

Health and Safety Plan

23/03/2022

CEPF Grant 111921

Fauna & Flora International

**Community-based protected area management; Primate Conservation in
Myanmar Phase II**

Kachin State, Myanmar

Grant Summary

1. Grantee organization.

Fauna & Flora International

2. Grant title.

Community-based management and protection of newly gazetted Protected Areas; Primate Conservation in Myanmar Phase II

3. Grant number.

111921

4. Grant amount (US dollars).

\$240,000

5. Proposed dates of grant.

1 July 2022 – 31 December 2024

6. Countries or territories where project is located.

Myanmar

7. Full name, title, telephone numbers, and electronic mail address of Grantee personnel responsible for the health and safety plan.

+95 9 254120180, info@fauna-flora.org

8. Summary of the project.

The project will undertake participatory-planning for protected area management and support the development of collaborative protected area management systems for two priority KBAs with key populations of global threatened primates in Myanmar (Western hoolock gibbon – EN, and Myanmar snub-nosed monkey - CR). This will include development of innovative finance mechanisms for community-based conservation and sustainable livelihoods through biodiversity friendly agroforestry production and value chain development.

9. Date of preparation of the health and safety plan.

23rd March 2022

10. **Describe the component of your project that has raised health and safety issues:** This section should explain the activities that might cause concern about health and safety.

Activity/Situation	Risks	Likelihood
2.2 Supporting SMART patrols	There are inherent risks with working in the forest and with engaging in law enforcement interventions.	Low
3.1 Primate research	There are inherent risks involved with field research in relatively remote locations.	Low
Covid-19 & related restrictions	Covid-19 remains a concern in the region and both it and restrictions put in place to control its spread, may impact the project teams' ability to travel into and around the region, possibly preventing them from carrying	Low

	<p>out certain activities (e.g., workshops, trainings or meetings that involve large gatherings of people).</p> <p>See below at 11. For a summary of the latest general situation in relation to Covid-19.</p>	
Military coup & related restrictions	<p>On 1 February 2021, the Myanmar military declared a state of emergency and assumed control. There has been widespread political violence involving the deaths of ordinary people, as well as a major rise in active clashes between armed actors.</p> <p>See below at 11. For a summary of the latest general situation in relation to the military takeover.</p>	Medium
Ethnic armed group in Kachin	<p>Myanmar has suffered from prolonged internal conflicts, involving ethnic armed organisations in border areas. The possibility of violent clashes remains in some areas of all Border States.</p>	Low

11. **Actions to ensure health and safety:** Describe actions that will be taken to ensure the health and safety of project workers as well as local community members. Include a description of the precautions that will be taken against transmission of COVID-19.

Activity/Situation	Risks	Mitigation/Safeguarding Measures
2.2 Supporting SMART patrols	<p>There are inherent risks with working in the forest and with engaging in law enforcement interventions.</p>	<p>FFI has established protocols working in remote/hostile environments as well as Health & Safety protocols, which evolve as necessary to incorporate localized conditions and concerns.</p> <p>Government travel request and notification requirements are rigorously followed, to ensure local security services are aware of FFI operations.</p> <p>Internal travel requests, where necessary, include a statement of possible risks and how they will be avoided/minimized.</p> <p>All staff are provided with local medical insurance.</p> <p>Medical supplies are available in FFI vehicles and at field sites/offices.</p> <p>Where law enforcement interventions are involved FFI has agreed organisational approaches to Situational Crime Prevention, including toolkits, guidance, and training resources to help mitigate the risks involved.</p>

<p>3.1 Primate research</p>	<p>There are inherent risks involved with field research in relatively remote locations.</p>	<p>FFI has access to communication devices for remote area operations and will ensure medical evacuation procedures are updated and informed before fieldwork is initiated.</p> <p>Government travel request and notification requirements are rigorously followed, to ensure local security services are aware of FFI operations.</p> <p>Internal travel requests, where necessary, include a statement of possible risks and how they will be avoided/minimized.</p> <p>All staff are provided with local medical insurance.</p> <p>Medical supplies are available in FFI vehicles and at field sites/offices.</p>
<p>Covid-19 & related restrictions</p>	<p>Covid-19 remains an issue of concern in the region and both it and restrictions put in place to control its spread, may impact the project teams' ability to travel into and around the region, possibly preventing them from carrying out certain activities (e.g., workshops, trainings or meetings that involve large gatherings of people).</p> <p><i>General summary:</i> Given the inherent weaknesses in health infrastructure, co-ordination of Myanmar's Covid response has been poor overall, although by mid-March 2022 around 40% of the population have completed an initial vaccine protocol (<i>Source: Our World in Data</i>). For the foreseeable future, officials are likely to maintain restrictions in areas where increased disease activity is ongoing, or the risk of outbreaks is high. Health protocols, like requiring people to wear facemasks in public, practice personal hygiene, and maintaining a physical distance of 2 meters, are in effect. A nationwide nighttime curfew likely remains in place, although the government's level of enforcement of the rules is unclear. Reliable, specific data on case levels at national/state level is very difficult to obtain from normal global data sources.</p> <p>For these reasons FFI maintains high levels of on-going Covid-19 protection protocols as detailed on the right.</p>	<p>All FFI staff are vaccinated, and socialized precautions (mask-wearing, regular testing, social distancing) are adhered to.</p> <p>Liaison with authorities/airline companies, to anticipate project impacts caused by travel and movement restrictions, will be regularly maintained and flexibility will be incorporated into project design.</p> <p>All FFI staff ensure that they are in good health before leaving for work. FFI workers who experience symptoms, such as fever/cough/runny nose/sore throat, are advised not to come to work and to undertake a health check at a health care facility if needed.</p> <p>Project activities are implemented by on-site project teams with local partners, thereby reducing the potential impact of internal travel restrictions imposed by the government to reduce the spread of covid-19.</p> <p>At a broader level, FFI's UK-based Governance & Risk Manager shares all alerts/updates received from the organization's external security consultants & travel safety advisers relating to Covid-19 in Myanmar with the Country Director.</p>

