

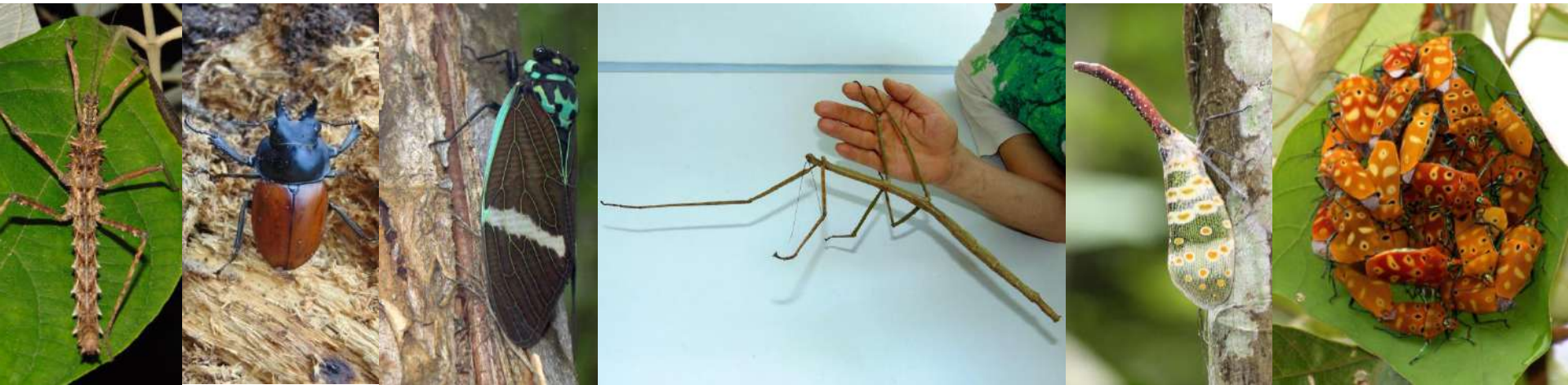
Vietnam, a champion for insect biodiversity: a win-win commitment



