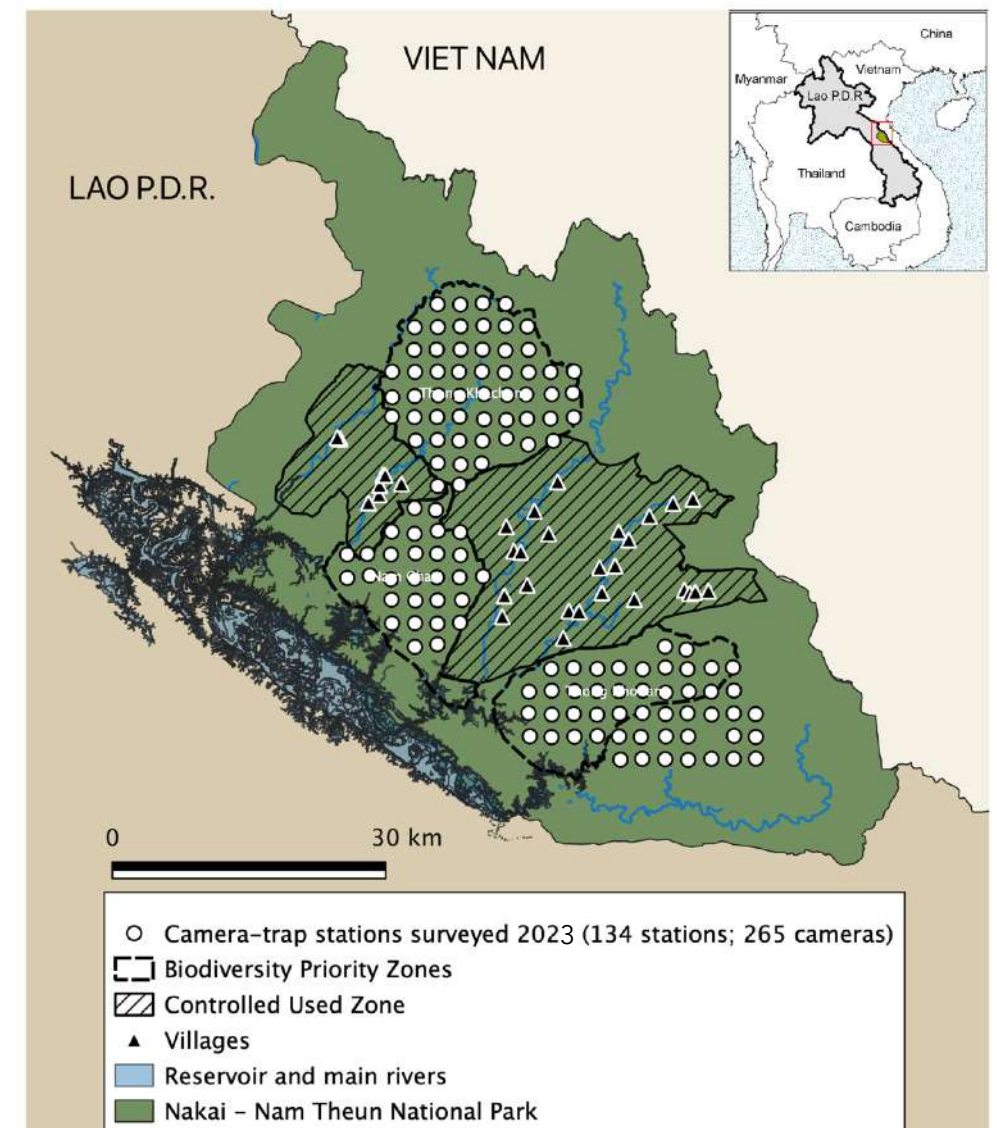
This year **2020**, we completed the **second large-scale camera-trap wildlife monitoring program in Nakai – Nam Theun National Park** in collaboration with the park's authorities. For the past three years, Association Anoulak has been providing **technical advise and supervision** to the Biodiversity Research and Monitoring Section of the National park, including the camera-trap wildlife monitoring program.

Any conservation management plan requires appropriate methods to assess its effectiveness to protect wildlife populations and ecosystems in the long-term. Monitoring wildlife populations using automated camera-traps placed in the forest is one of these methods, which we apply in Nakai – Nam Theun National Park.

The **science-based survey design** applied allows the **estimation of population abundance index over time and landscape**. When surveys are replicated systematically at regular time intervals (e.g. every two years), we can obtain trends in the abundance of wildlife species and their distribution across the national park: this **facilitates an assessment of whether some wildlife populations are increasing, decreasing or remaining stable as a result of management interventions** (e.g. law enforcement; community sustainable livelihood for conservation; outreach).

The survey design for the camera-trapping implemented in Nakai – Nam Theun National Park follows the rationale and protocols developed by the [Biodiversity Dynamic research Team](#) at the Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research (IZW) ([Abrams et al., 2018](#)), one of our research partners.

We completed, in collaboration with the national park's authorities, [the first baseline survey in 2019](#) (Coudrat, 2019). This year, **2020**, the surveys were replicated: the same camera-trap station locations that were surveyed in 2018-2019 were surveyed once again in 2020 (Coudrat, 2019).



Location of Nakai – Nam Theun National Park in Laos and of the 133 camera-trap stations (265 camera-traps) set-up in 2020 to cover the three Biodiversity Priority Zones of the national park

Overview of results

From **February to August 2020** the **three Biodiversity Priority Zones** (Figure 1) were surveyed with **133 camera-trap stations** spaced roughly 2.5 km apart. Two cameras were set up at each station: a **total of 265 cameras** were set up of which 255 were operational (i.e. ten cameras did not take any photos because they were stolen or due to malfunction). **Survey effort totaled 20,794 active camera-trap nights** (a camera-trap night is here defined as each night a single camera is active; i.e. for the total number of operational cameras, 255).

A total of **46 taxa*** were identified (including **34 identified to species**), of which 17 classified as Globally Threatened (4 Critically Endangered; 4 Endangered; 9 Vulnerable), two as Globally Near Threatened and one as Globally Data Deficient by the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (IUCN, 2020).

Compared to the first systematic surveys conducted in 2018-2019 (Coudrat, 2019), two more Globally Threatened and indicator species were recorded in 2020: Endangered Annamite Striped Rabbit *Nesolagus timminsi* and Vulnerable Coral-billed Ground-cuckoo *Carpococcyx renauldi*.

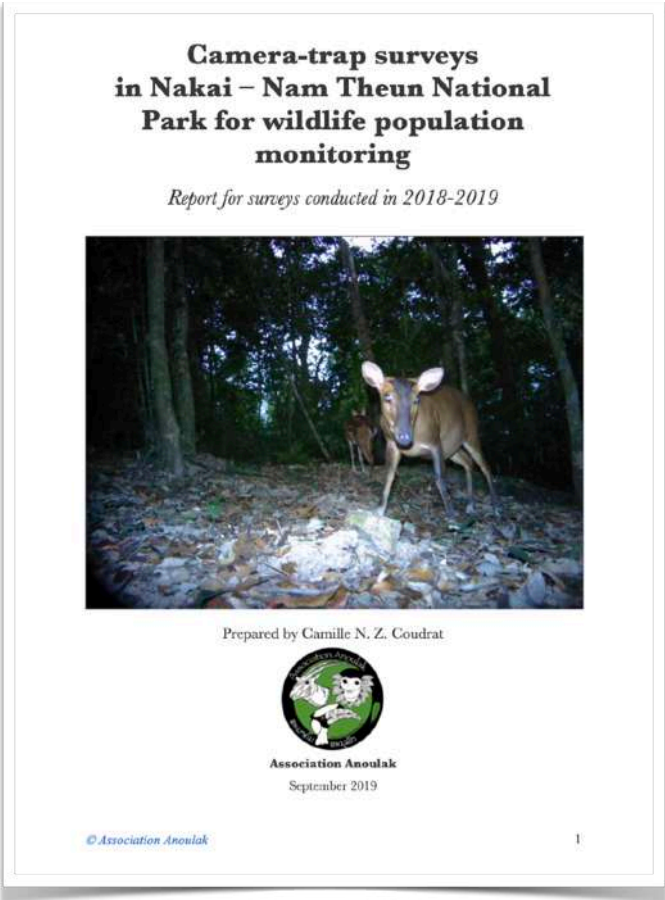
A final report was prepared for partners and stakeholders (Coudrat, 2020), which is not made available publicly to avoid sharing information on the occurrence of species targeted in the international wildlife trade.

We are currently working in collaboration with IZW to conduct additional analysis to compare abundance index ('occupancy') of indicator species between 2018-2019 survey and 2020 survey and to produce predictive distribution maps across Nakai – Nam Theun National Park for indicator species.

