



Asian Turtle Program Indo - Myanmar Conservation



Indo-Myanmar
Conservation

Protecting today so we can see tomorrow...

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A juvenile Big-headed Turtle of this release takes one last look before disappearing into the ecosystem.
Photo by Hoang Van Ha – ATP/IMC.

Release of another group of endangered turtles in Vietnam

From 21st to 24th of June 2020, the Asian Turtle Program (ATP) of Indo-Myanmar Conservation (IMC), in collaboration with the Turtle Conservation Centre (TCC) of Cuc Phuong National Park, completed another release of turtles back to the wild, the third of 2020, in which 66 turtles returned to one of northern Vietnam's protected areas.

This release involved 11 critically endangered Indochinese Box Turtles (*Cuora galbinifrons*), 40 endangered Big-headed Turtles (*Platysternon megacephalum*), 15 endangered Four-eyed Turtle hatchlings (*Sacalia quadriocellata*) and a giant effort by each member of the release as they walked and climbed in the hot summer climate of northern Vietnam.

This was the first time hatchlings have been released from the TCC and was due to high breeding success meaning the centre is already



All releases start with a journey on foot deep into the jungle to reach suitable habitat for releasing turtles.
Photo by Hoang Van Ha – ATP/IMC.

full to capacity. We also have many Vietnamese Pond Turtle (*Mauremys annamensis*) and Chinese Stripe-necked Turtle (*Mauremys sinensis*) hatchlings we need to release soon. Please visit our website if you would like to donate: <https://asianturtleprogram.org/donate/>

We would like to give our appreciation to the hard-working staff who have provided great care to these animals in captivity and those who went on this physically demanding release trip. We are also grateful to the Fondation Segré Conservation Fund and the EDGE of Existence programme for their support to this project, our other project partners: the Zoological Society of London (ZSL), Paignton Zoo, Nordens Ark, the Centre for Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (CRES), and all of our numerous partners who have contributed along the way.



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The release team use fallen trees to traverse the jungle.

Photo by Hoang Van Ha – ATP/IMC.



A happy return to the wild for this Indochinese Box Turtle (*Cuora galbinifrons*) on a sunny day.

Photo by Hoang Van Ha – ATP/IMC.



Two out of 15 Four-eyed Turtle hatchlings (*Sacalia quadriocellata*) were released to the wild this time.

Photo credit: Hoang Van Ha - ATP/IMC.