Science meets conservation

Uptake workshop – 10 years international cooperation

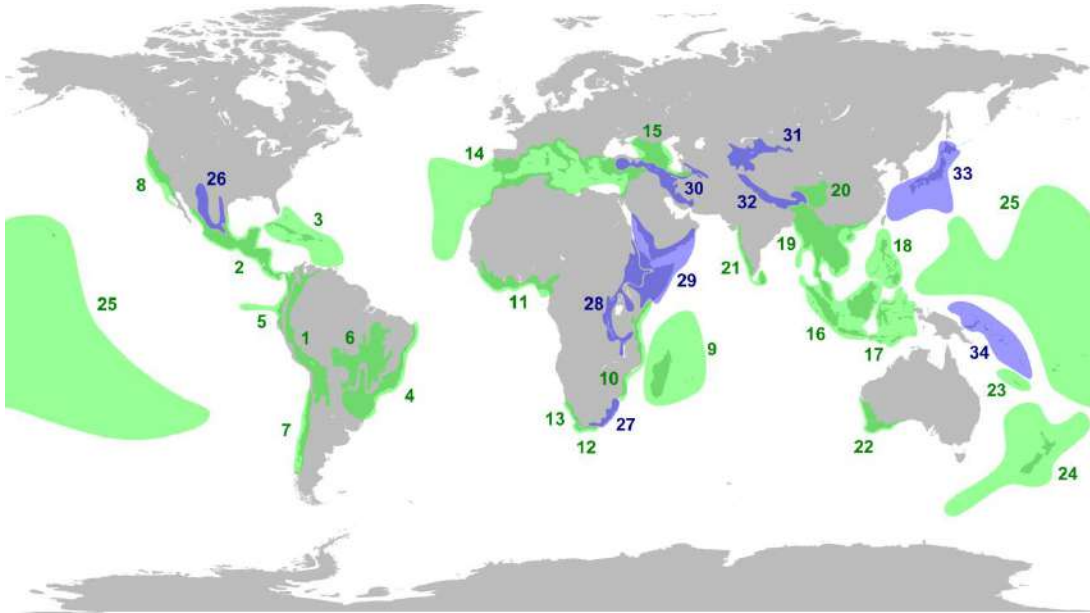
Policy Brief



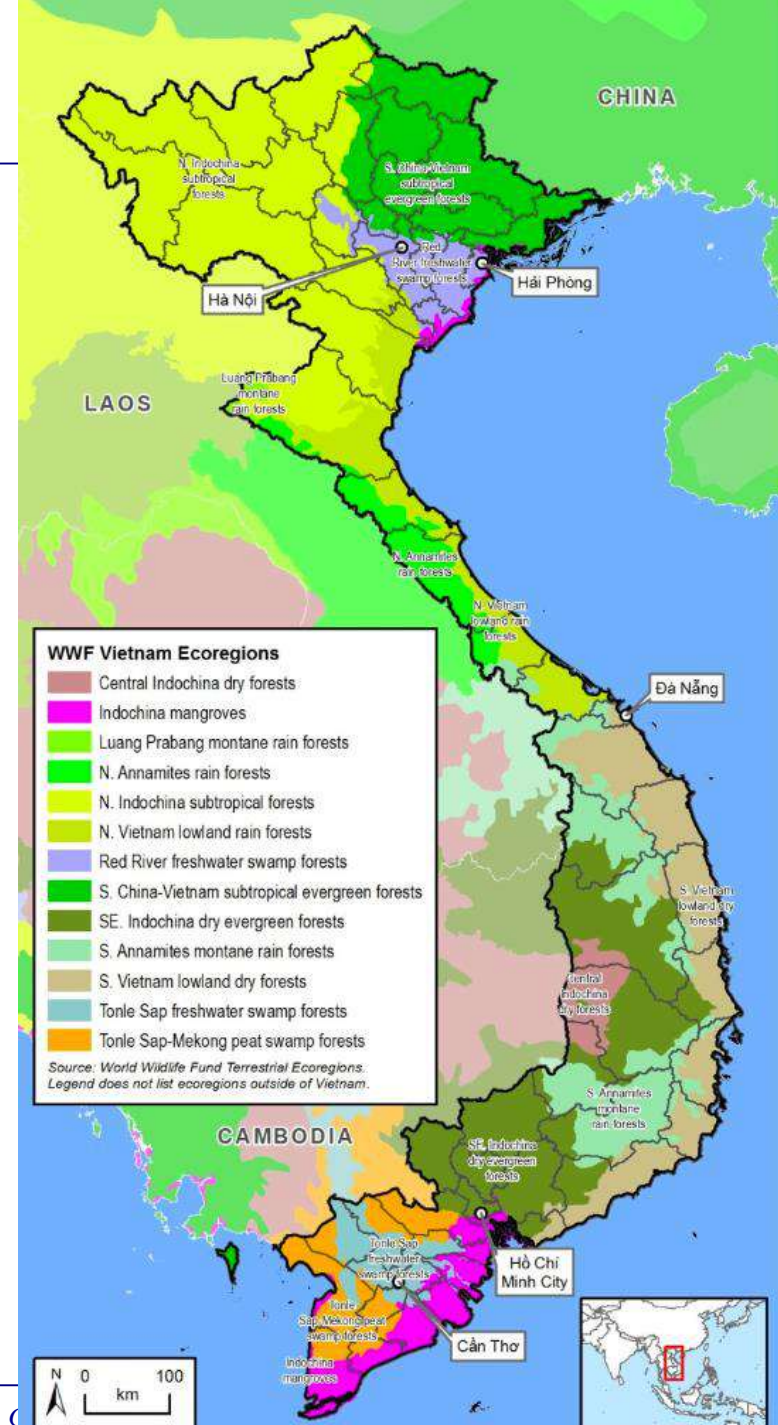
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Vietnam Biodiversity



- Vietnam: 16th most biodiversity rich country
- Part of Indo-Burma hotspot designated by Conservation International.
- 14 terrestrial ecoregions
- 110 key biodiversity areas