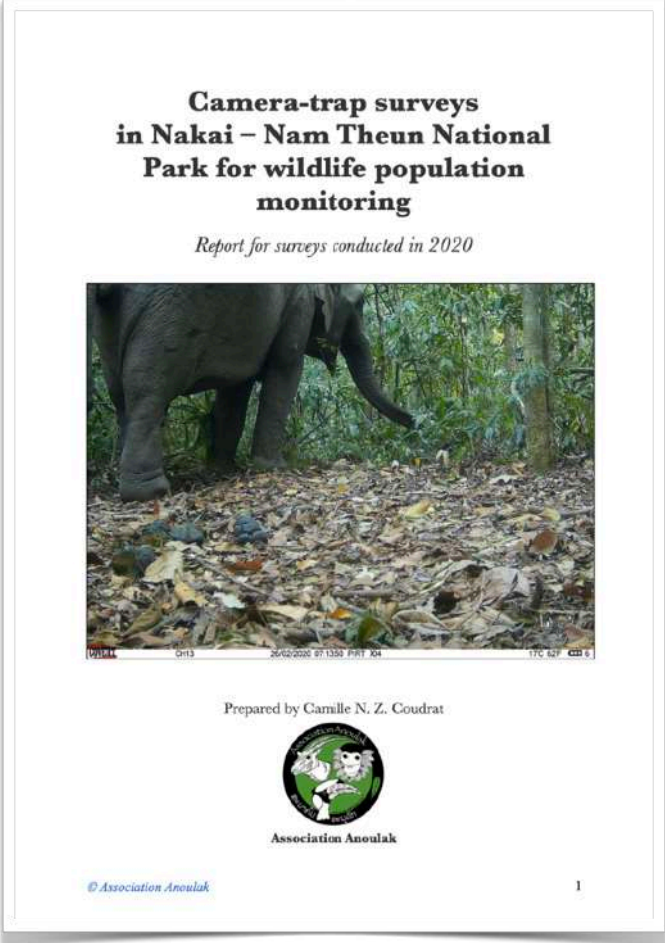
**46 taxa identified excluding murid rodents (rat, mice); squirrels (except for Black Giant Squirrel Ratufa bicolor); bird species (except for galliforms and Coral-billed Ground Cuckoo, which were specifically sought for in the dataset).*

Literature cited:

- Abrams, J.F., Axtner, J., Bhagwat, T., Mohamed, A., Nguyen, A., Niedballa, J., Sollmann, R., Tilker, A.R., Wilting, A. 2018. [Studying terrestrial mammals in tropical rainforests. A user guide for camera-trapping and environmental DNA](#). Leibniz-IZW, Berlin, Germany.
- Coudrat, C.N.Z. 2019. Camera-trap surveys in Nakai – Nam Theun National Park for wildlife population monitoring – Report for surveys conducted in 2018-2019. Association Anoulak, Lao PDR.
- Coudrat, C.N.Z. 2020. Camera-trap surveys in Nakai – Nam Theun National Park for wildlife population monitoring – Report for surveys conducted in 2020. Report prepared for Nakai – Nam Theun National Park Authority. Association Anoulak. Lao PDR



2019
survey report



2020
survey report

Overview of results (continued)

Table 1: Overall systematic camera-trapping survey effort implemented in Nakai – Nam Theun National Park in 2020, including the three Biodiversity Priority Zones.

Survey zone	Total	Nam Chae	Thong Khacheng	Thong Khouang
Total number of stations	133	34	50	49
Number of operational stations	131	34	50	47
Total number of cameras initially set up	265	68	100	97
Total number of operational camera-traps	255	63	100	92
Active camera-trap nights	20794	5734	10731	4329
Total trapping period	Feb - Aug 2020	February 06 to May 19 2020	01 March to 02 July 2020	03 March to 18 August 2020

Table 2 footnotes:

- n_events = number of notionally independent events (photos are defined as notionally independent events when they occur at least one hour apart from each other); n_stations = number of stations where the species was recorded
- IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (www.iucnredlist.org) categories: CR=Critically Endangered; EN=Endangered; VU=Vulnerable; NT=Near Threatened; LC=Least Concerned; DD=Data Deficient
- excluded from the table are test/team photos; humans and domestic animals; murid rodents (rats, mice); squirrels (except Black Giant Squirrel *Ratufa bicolor*); birds (except galliforms and Coral-billed Ground Cuckoo); bats; and monitor lizards
- * Wild Pig *Sus scrofa*: it is possible that more than one species occurs in the region
- ** Lesser Oriental Chevrotain *Tragulus kanchil*: it is possible that more than one species occurs in the region
- *** François's-group leaf monkey: lack of comprehensive taxonomic, morphological, genetic and distribution range data for the group and the different morphs occurring in Laos and more widely across their range
- **** White-cheeked Gibbon *Nomascus*: more than one species of white-cheeked gibbon may occur in NNT NP: Southern White-cheeked Gibbon *Nomascus siki* (CR) and Northern White-cheeked Gibbon *N. leucogenys* (CR)

Table 2: List of species (sorted by total number of notionally independent events) recorded during the 2020 camera-trap surveys.

Species recorded	IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (IUCN, 2020)	Total events	Total stations
Roosevelts'-group Muntjac(s) <i>Muntiacus cf. rooseveltorum</i>	DD	1822	38
Northern Red Muntjac <i>Muntiacus vaginalis</i>	LC	1706	65
Large-antlered Muntjac <i>Muntiacus vuquangensis</i>	CR	1153	90
Wild Pig <i>Sus scrofa</i> *	LC	1119	107
Assamese Macaque <i>Macaca assamensis</i>	NT	509	82
Common Palm Civet <i>Paradoxurus hermaphroditus</i>	LC	369	80
Masked Palm Civet <i>Paguma larvata</i>	LC	346	78
Yellow-throated Marten <i>Martes flavigula</i>	LC	272	91
Greater Hog Badger <i>Arctonyx collaris</i>	VU	233	37
Crab-eating Mongoose <i>Herpestes urva</i>	LC	228	67
Northern Pig-tailed Macaque <i>Macaca leonina</i>	VU	165	43
Stump-tailed Macaque <i>Macaca arctoides</i>	VU	162	27
East Asian Porcupine <i>Hystrix brachyura</i>	LC	151	39
Owston's Civet <i>Chrotogale owstoni</i>	EN	141	24
Mainland Serow <i>Capricornis sumatraensis</i>	VU	137	33
Asiatic Brush-tailed Porcupine <i>Atherurus macrourus</i>	LC	136	30
Lesser Oriental Chevrotain <i>Tragulus kanchil</i> **	LC	117	11
Red Junglefowl <i>Gallus gallus</i>	LC	115	37
Silver Pheasant <i>Lophura nycthemera</i>	LC	100	50
Grey Peacock-pheasant <i>Polyplectron bicalcaratum</i>	LC	55	22
Sambar <i>Rusa unicolor</i>	VU	50	8
Rhesus Macaque <i>Macaca mulatta</i>	LC	40	17
Large Indian Civet <i>Viverra zibetha</i>	LC	32	18
Spotted Linsang <i>Prionodon pardicolor</i>	LC	32	20
Leopard Cat <i>Prionailurus bengalensis</i>	LC	14	9
Black giant squirrel <i>Ratufa bicolor</i>	NT	13	3
Sun Bear <i>Helarctos malayanus</i>	VU	10	6
Binturong <i>Arctictis binturong</i>	VU	5	4
Red-shanked Douc <i>Pygathrix nemaeus</i>	CR	4	4
Asian Elephant <i>Elephas maximus</i>	EN	2	1
Annamite striped rabbit <i>Nesolagus timminsi</i>	EN	1	1
Asiatic Black Bear <i>Ursus Thibetanus</i>	VU	1	1
Coral-billed Ground-cuckoo <i>Carpococcyx renauldi</i>	VU	1	1
François's-group leaf monkey <i>Trachypithecus</i> cf. <i>francoisi</i> ***	EN	1	1