<p>Military coup & related restrictions</p>	<p>On 1 February 2021, the Myanmar military declared a state of emergency and assumed control. There has been widespread political violence involving the deaths of civilians, as well as a major rise in active clashes between armed actors.</p> <p>The following are extracts from the latest detailed updates, analysis, and advice from our security advisers on the prevailing national security situation, a year on from the military takeover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Demonstrations against the military coup and fatal clashes between protesters and the military (Tatmadaw) continue across Myanmar as of Feb. 2022.</i> • <i>The largest demonstrations continue to occur in Yangon and Mandalay, where protests have occurred most frequently in the following locations (details provided in full text of alert).</i> • <i>Authorities have blamed militia members for several bombings at government and military offices, and targeted shootings of government officials and military personnel, including in Bago, Mandalay, Yangon.</i> • <i>Security Measures - the military government will almost certainly continue to deploy personnel to curb anti-coup protests across the country, especially in major cities. A nationwide 20:00-04:00 curfew likely remains in place, with a shorter 00:00-04:00 curfew in Yangon, though the enforcement level is unclear. Martial law likely remains in effect in some locations.</i> 	<p>All FFI staff in Myanmar are aware of the need to be cautious and avoid all demonstrations, large crowds, and political gatherings, and remain vigilant and follow the advice of local authorities.</p> <p>All FFI staff are aware of the need to pay attention to military instructions and the curfew and the importance of remaining updated on local rules, wherever they are based, by monitoring local media so that they can avoid all protests, demonstrations, and political rallies.</p> <p>At a broader level, FFI’s UK-based Governance & Risk Manager shares all alerts/updates and advice received from the organization’s external security consultants & travel safety advisers relating to security risks in Myanmar with the Country Director (<i>extracts from latest national level update appear on the left</i>).</p>
<p>Ethnic armed group in Kachin</p>	<p>Myanmar has suffered from prolonged internal conflicts, involving several Ethnic Armed Organisations in Myanmar’s border areas. The possibility of violent clashes remains in some areas of all Border States.</p> <p>With reference to the current situation in Kachin State, and the relationship between militant groups and the military forces – this is the latest alert received from our security advisers (dated 2.3.2022):</p> <p><i>Additional clashes between militant groups and military (Tatmadaw) forces are likely in Kachin State following fighting in early March. Recent clashes between militias, including the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) and People's Defense Force (PDF), and the Tatmadaw have occurred in Momauk and</i></p>	<p>FFI’s UK-based Governance & Risk Manager shares all alerts/updates received from the organization’s external security consultants & travel safety advisers relating to security risks in Kachin State with the Myanmar Country Director. (See most recent example on the left).</p> <p>Advice contained in these alerts is cascaded and incorporated into local risk mitigation measures being applied to project activities on the ground.</p> <p>On-going measures for operating in this environment include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring conflict activity in the province/region and adapting/modifying activities

	<p><i>Putao townships. The Tatmadaw has conducted airstrikes targeting Sum Pi Yang village in Putao Township in recent days. Thousands of people have been displaced from areas where fighting has occurred.</i></p> <p><i>Authorities will almost certainly maintain heightened security, including checkpoints and road closures, in the affected areas in the coming weeks.</i></p> <p><i>Advice: Consider deferring nonessential travel to the affected areas until tensions subside and renewed fighting becomes less likely. Reach out to trusted local contacts to determine security conditions, as reporting is often delayed. Carry proper identification documents to present at security checks and heed all instructions from security personnel; remain cooperative if stopped for inspections. If operating in the affected region, maintain contact with your diplomatic mission.</i></p>	<p>accordingly to reduce risk of being caught up in any conflict.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaising and coordinating with relevant local authorities in the region, including territorial army and police forces. • Ensure field teams are equipped with communication devices (satellite/cellular phone) so that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ contact can be maintained, and they are able to ‘check in’ regularly ○ staff in the field can be kept up to date with evolving situations and can inform the regional office of any escalation in the local security situation they are aware of ○ to enable decisions on changing travel plans, moving from an area affected by insecurity to be discussed, agreed upon, and communicated promptly.
--	---	--

12. Budget: Please provide an estimate of the cost of implementing the health and safety plan, and clarify the source of funds (including if these are CEPF funds)

Health & Safety will be an integral part of the project design, incorporated into all field, community and event-based (e.g., trainings) activities.

Training cost for SMART refresher training: 1,000 USD (co-funding)

13. Monitoring and Evaluation: This section aims to outline what steps the grantee will take to monitor and evaluate the impact of the proposed intervention.

Field coordinators of the project sites; Imawbum and Pauksa will report on a monthly basis on the site level security condition and covid-19 situation. The report will also include the status of community patrolling encounter level of illegal activities during the patrols. The field coordinators make sure the activities with communities such as village meeting, awareness campaign follow the covid-19 prevention guidelines. A risk assessment on covid-19 and site level security will be done every 6 months.