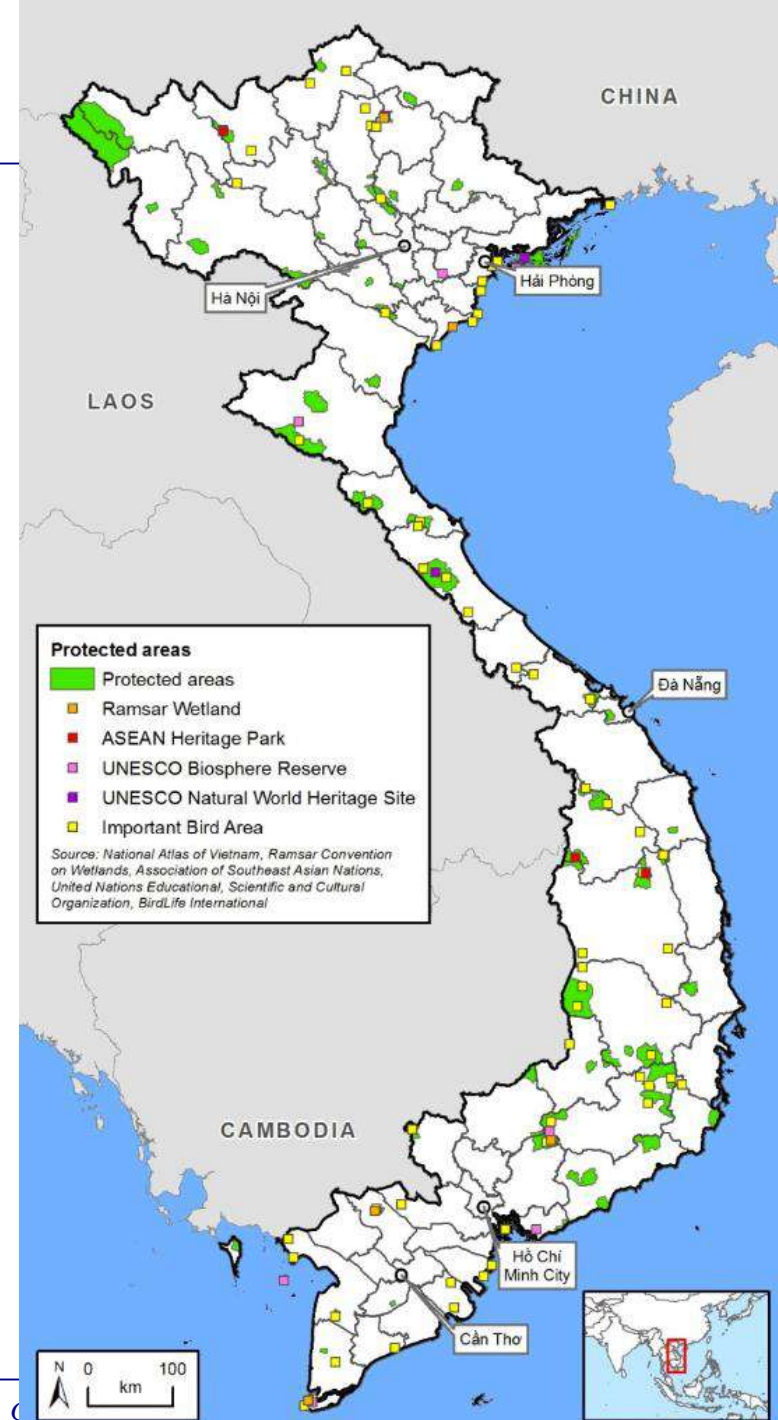


Vietnam Biodiversity

Some general figures:

- high level of endemism: 10% of Vietnam's plants; 12 mammals, 7 birds, 48 reptiles, 33 amphibians, 80 freshwater fish...
- 164 terrestrial Protected Areas (32 nat. Parks and 58 nature reserves), covering 7.5% of the country's total land area, virtually address all of Vietnam's major ecosystems.

But what about insect diversity?