Roosevelts'-group muntjac(s) *Muntiacus cf. rooseveltorum*

CH66

03/04/2020 12:29:28 PIRT 11

24°C 75°F 6



Chinese Serow *Capricornis milneedwardsii*

CH70

15/05/2020 11:07:35 PIRT 23

23°C 73°F 5



Large-antlered Muntjac *Muntiacus vuquangensis*

05.19.2020 08:52:42 27 017°C 063°F 5



Large-antlered Muntjac *Muntiacus vuquangensis*

CH63

14/04/2020 16:17:05 PIRT 22

22°C 71°F 6



Sambar *Rusa unicolor*

COVERT

CH51

01/04/2020 00:51:47 PIRT 009

21°C 69°F 5



Wild Pig *Sus scrofa*



Lesser Oriental Chevrotain *Tragulus kanchil*



Asian Elephant *Elephas maximus*

COVERT

CH13

26/02/2020 07:13:50 PIRT 004

17°C 62°F 6





Large Indian Civet *Viverra zibetha*



Binturong *Arctictis binturong*

04.02.2020 02:14:22 C10 020°C 068°F 6



Owston's Civet *Chrotogale owstoni*

03.21.2020 19:58:31 28 014°C 057°F 6



Greater Hog Badger *Arctonyx collaris*

25/03/2020 06:49:08 PIRT 003 18°C 64°F 6



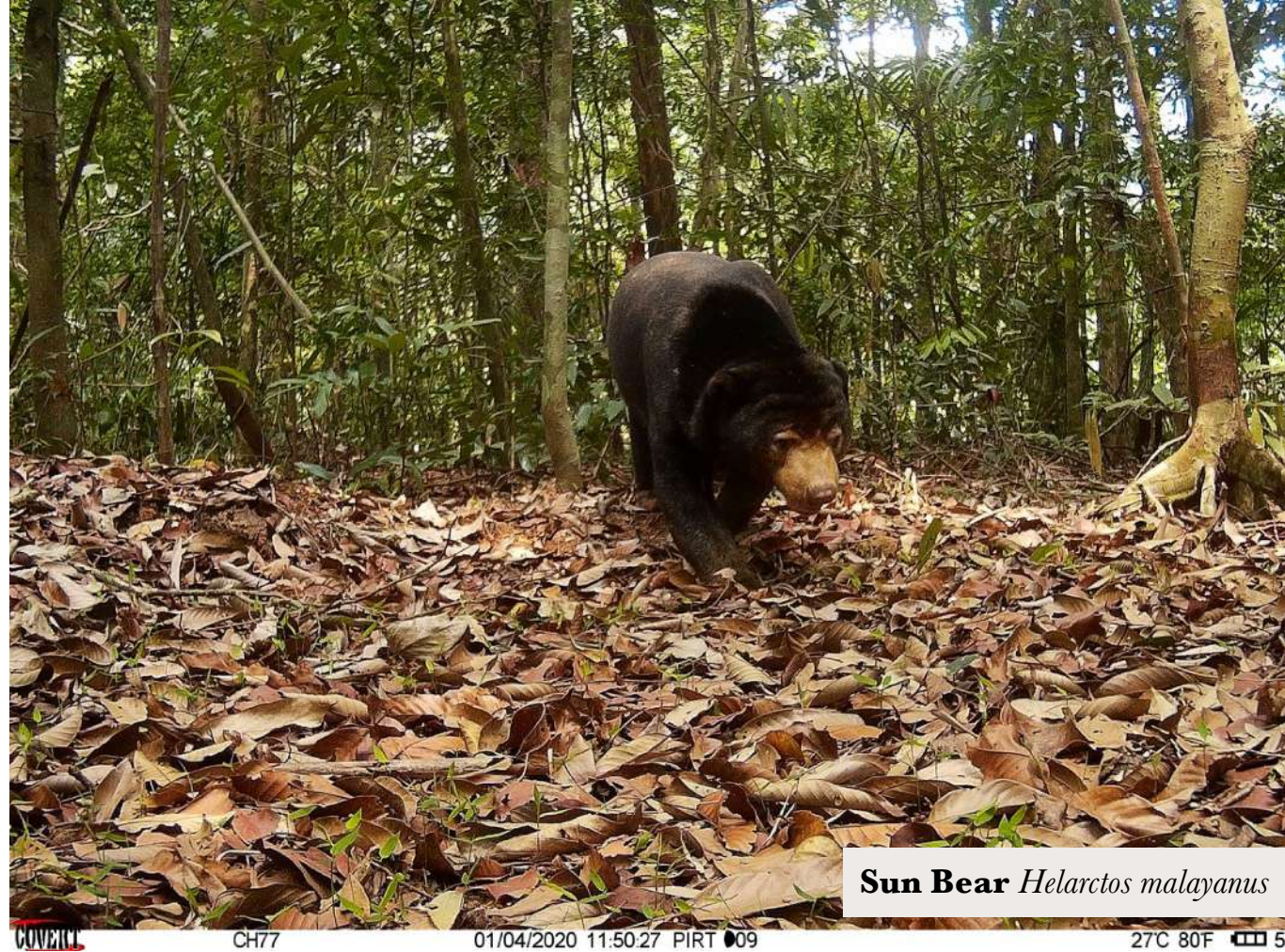
Sunda Pangolin *Manis javanica*

COVERT

CH86

19/05/2020 01:53:41 PIRT 27

22°C 71°F 5



Sun Bear *Helarctos malayanus*

COVERT

CH77

01/04/2020 11:50:27 PIRT 009

27°C 80°F 5



Coral-billed Ground-cuckoo *Carpococcyx renauldi*

COVERT

CH47

18/06/2020 08:04:26 PIRT 27

22°C 71°F 5



Annamite striped rabbit *Nesolagus timminsi*

COVERT

03.21.2020 22:49:52

28

015°C 059°F 6

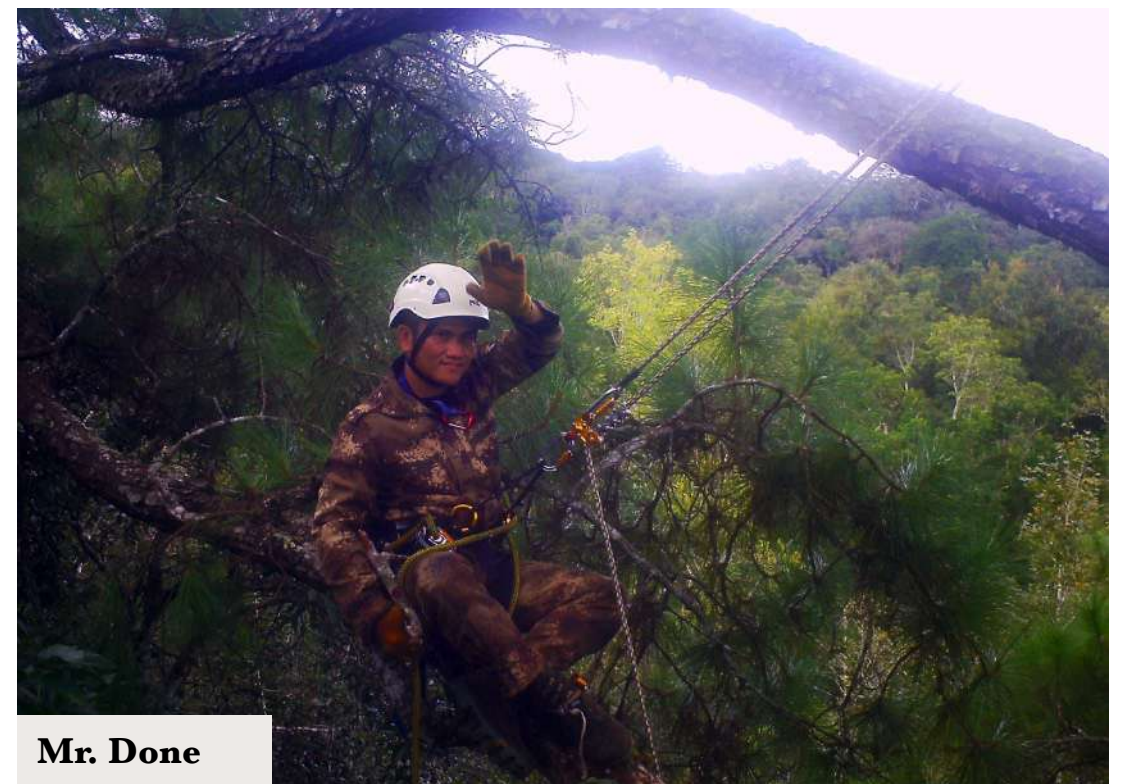
Canopy camera-traps

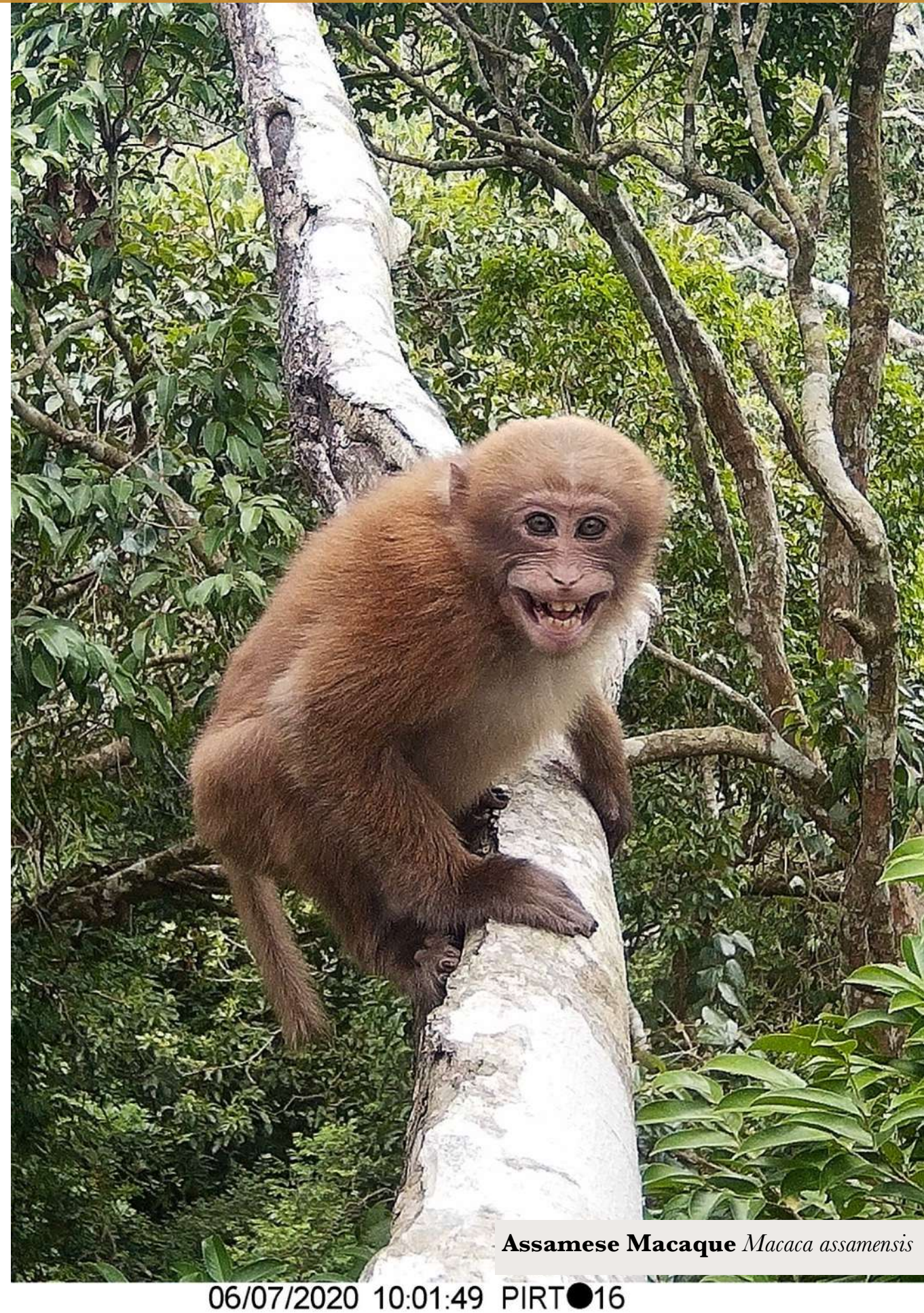
Rationale: Our ground camera-traps overlooks several arboreal species also occurring in Nakai - Nam Theun National Park. Setting-up camera-traps in the canopy is relatively novel and offers new avenues for conservation and research of biodiversity. This pilot project will determine how best to put this method to use in our programs.

In 2019, Enquête d'Arbres (a French association dedicated to train researchers on tree climbing) visited our field station to provide our team a 10-day intensive tree climbing training to initiate our Canopy Camera-trap Program. For the past year, we have set up camera-traps up in the trees to photograph arboreal species. This is the only canopy camera-trap program implemented in the country.

In **2020** we **monitored seven cameras** on a regular basis.

This project provides a great way to obtain incredible and unique photos of elusive arboreal species, that we use for communication purpose. In the future, we may also use the technique for research projects to answer specific questions.







