



FACTSHEET

EYES ON THE FOREST



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BACKGROUND

Since 2019, WWF Thailand has partnered with the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation (DNP) through the Eyes on the Forest (EoF) project to monitor forest condition changes in Kaeng Krung National Park within the Khlong Saeng-Khao Sok Forest Complex. The project supports evidence-based forest management, detects illegal forest change, informs land-use planning under the National Parks Act (2019), promotes forest restoration, wildlife conservation, and strengthens community participation in natural resource management.



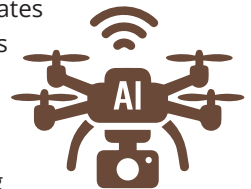
WHAT WE DO

The EoF project integrates advanced technologies - including remote sensing, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), UAVs (drones), camera traps, thermal sensing, AI-enabled monitoring systems, and the Geo-spatial Conservation Database (GCD) - to strengthen forest and wildlife management.

These technologies support real-time monitoring, forest change detection, biodiversity surveys, human-elephant conflict mitigation, and law enforcement, while improving ranger capacity and promoting transparent, science-based conservation with local communities.



The EoF project integrates advanced technologies to strengthen wildlife monitoring and conservation. Camera traps, thermal-sensing UAVs, AI-enabled drones, and real-time monitoring systems support wildlife surveys, human-elephant conflict mitigation, and the detection of endangered species, poaching, and elephant movements. The project also builds ranger capacity through training and knowledge sharing on forest and wildlife management technologies.



"By providing continuous, accurate data, these technologies support evidence-based planning, optimize ranger deployment, reduce operational costs, and strengthen law enforcement, ecosystem protection, and long-term ecological research, while fostering transparency and collaboration with local communities"





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KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Strengthened protected area management through the application of UAV technology, satellite monitoring, SMART patrol systems, and the GCD, enabling more effective evidence-based decision-making.
- Completed the development of the GCD web and mobile applications and transferred the system to protected area staff through training and field-based testing.
- Successfully maintained forest cover across target protected areas, with deforestation rates remaining below 0.2%.
- Expanded UAV surveys and mapping to achieve 100% coverage of the target areas.
- Enhanced the capacity of protected area staff in UAV operations, geospatial monitoring, and digital conservation data management.
- Organised the first Knowledge Sharing & Capacity Building Workshop, strengthening staff capacities while fostering knowledge exchange, cross-team collaboration, and peer-to-peer learning across the organisation.



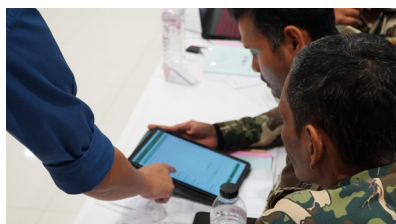
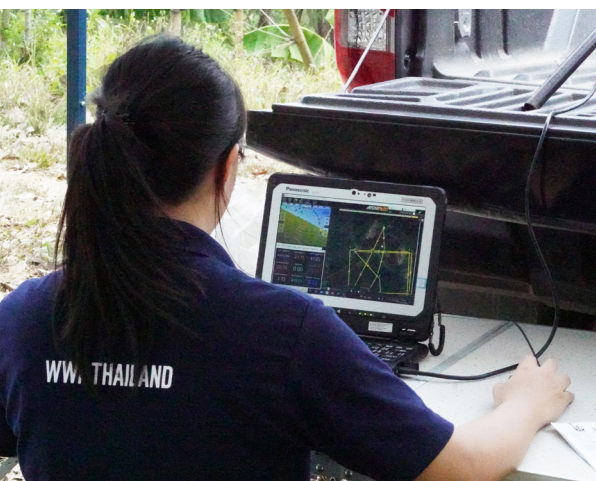
CHALLENGES

- The GCD web and mobile applications were only recently deployed in the target protected areas and are still in the early stages of implementation. Further refinement is needed to improve functionality and user experience, with meaningful feedback expected after sustained use by field staff.
- As the project will conclude in 2026, limited time and budget may affect the sustainability of activities that require ongoing technical support, system maintenance, capacity building, and continuous improvements.



NEXT STEPS

- To ensure the continued use and improvement of the GCD, the project will seek additional funding to maintain core activities at a reduced scale while prioritising critical functions, particularly the operation and field application of the database system.
- Continued use of the platform will enable the collection of user feedback, identification of system limitations, and development of recommendations for future enhancements and long-term investment.
- Field implementation and monitoring activities will continue with trained protected area staff taking on greater responsibility for routine operations, supported by targeted technical assistance from the project where needed. This approach will help sustain project outcomes and local capacity beyond the current funding period.
- The project will also expand the use of the GCD platform to relevant local communities and stakeholders, promoting broader participation in conservation monitoring and strengthening collaboration between protected area authorities and communities in target landscapes.



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