Importance of insects diversity

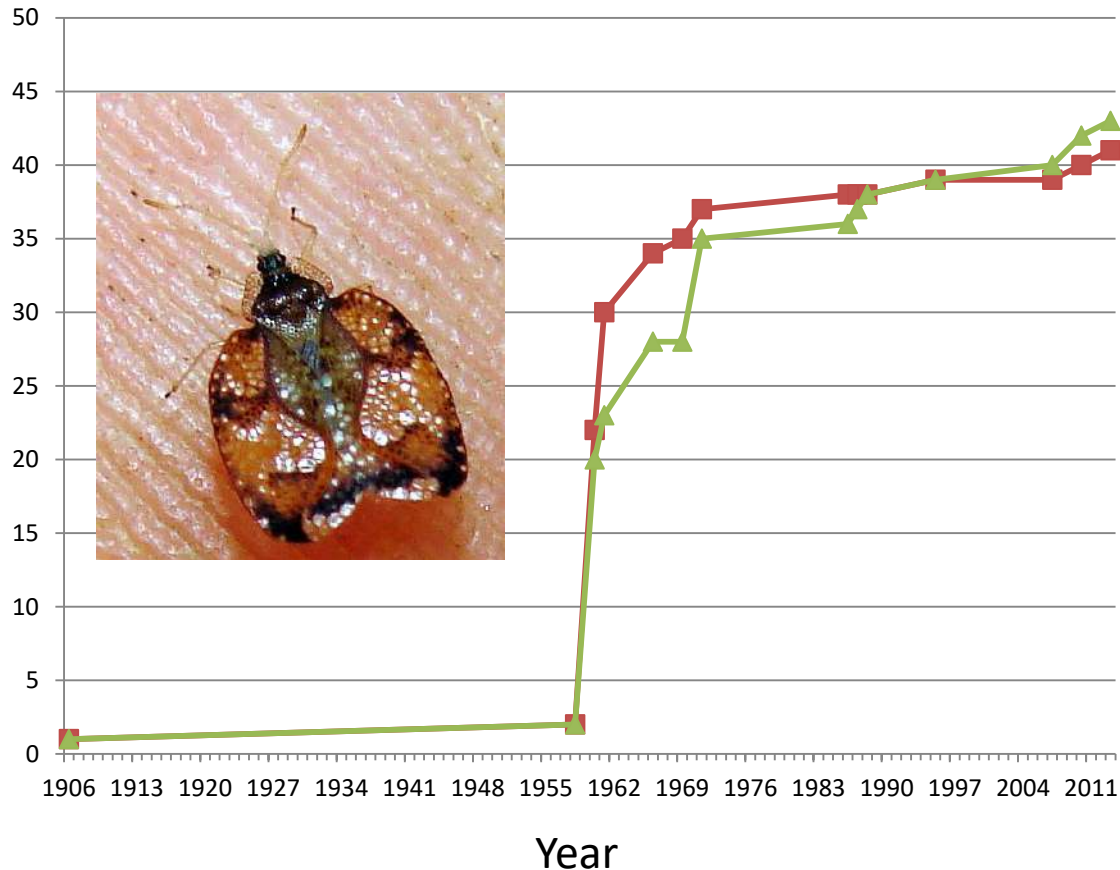
- Insects = half of known species
- Probably 80% of species on Earth
- About 20.000 species known from Vietnam
= 10% of estimated diversity
- Very high level of endemism (species occurring only in Vietnam)

Vietnam = Hotspot also for insects!