Pig-tailed Macaque
Macaca leonina

06/12/2020 11:27:57 PIRT 21



White-cheeked Gibbon *Nomascus sp.*

07.19.2020 11:05:18 29 021°C 070°F 6



White-cheeked Gibbon *Nomascus sp.*

04.12.2020 07:06:43 20 016°C 061°F 6



Red-shanked Douc *Pygathrix nemaeus*



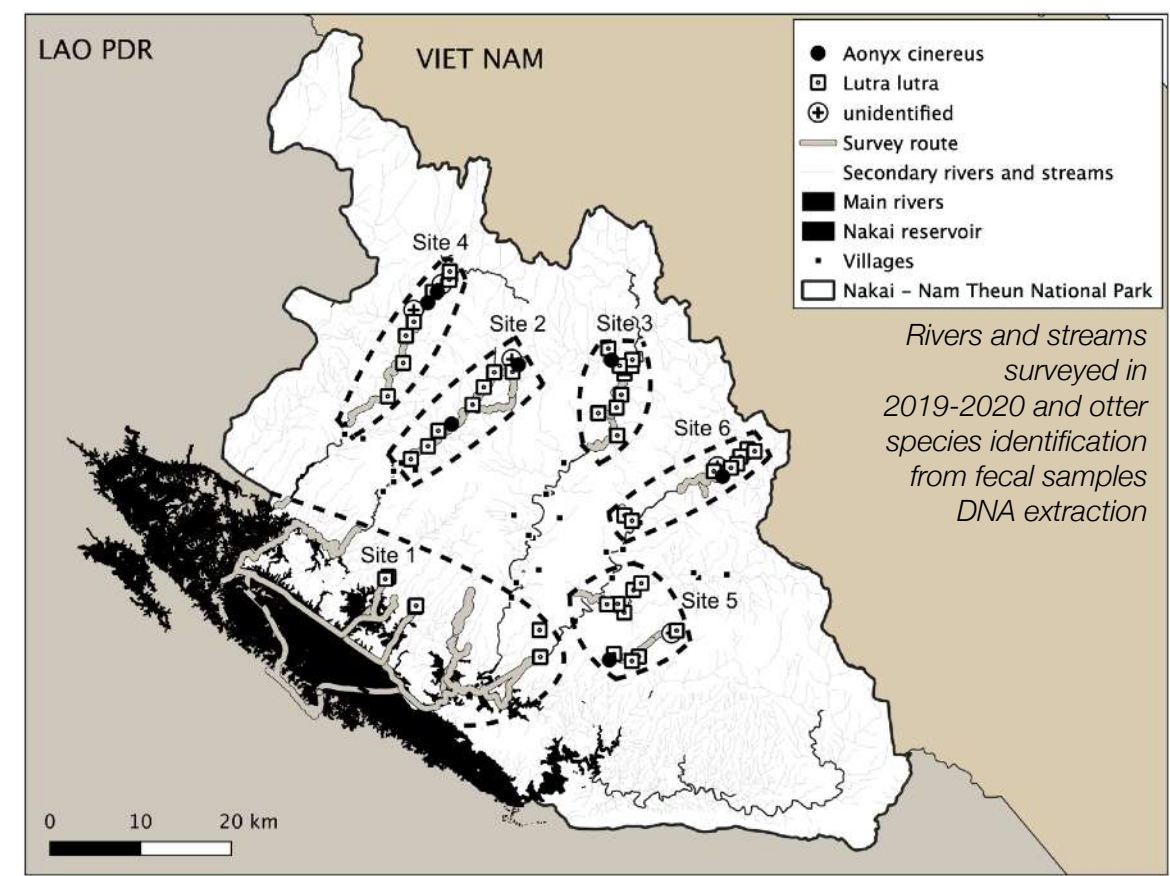
Giant Flying Squirrel *Petaurista* sp.



Binturong *Arctictis binturong*

Otter surveys and species identification

Rationale: The distribution of Asian-ranged otter species remains very little known. **In Laos, three species have been confirmed to occur: Asian Small-clawed Otter *Aonyx cinereus*, Smooth-coated Otter *Lutrogale perspicillata* and Eurasian Otter *Lutra lutra*.** Given the global conservation status of these three species – with declining populations throughout their range due to a continuous loss of habitat, decreasing number of their prey and hunting for the pet trade and pelt trade – **information is urgently needed on their distribution, habitat use and local threats** in order to adopt species-specific and site-based management and conservation strategies. **Nakai – Nam Theun National Park is of regional importance for otter conservation.**



In 2019 we initiated a collaboration with [Conservation Ecology Program](#), School of Bioresources and Technology, King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi, Thailand, to **survey otters in Nakai – Nam Theun National Park** as part of a broader research project to gather genetic information from otter species across mainland Southeast Asia, based on the collection of fecal samples from which DNA is extracted.

This research has several **objectives**:

1. To identify species and population-level genetic diversity of otter species in Nakai– Nam Theun National Park, Lao PDR
2. To investigate the evolutionary relationships of otter species within Mustelidae family
3. To determine sex-ratio based on molecular sexing of otter species
4. To investigate level and patterns of recent gene flow level among nearby populations based on microsatellite markers to monitor impacts of human disturbance on population dynamics and long-term survival
5. To use these data to develop follow up projects for the conservation and ecological study of otter species in Southeast Asia

In **2020**, we **completed the data collection** with a total of **six different sites** surveyed across Nakai – Nam Theun NP and collected a total of **61 fecal samples**. The samples were analyzed at the laboratory of our partner in Thailand.

Two species were identified: Eurasian Otter *lutra lutra* (this is the first confirmation of the species in the national park) and Asian Small-clawed Otter *Aonyx cinereus*

We worked on a **first publication** to present some aspects of the results (e.g. molecular-based species identification of sympatric otter species in Nakai – Nam Theun NP and insights into evolutionary history of some otter species) which will be submitted for publication in 2021.

Site name	Survey dates	Total number of samples	<i>Lutra lutra</i>	<i>Aonyx cinereus</i>	unidentified
1 - Nam Theun reservoir	29 Nov - 5 Dec 2019	7	7	0	0
2 - Nam Mon - Thongkhacheng	13 Dec - 24 Dec 2019	10	7	2	1
3 - Nam Theun	10 Jan - 17 Jan 2020	11	10	1	0
4 - Nam Xot	20 Feb - 25 Feb 2020	11	7	2	2
5 - Nam Mon - Nam Pheo	29 Mar - 7 Apr 2020	11	9	1	1
6 - Nam Noy	21 May - 27 May 2020	11	9	1	1
TOTAL		61	49	7	5



Anti-poaching patrols in 2020



Anti-poaching patrols

Rationale: Illegal poaching in Nakai-Nam Theun National Park have led in the past few decades to declines in biodiversity populations and local species extirpations, including several globally threatened and endemic species. In order to conserve the current remaining populations of threatened species in the area and allow animal populations to recover from past hunting pressure, it is imperative that an **intensive anti-poaching patrol system** is put in place **over the long-term**. To do so, site prioritization is essential. Three Biodiversity Priority Zones have been identified in terms of their qualitative and quantitative biodiversity value. We collaborate with current law enforcement technical teams and authorities and support anti-poaching patrols that complement existing efforts from the national park.

Context

We are working in close collaboration with the Nakai - Nam Then National Park Authority and its technical law enforcement team to coordinate our efforts in anti-poaching patrols as part of the overall Law Enforcement Strategy for the national park. Data management and work flow is facilitated with the Program SMART (Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool ; <http://smartconservationtools.org/>).

The law enforcement strategy for the national park is based on sites prioritization where forest patrols are focusing on three Biodiversity Priority Zones (BPZ; the three BPZ where delineated based on a consultation workshop with experts coordinated by Association Anoulak in 2015 and represent zones with the highest value in terms of biodiversity richness, wildlife population abundance and relative lower level of threats).

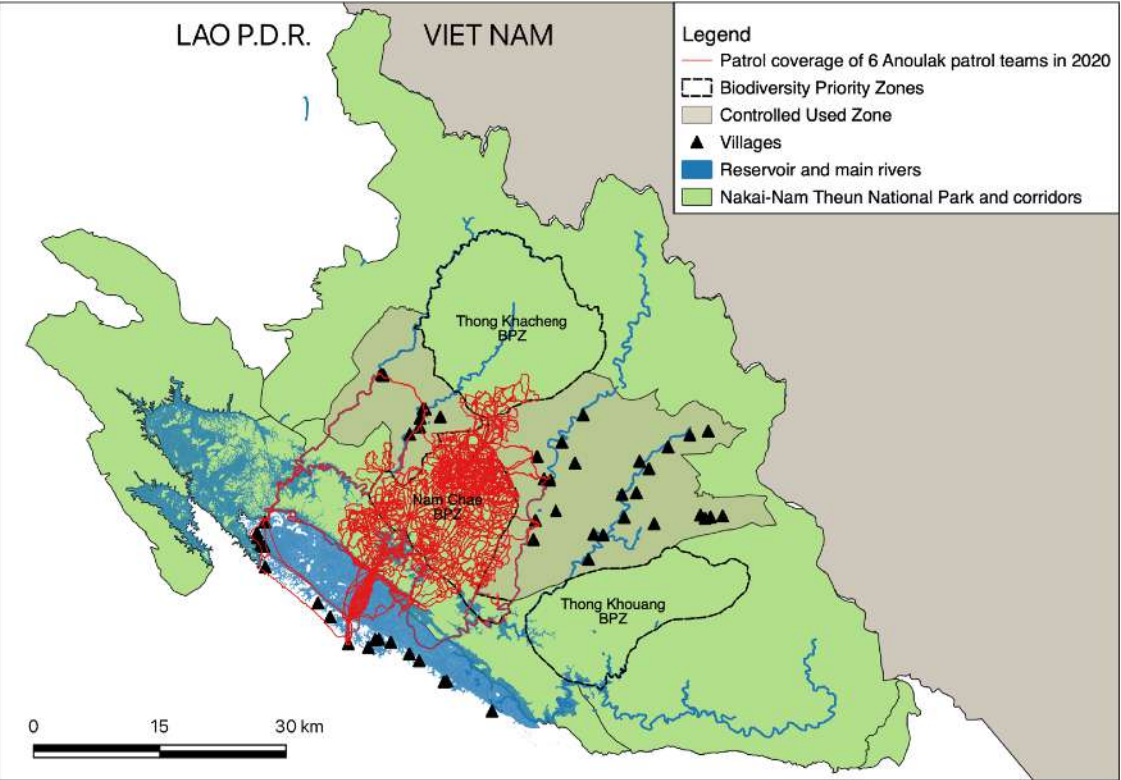
Association Anoulak financially supports 6 anti-poaching patrols (i.e. 36 trained villagers from the local community) deployed in the Nam Chae Biodiversity Priority Zone

Patrols in the other two BPZs (and other key areas) are supported by the Nam Theun 2 Watershed Management and Protection Authority



Strategic zonation of law enforcement in Nakai-Nam Theun. This includes three Biodiversity Priority Zones (BPZ; ~700 km²) where 'Forest Ranger Teams' focus their patrols. Association Anoulak's six ranger teams focus on one of these three zones (indicated on the map).

