

## Asian Turtle Program Indo-Myanmar Conservation



Protecting Today So We Can See Tomorrow

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## The 15th Yen Bai commune football tournament 2023



Hoạt động được thực hiện trong khuôn khổ dự án được tài trợ bời **Quỹ Đối tác về các hệ sinh thái trọng yếu** (CEPF) Thông tin thêm về CEPF có thể tham khảo tại http://www.cepf.net Nếu có yêu cầu hoặc thắc mắc liên quan đến hoạt động của dự án, vui lòng gửi thư điện từ đến nhóm thực hiện khu vực **Indo-Bruma** (CEPF) ở địa chỉ email: **cepf-indobruma@iucn.org** 

## 29<sup>th</sup> August 2023 Nathan Phung (ATP/IMC), Quyen Pham (ATP/IMC)

(Hanoi) - From the 13<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> of July 2023, the **Asian Turtle Program** (ATP) of **Indo-Myanmar Conservation** (IMC) and The People's Committees of Yen Bai commune cooperated to host **the 15<sup>th</sup> Yen Bai Football Tournament**. This is an annual community activity hosted by ATP/IMC to raise the community awareness about the conservation of **Swinhoe's softshell turtle** (*Rafetus swinhoei*) – the world largest species of freshwater turtle. Evidence has shown that there are specimens of the species currently residing in **Dong Mo and Xuan Khanh Lake**, which is within the neighbourhood of **Yen Bai commune**.

This year, there were 07 teams, divided in two groups. After 12 dramatic matches, the team from Quyt Village was named champion of the 2023 tournament. Mr. Nguyen Van Lap – Chairman of Yen Bai People's Committee, shared that this year's tournament was a huge success with no injured athletes from the teams as well as receiving the utmost support from all local villagers during the event with more than 400 people participating in each match and over 1000 spectators in the Finale.

We hope that these activities will not only give the locals a great time together in the summer but also remind them how important it is to protect the **Swinhoe's softshell turtle** (*Rafetus swinhoei*) specimens residing in the area, especially with the young generation.





Athletes from the teams giving out all their best to win. Photo: Pham Xuan Quyen (ATP/IMC)



2023 all rounds champion, Quyt Village. Photo: Pham Xuan Quyen (ATP/IMC)



Mr. Nguyen Van Lap, Vice President Of Yen Bai Commune, announcing the teams participated in the tournament. Photo: Pham Xuan Quyen (ATP/IMC)



The spectators supporting their home team. Photo: Quyen Pham (ATP/IMC)



We would like to express our gratitude to **The People's Committees of Yen Bai Commune** for supporting us throughout the event. Thank you, **Cleveland Metropark Zoo, CEPF, TSA** and **Hanoi Fisheries Sub-Department** for the generous contribution to the project.



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