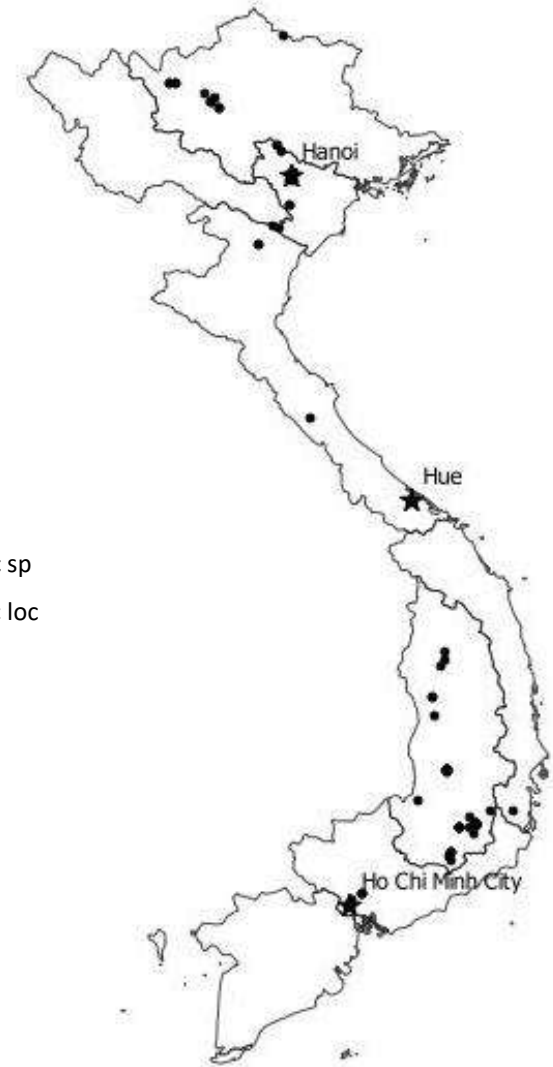
Case study: the Lacebugs of Vietnam

**Each new location sampled
= discovery of new species!**

Number of
species/sites

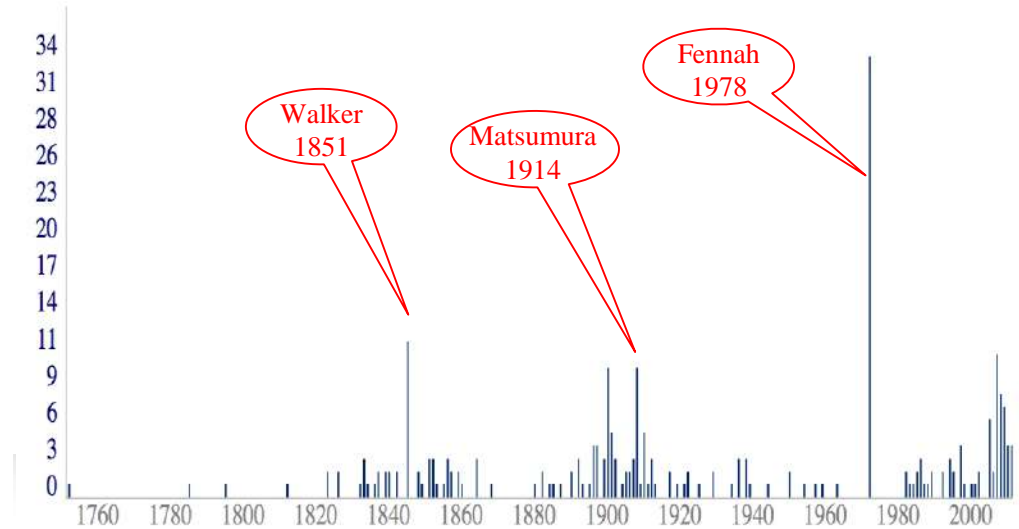


—■— acc sp
—▲— acc loc



Case study: the Planthoppers of Vietnam

More taxonomic experts
= more new species!