Association Anoulak's Patrol Report for 2020



Patrol coverage from GPS tracklog of the six (6) patrol teams combined deployed by Association Anoulak, for the year 2020.



Patrol effort from 1st Jan 2020 to 31st Dec 2020

Patrol team	Number of Patrols	Number of Days	Distance (km)
Thaiphai banh Team	12	176	1723
Makfuang Team	11	161	1739
Fangdeng Team	12	180	2834
Navang Team	12	180	4470
Korbong Team	12	176	1812
Nakang Team	12	171	1688
Total	71	1044	14266

Total number of poachers encountered

	Observed Only	Escaped	Written warning	Confiscated items	Arrested
Total	4	23	43	8	0

Total number of snares collected

	Snares (all types)
Total	1768

Total number of firearms collected

	Semi Automatic	Hand-made guns
Total	0	1



Community sustainable livelihoods in 2020

Community resilience and biodiversity conservation in Nakai District

Rationale: Local communities on in Nakai District (1) are highly reliant on natural resources for their livelihoods, (2) their food security often is dependent on foods collected in the wild; (3) their income generation often is dependent on unsustainable natural resources harvest, (4) often practice unsustainable agriculture; (5) are lacking of entrepreneurship capacity, and technical capacity. This project aims to address some of these issues to provide alternative income to local communities

Last year in November 2019, Association Anoulak launched a 3-year project *Community Resilience and Biodiversity Conservation in Nakai District, Lao PDR*.

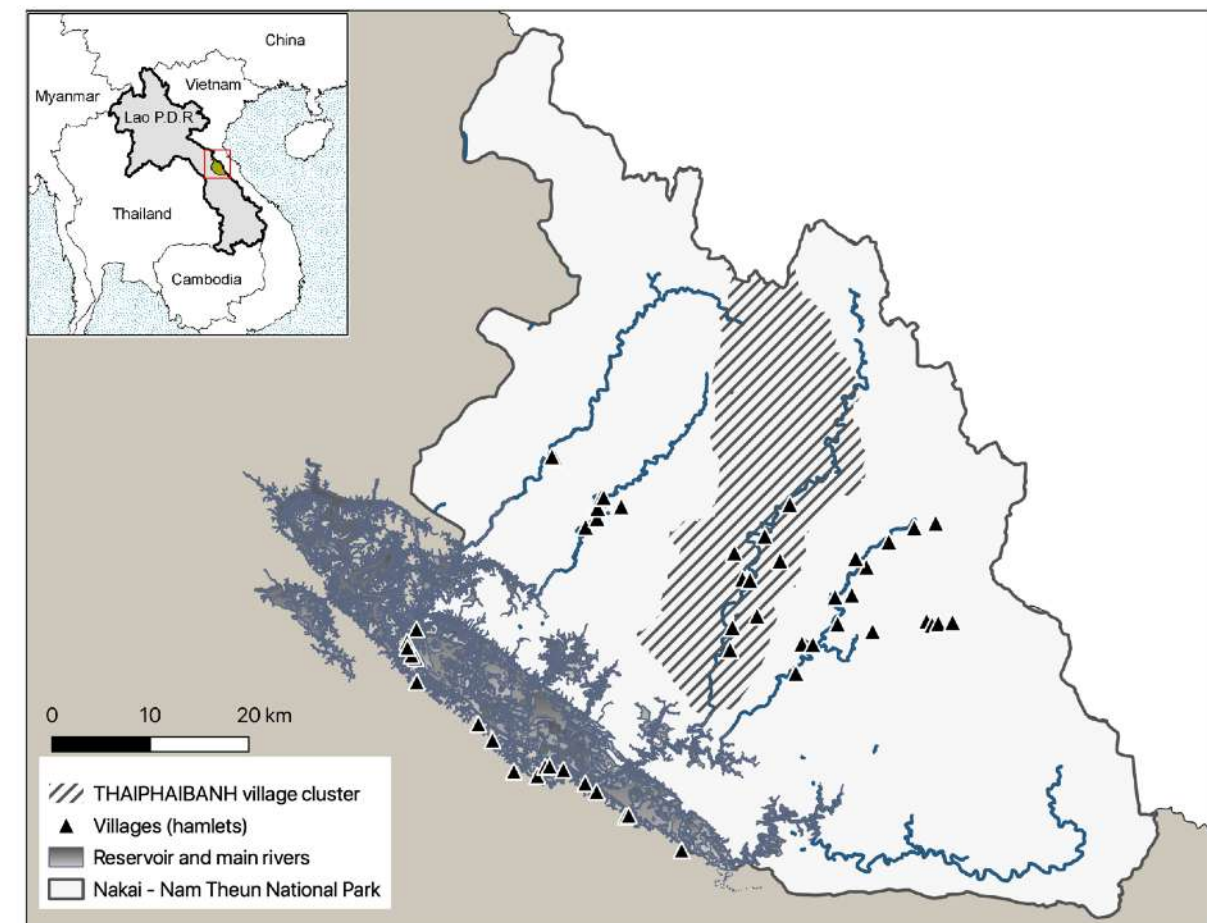
Project overall aims

- Support the local communities in implementing innovative and sustainable approaches to bring alternative incomes and to preserve local traditional craftsmanship and cultural integrity
- Reduce reliance on natural resources in Nakai-Nam Theun National Park to contribute to biodiversity conservation in the region

Project location

All the activities are based in Thaiphaibanh village cluster (one of the three village clusters within the Nakai – Nam Theun National Park), where villagers are the most reliant from natural resources for their daily livelihoods. Villagers from this cluster have also been identified as the most vulnerable in terms of food security and income.

The project is initially piloted in two villages: Korbong and Makfuang villages



Location of Thaiphaibanh cluster in Nakai – Nam Theun National Park where the project activities are implemented

Project approach

Our project supports villagers in the development of their **handicraft value chain strategy**. It will not only provide **alternative income** to villagers but also **promote, transmit and preserve their traditional knowledge and craftsmanship**. Along the process, **natural resource management** is fully incorporated into the strategy to ensure sustainability and community awareness and ownership.

The project approach and principles include:

- Based on **local context** (relevance, needs, demand) and **local knowledge and traditions**
- **Bottom-up approach: community-led and ownership**
- **Capacity building and coaching approach**
- **Pilot approach** (to be scaled up for long-term sustainability)
- **Collaborative approach**

Association Anoulak team will provide **technical support, coaching and training to the villagers** on a **step-by-step capacity development**:

● Securing marketing demand

- Market studies
- Village groups set-up
- Traders contracts
- Value chain

● Securing production process

- Resources collection
- Raw material processing
- Handicrafts production
- Business plan, marketing and value chain

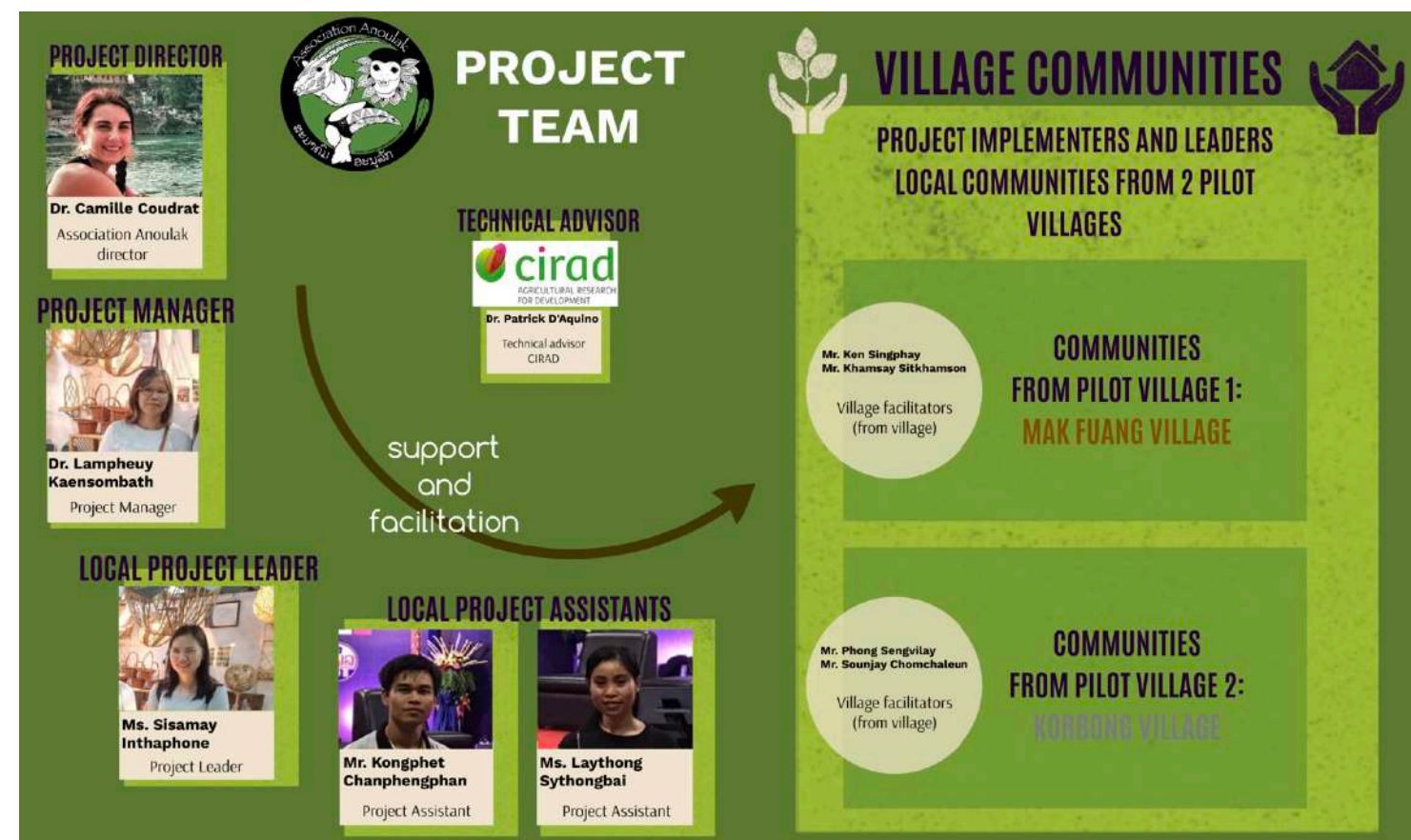
● Securing natural resources

- Resources mapping
- Resources availability and status
- Resources management
- Resources monitoring



