



INTERNATIONAL  
LAND CONSERVATION  
NETWORK

## ILCN's Participation in the East and Southeast Asia Community Conservation Network (EASACCN) and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Asia Parks Congress

*Shenmin Liu, ILCN Regional Representative for Asia  
May 2022*

In 2021, 11 organizations from 8 countries (China, Cambodia, Myanmar, Laos, Vietnam, Indonesia, Thailand and Philippines) initiated the East and Southeast Asia Community Conservation Network (EASACCN). This network aims to promote community-based conservation through experience sharing, capacity building training, collaborative projects with NGOs, and making policies recommendations for government and stakeholders. The secretariat of EASACCN invited ILCN to be an external partner of the network to facilitate knowledge sharing in the future.

As ILCN's regional representative for Asia, Shenmin Liu has been participating the networks' activities since January 2022, including case sharing such as *Scaling up Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities' Traditional Knowledge, Conservation Practices, and Initiatives for Sustainable Use of Biodiversity* by BUKLURAN (the Philippines) and *Coastal Restoration and Mangrove Conservation for Carbon Credits and Green Livelihoods* by YAGASU Foundation (Indonesia).

Liu also attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> Asia Parks Congress, where leaders from around the world convened from May 24-29 to discuss the relationship between nature and society. The event, which was held at the Sabah International Convention Centre in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia, was aimed at bringing together protected-area practitioners and community members to share experiences, respond to the challenges and opportunities of the current moment, and address growing pressure on the region's protected areas. In an array of plenary sessions, side events, and parallel forums, over 3000 virtual and in-person attendees discussed topics including *The New Global Biodiversity Framework and the Role of Asia*, *The Critical Role of Women, Youth, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in Protected and Conserved Areas*, *Biodiversity Conservation Policies and Strategies across Asia*, as well as other related issues.

Shenmin Liu, ILCN's regional representative for China, and ILCN steering committee member Tong Jin presented a side event on May 27 titled "*Exploring and Expanding Private Governance in Asia*." During the 90-minute session, Liu and Jin delved into the current landscape of China's civic protected areas and discussed potential solutions for conserving the continent's natural resources.