**“We only love what we know and
we only protect what we love.”**

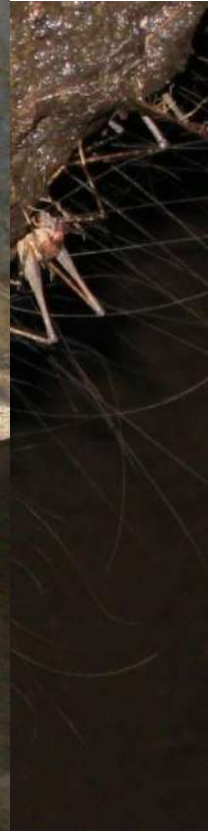
Konrad Lorenz



Insect biodiversity in Vietnam even higher than expected

Numerous peculiar habitats

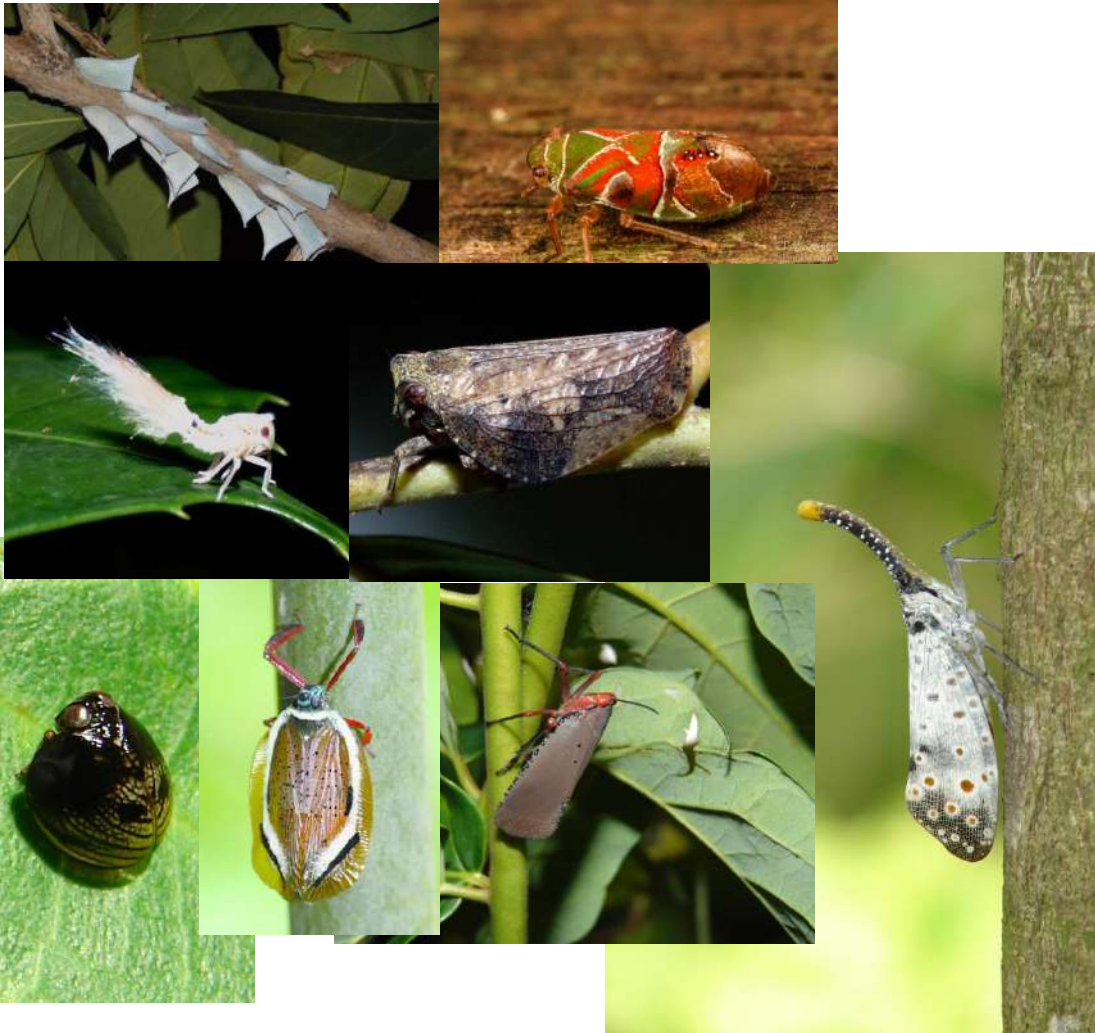
= Lots of very local species (micro-endemism)