Project Team

- Association Anoulak director: Dr. Camille Coudrat
- Technical advisor: Dr. Patrick D'Aquino (CIRAD The Agricultural Research for Development)
- Project manager: Dr. Lampheuy Kaensombath
- Local project leader: Ms. Sisamai Inthaphone
- Project local assistants: Ms. Laythong and Mr. Kongphet
- Village facilitators:
 - *Korbong village*: Mr. Phong Sengvilay and Mr. Sounjay Chomchaleun
 - *Makfuang village*: Ken Singphay and Mr. Khamsay Sitkhamson



Project partners

- Nakai – Nam Theun National Park Authority
- Village chiefs and authorities from Thaiphai banh village cluster (Thaiphai banh, Korbong, Makfuang and Vangtheunkham villages)
- District Governor Office
- District Office of Industry and Commerce
- District Office of Natural Resources & Environment
- District Office of Agriculture & Forestry
- District Office of Culture & Tourism
- Nakai Plateau Livestock Agriculture and Fisheries Project (NP-LAF)
- Traders and shops



Partners meeting, December 2020

First year progress report

This first year (2019-2020), we have accomplished the following activities:

1. Background data collection on traditional natural resource use in villages
2. Consultation village workshops in the form of engaging role play games (using the TerriStories® toolkits developed by CIRAD The Agricultural Research for Development).
3. Facilitate the development of Village Action Plans (for the two pilot villages selected: Korbong and Makfuang) and conduct village Capacity Needs Assessments to design the project's capacity development process
4. Provide a first series of training to villagers focusing on:
 - ▶ Handicraft village groups set-up (process, stakeholders, structure, roles and responsibilities)
 - ▶ Handcrafts sample models and designs
 - ▶ Establishing villagers production plan and timeline
5. Conduct market studies around the Province of Khammouan and in Vientiane to understand the demand and initiate discussions with potential traders and shop keepers
6. Visit and consultation with existing handicraft village groups in Khammouan province to discuss lesson learnt and potential training opportunities to Thaiphai banh villagers
7. Recruitment of 4 village facilitators (two from Korbong and two from Makfuang) to coordinate and follow-up the implementation of the Village Action Plans in both pilot villages (Makfuang and Korbong)
8. Monitoring and Evaluation by the Anoulak team and assessment of support needs to implement Village Action Plans
9. Handcraft village groups set-up in Makfuang and Korbong
10. Production of handcraft sample models
11. Stakeholder meeting to present project report and Village Action Plans



We summarized the Year 1 of activities in this [video](#).



Conservation awareness in 2020



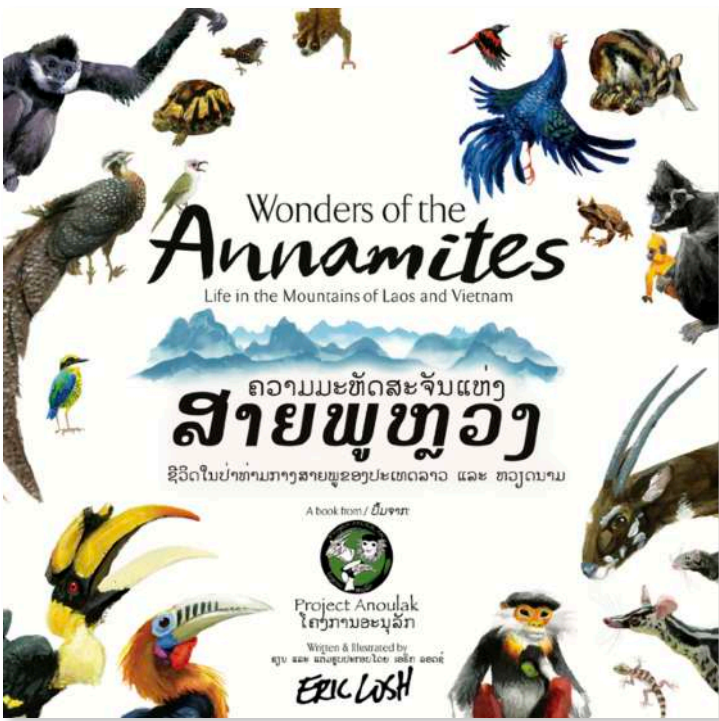
Conservation awareness published books

Rationale: There is a general lack of knowledge by the national and international community of the rich biodiversity from the region and the critical threat it is facing. Knowledge is one of the key components to protect biodiversity. Association Anoulak has made one of its numerous missions to raise awareness of young and older humans, from the region and abroad, of the beautiful nature of Laos, and the importance of biodiversity conservation. Art and storytelling are great ways to do so, and notably through the publication of attractive and informative books about animals and nature.

Wonders of the Annamites

Wonders of the Annamites is written illustrated by Eric Losh and Camille Coudrat.

It was first published in 2016-2017 by Association Anoulak in three editions: English-French; English-Lao; English-Vietnamese.



Spirit of the Saola

Spirit of the Saola is written by Melody Kemp and illustrated by Dao Van Hoang.

It was first published in 2018 by Association Anoulak in English-Lao edition.



Pangolin Life of a scaly anteater

Pangolin Life of a scaly anteater is written and illustrated by Joséphine Billeter.

It was first published in 2019 by Association Anoulak, Pha Tad Ke Botanical Garden and Comité de Cooperation avec le Laos in English-Lao edition



Books donations in 2020

This year **2020**, we have **donated to partners institutions over 2100 books** which are disseminated across the country as part of our partner's on-going public awareness programs.

We distributed the books to institutions such as *World Wild Fund for Nature (WWF)*, *International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)*, *Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)*, *GlZ-German development organization*, *Helvetas-Swiss Development organization*, *The World Bank*, *Agrisud International*, *Lao Conservation Trust for Wildlife*, *Nam Ha National Protected Area*, *Adventist Development and Relief Agency International (ADRA)*, etc.

In addition, **we donated books to schools, universities and education and cultural centers in Vientiane**, such as *Pole Francophone de l'Université Nationale du Laos*, *Institut Français du Laos*, *Lycée Français Josué Hoffet*, *Vientiane International School*, *Panyathip International School*, *Tukata Vientiane Nursery*, *Sala Sujipuli cultural center for children*.

Overall in **2020**, we donated:

- 1200 copies of [Wonders of the Annamites](#) (English-French edition)
- 300 copies of [Wonders of the Annamites](#) (English-Lao edition)
- 240 copies of [Spirit of the Saola](#) (English-Lao edition)
- 370 copies of [Pangolin: Life of a Scaly Anteater](#) (English-Lao edition)



(c) Lycée Français Josué Hoffet, Vientiane



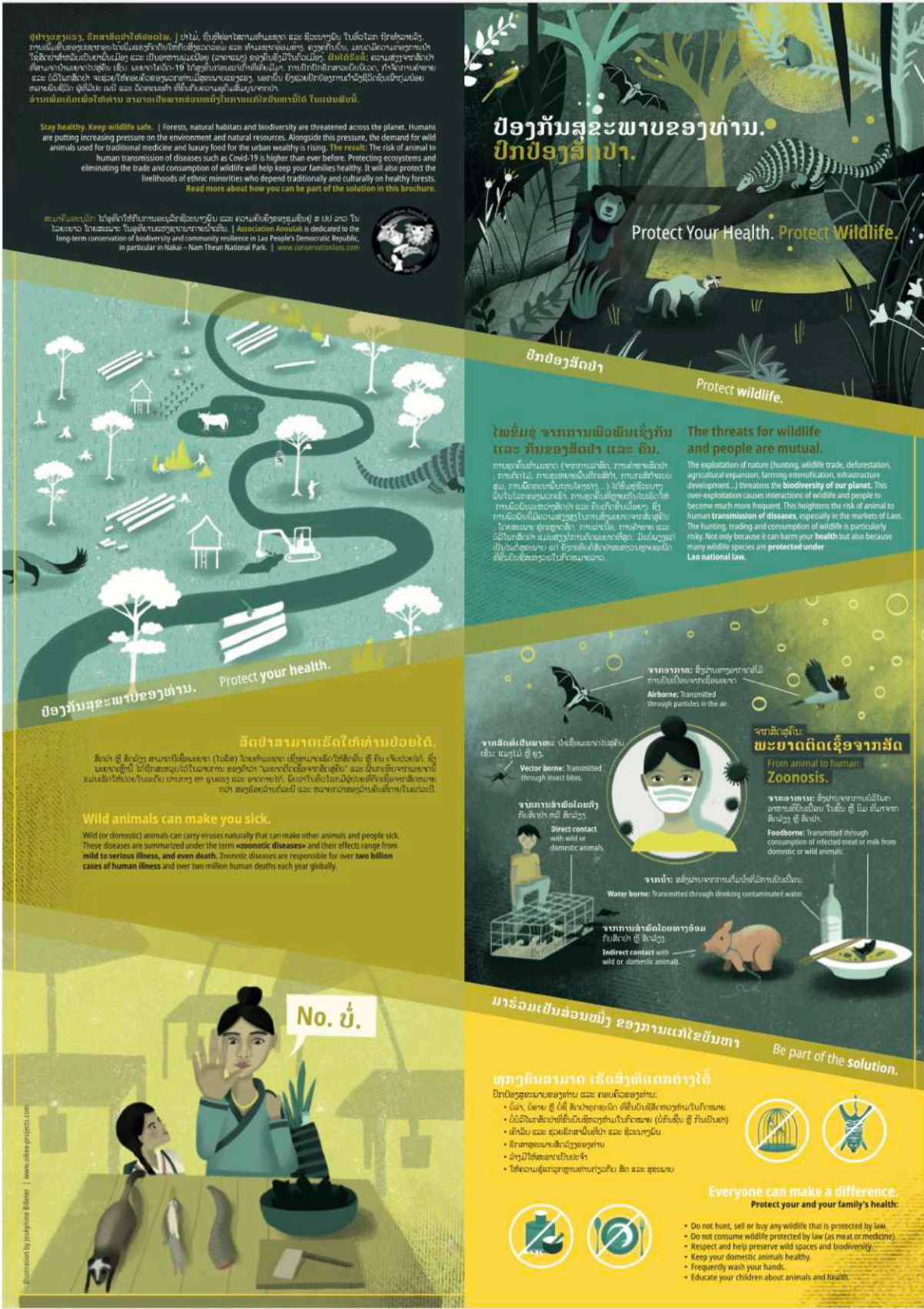
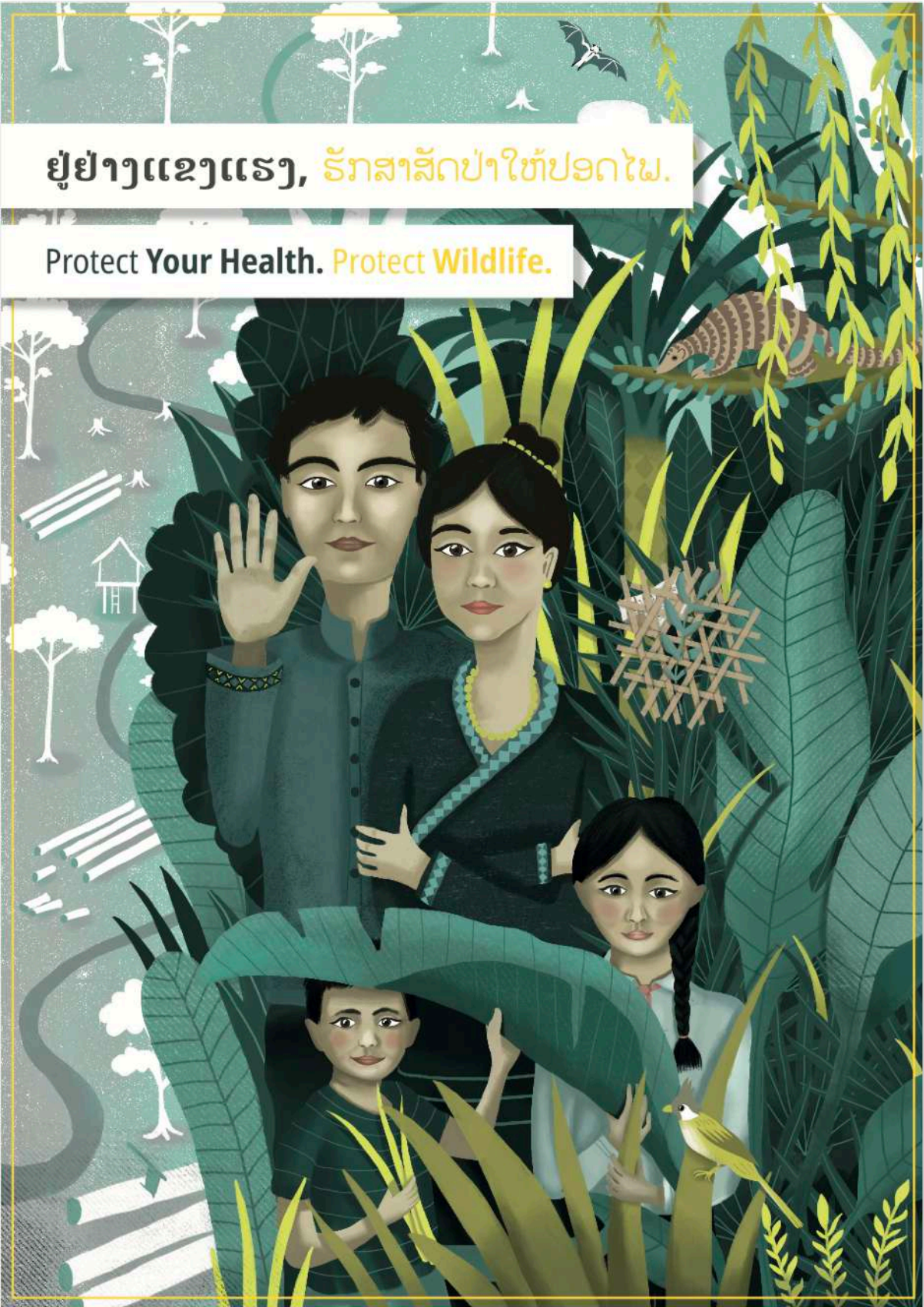
In 2020, we produce an exclusive poster to inform about zoonosis: *Protect your Health – Protect Wildlife*

In **response to the on-going COVID-19 pandemic**, Association Anoulak have partnered with graphic designer [Josephine Billeter](#) to produce a beautiful and exclusive **bilingual Lao-English poster** (which can be folded into a brochure) to **raise awareness in Laos of the health risks of consuming wildlife**. The risk of animal to human transmission of diseases such as Covid-19 is higher than ever before. Protecting ecosystems and eliminating the trade and consumption of wildlife will help keep families healthy. It will also protect the livelihoods of ethnic minorities who depend traditionally and culturally on healthy forests. This is the first of its kind material available in Laos focusing on the links between zoonosis, nature conservation and human health.

We published 2500 copies which we **handed over for free to over 20 partner institutions** based in Laos to disseminate the poster through their on-going programs, across the whole country.

Some notable institutions we partnered with for distributing the poster include *World Wild Fund for Nature (WWF)*, *International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)*, *Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)*, *GlZ-German development organization*, *Helvetas-Swiss Development organization*, *The World Bank*; *Agrisud International*, *Lao Conservation Trust for Wildlife*; *Nam Ha National Protected Area*; *Adventist Development and Relief Agency International (ADRA)*; *Comité de Cooperation avec le Laos*; *Free The Bears*; *Pha Tad Ke Botanical Garden*; *Aruna Technology Ltd*; *Nam Theun 2 Power Company*; *Sepon Mine Operation*.







Dissemination by Mekong Elephant Park



Dissemination by Mekong Elephant Park





Media communication and publications in 2020

**Number of Blogposts
in 2020 =
18**

**Number of
Anoulak Newsletters
in 2020 =
6**

Lastest news



December 23, 2020

Stakeholder meeting for our Community Resilience and Biodiversity Conservation Project to present and discuss progress

On 15th December 2020, we coordinated the first stakeholder meeting to present and discuss the current progress of our Community Resilience and Biodiversity Conservation in Nakai [...]

[Read more](#)



November 21, 2020

Completion of the camera-trap wildlife monitoring survey of 2020: an overview

This year 2020, we completed the second large-scale camera-trap wildlife monitoring program in Nakai – Nam Theun National Park in collaboration with the park's authorities. For [...]

[Read more](#)



October 19, 2020

Progress on our project Community Resilience and biodiversity conservation in Nakai District

Last year in November 2019, we launched our 3-year project Community Resilience and biodiversity conservation in Nakai District, Lao PDR. Our overall aims: Support the local [...]

[Read more](#)



October 10, 2020

Donation of our published books to partners to raise public awareness of biodiversity conservation in Laos

As an association dedicated to biodiversity conservation and to local communities resilience in Laos, we are ambassadors most able to raise public awareness of the dramatic [...]

[Read more](#)

**YouTube Channel videos
published in 2020 =
5**



Canopy Camera-trap program



Otter surveys



Camera-trap surveys for wildlife monitoring



Webinar: Biodiversity Conservation in the Annamite Mountains of Laos



Activity Report Year 1 (2019-2020):
Community Resilience and Biodiversity
Conservation

Webinar in 2020

Dr. Camille Coudrat, founder and director of [Association Anoulak](#), gave an online presentation for the [MSc Primate Conservation](#)'s alumni edition of their seminar series 2020-2021, to celebrate their 20th Anniversary.

Camille graduated from the [MSc Primate Conservation](#) in 2009 (cohort 2008-2009), before pursuing further her studies to PhD at the same university, Oxford Brookes University in Oxford, UK.

The full presentation is now available to watch again [here](#).



#EndTheTrade Campaign

On 20th April **2020**, Association Anoulak signed the Declaration to [#EndTheTrade](#), voicing our support to end the commercial trade and sale in markets of terrestrial wild animals (particularly birds and mammals), especially for consumption. The Coalition to End the Trade was launched by [Global Wildlife Conservation](#), [Wildlife Conservation Society](#) and [WildAid](#), to implement a joint strategy.

Association Anoulak is one of many other nature conservation organizations from all around the world who are endorsing this global campaign.



WildRun with Dodo Foundation and Zoo Wroclaw

In **2020**, Association Anoulak was one of several other organizations supported through the WildRun edition 2020, organized by Dodo Foundation and Zoo Wroclaw in Poland.

The WildRun aimed at raising awareness and funding for organizations working to protect Southeast Asian species.



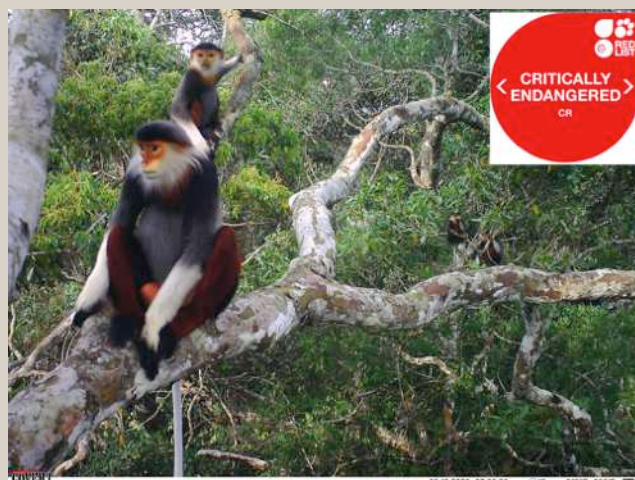
Publications

In **2020**, the [IUCN Red List of Threatened Species](#) was updated for all primate species (the last assessment dated back from 2008). In total, the conservation status of the world's 493 described species of (non-human) Primates was assessed, following several years of Red List workshops by regions.