Case study: planthopper diversity

- Already very diverse but still very poorly known: 255 species in Vietnam

More efforts = more species



Rich but fragile: threats

- Deforestation
- Slash and burn agriculture
- Mining
- Poaching
- Pollution

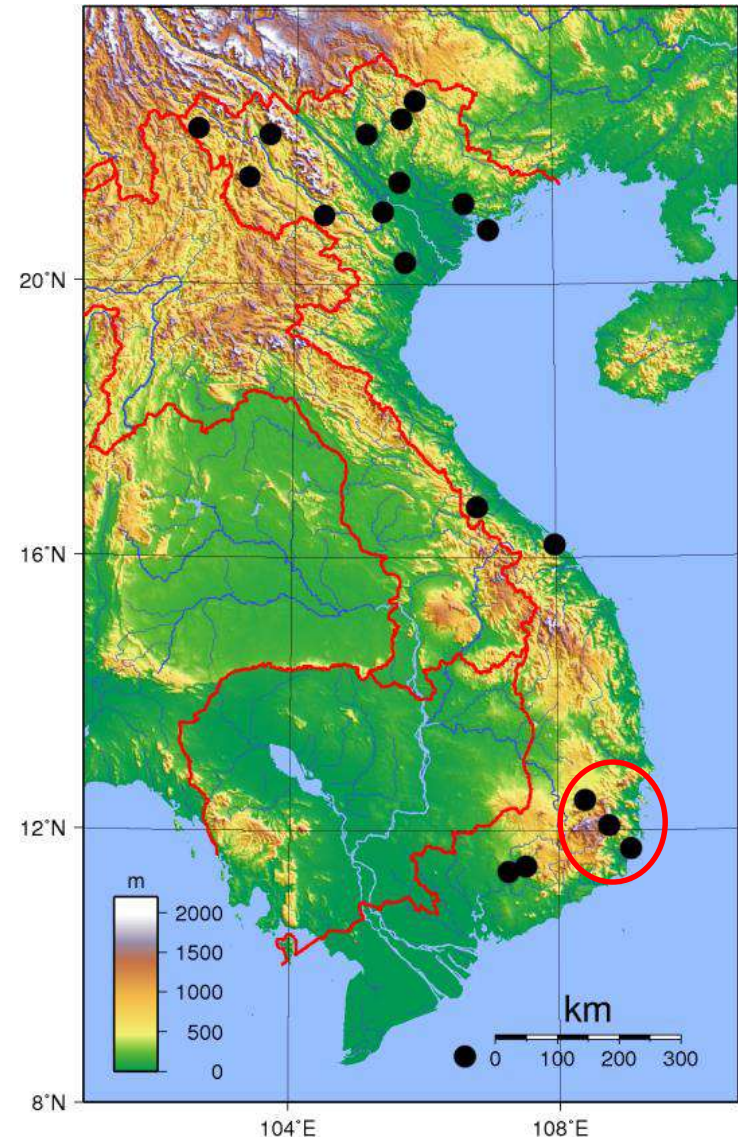


Case study: stick insects

Sampled areas

Three locations over a short distance:

- Bidoup Nui Ba National Park
- Phuoc Binh National Park
- Nui Chua National Park



Case study: stick insects

Each location contains its own unique species

Example of high rate of endemism in three protected areas of southern Central Vietnam.



Bidoup Nui Ba
23 species
All new



Phuoc Binh
13 species
All new



Nui Chua
19 species
18 new

Single
species
present in
two locations

60 Km



Case study: stick insects

Example of high rate of endemism in three protected areas of southern Central Vietnam

Three species of Leaf insects (Bo La – Vietnam Red Book)



Bidoup Nui Ba



Phuoc Binh

60 Km



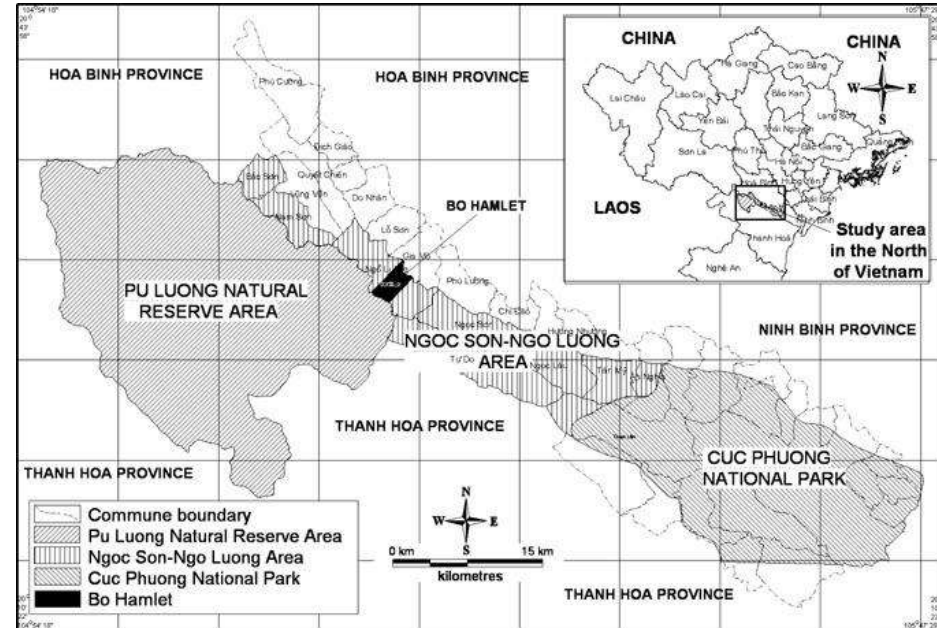
Nui Chua

Important to create more protected areas

Case study: stick insects

Ngoc Son – Ngo Luong Area

- Recently created (2006)
- Connection between Pu Luong and Cuc Phuong National Park (corridor)
- Pu Luong: no data
- Cuc Phuong: 33 species
- Ngoc Son – Ngo Luong: 42 species



**Important to connect protected areas
with corridors**

Lessons learnt and thoughts for the future

•Science:

- Improve collecting and taxonomic capacities
- Explore and inventory peculiar habitats
- Describe the new species
- International collaboration
- Complete hotspot status with insect diversity

- Management tools: Taxonomic lists, online access, digitalization for Vietnam and for each park

•Conservation

- Communication
- Education
- Public awareness
- Develop the CBD Clearing House Mechanism (CHM)
- Ecotourism



Vietnam = Hotspot also for insects!

**Each new location sampled = discovery of
new species!**

**More taxonomic experts = more new
species!**

More efforts = more species

Important to create more protected areas

**Important to connect protected areas
with corridors**