For many of these species, Association Anoulak contributed to make the assessment and co-authored assessment publications.



Of the 9 species occurring in Nakai – Nam Theun National Park—where most of Association Anoulak's activities are based—7 are Globally Threatened.



Over the past few years, Association Anoulak's director contributed to the assessment of several species in the IUCN Red List, including primates and other species. In 2020, these assessments were published:

- **Coudrat, C.N.Z.**, Quyet, L.K., Duc, H., Phiaphalath, P., Rawson, B.M., Nadler, T., Ulibarri, L. & Duckworth, J.W. **2020**. *Pygathrix nemaeus*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2020: e.T39826A17941247. <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/39826/17941247>.
- Nadler, T., Quyet, L.K., Rawson, B.M. & **Coudrat, C.N.Z.** **2020**. *Trachypithecus delacouri*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2020: e.T22043A17958988. <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/22043/17958988>.
- Pengfei, F., Nguyen, M.H., Phiaphalath, P., Roos, C., **Coudrat, C.N.Z.** & Rawson, B.M. **2020**. *Nomascus concolor*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2020: e.T39775A17968556. <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/39775/17968556>.
- Phiaphalath, P., **Coudrat, C.N.Z.**, Roos, C. & Rawson, B.M. **2020**. *Nomascus concolor ssp. lu*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2020: e.T39894A17991433. <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/39894/17991433>.
- Nguyen, M.H., **Coudrat, C.N.Z.**, Roos, C., Rawson, B.M. & Duckworth, J.W. **2020**. *Nomascus siki*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2020: e.T39896A17968765. <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/39896/17968765>. Downloaded on 15 July 2020.
- Rawson, B.M., Nguyen, M.H., **Coudrat, C.N.Z.**, Roos, C., Jiang, X. & Duckworth, J.W. **2020**. *Nomascus leucogenys*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2020: e.T39895A17969139. <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/39895/17969139>.
- Quyet, L.K., **Coudrat, C.N.Z.**, Phiaphalath, P., Nadler, T. & Covert, H. **2020**. *Trachypithecus hatinhensis*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2020: e.T40789A17959646. <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/40789/17959646>.



Financial report for 2020

In **2020**, our association **spent a total of 231,490 USD** for our activities

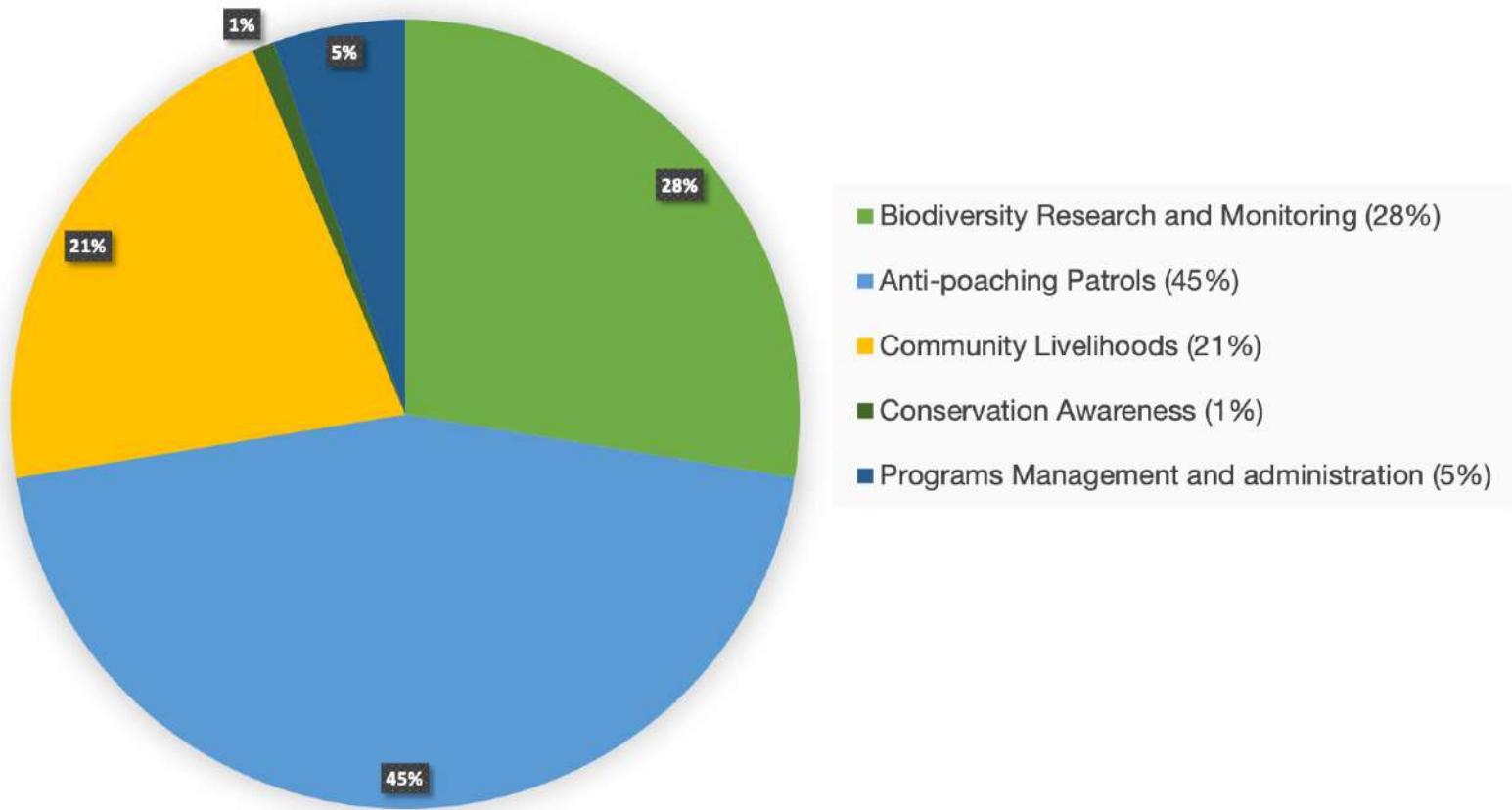
INCOME 2020

BALANCE ON 01 January 2020	USD 270,506
TOTAL DONATIONS in 2020	USD 308,370
TOTAL AVAILABLE IN 2020	USD 578,876

EXPENSES 2020

Programs/projects	Total spent	%
Biodiversity Research and Monitoring (28%)	USD 63,813	28%
Anti-poaching Patrols (45%)	USD 103,825	45%
Community Livelihoods (21%)	USD 49,224	21%
Conservation Awareness (1%)	USD 2,046	1%
Programs Management and administration (5%)	USD 12,581	5%
TOTAL SPENT IN 2020	USD 231,490	100%

EXPENSES 2020 BY PROGRAM





Workplan for 2021

Work Plan 2021 (tentative)

[illegible]



Acknowledgements

WE ARE GRATEFUL TO OUR DONORS WHO SUPPORTED OUR ACTIVITIES IN 2020



Private individual donors: Gabrielle Wath; Antoine Brismee; Quinet Madison; Melanie Chalon; Harchy Dominique; Lenaerts Muriel; Aupaix Nathalie; Leroy Christine; De Gaspari Mirella; Le Gac; Kayser Pauline; Verstreken Silvania; Bricmont Fanny; Mascaro; Carol Ann Bosqu; Wang Yiling; Covens Nicolas; Florence Tripodi ; C. Francotte N.Cliquet; Verstreken Silvania; Gaspari Mirella; Maroil Matthias Domisse; Van Hemelrijck Robin; Piret Marjorie; Francotte Natasha; Christianne Drou; Anthony Quinet; Helene Charles; Virginie Lamant; Florentin Dorothee; Garcia Postigo Yolanda; Adam Charlotte; Seron-Piron; Pimay-Vander Elst; Leens Louise; Yohan Hanssens; Knudde Alexis; Verstreken Silvania; Bartolomeo-Tilburck; Evrard Pierre Jean; Lucas Pastor; Jeaninne Delbart; Laurine Pecheux; Xavier Previnaire; Virginie Lamant; Severine Deschaepmeester; Aurelien Seli; Rikir Celine ; Leroy Christine; Ponsard Pierre; Vastrade Sarah; Decroly Nathalie; Laure Perron; Debavelaere Nicolas; Pompignac Marylise; Riviere Romain; Jeannes Manon; Morel Lise; Leclerc Amandine; Sieuw Laurie; Helene Charles; Hennebert Estelle; Marechal Mathieu; Karer Adeline; Leroy Angelique; Piret Marjorie; Neyman Geno; Tonneau Cecile; Caroline Servotte; Lucas Amandine; Claeysens-Tramontin; De Gaspari Mirella; Thiry Philippine; Francotte Shana; Hudlot Monique; Natacha Couvreur; Elodie Grebaut; Elise Meyer; Beth Jeremy; Sharon Hans; Gaspari Adriano; Degobert Jean-Pierre; Lenaerts Muriel; Gaspari Mirella; Roxanne Chloup; Martin Lenk; Troy Hansel; Jean-Michel Pavy; David Borchers; Shari L Wilson; Manuel Contreras Lara; Richard Viduna; Elias Sadalla Filho; Noel B Rowe; Douglas Bender

THANK YOU TO OUR PROJECT PARTNERS IN 2020



**Leibniz Institute for Zoo
and Wildlife Research**
IN THE FORSCHUNGSVERBUND BERLIN E.V.



**CONSERVATION
OPTIMISM**





New Year's Greetings

HAPPY NEW YEAR

2021

We wish you all a new year
2021 filled with new
experiences, creativity,
personal and professional
projects and meaningful
connections with people
and nature



Contact:
camillecoudrat@conservationlaos.com

SUPPORT US



Association Anoulak

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