



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

INVESTING IN BIODIVERSITY FOR PEOPLE AND PLANET: THE CASE OF KOH TAO ISLAND IN THAILAND



THE BIODIVERSITY FINANCE INITIATIVE

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‘FINANCE FOR NATURE’ - WHY ?

New Deal for Nature: Investing for Biodiversity for people and planet



KEY FINDINGS: BIODIVERSITY EXPENDITURE IN THAILAND

Thailand's Gross domestic
product in **2015**

USD 401 billion

While...

Average expenditure on
biodiversity as percentage of
GDP in 2015

0.08%



Thailand is the
8th largest economy
of Asia



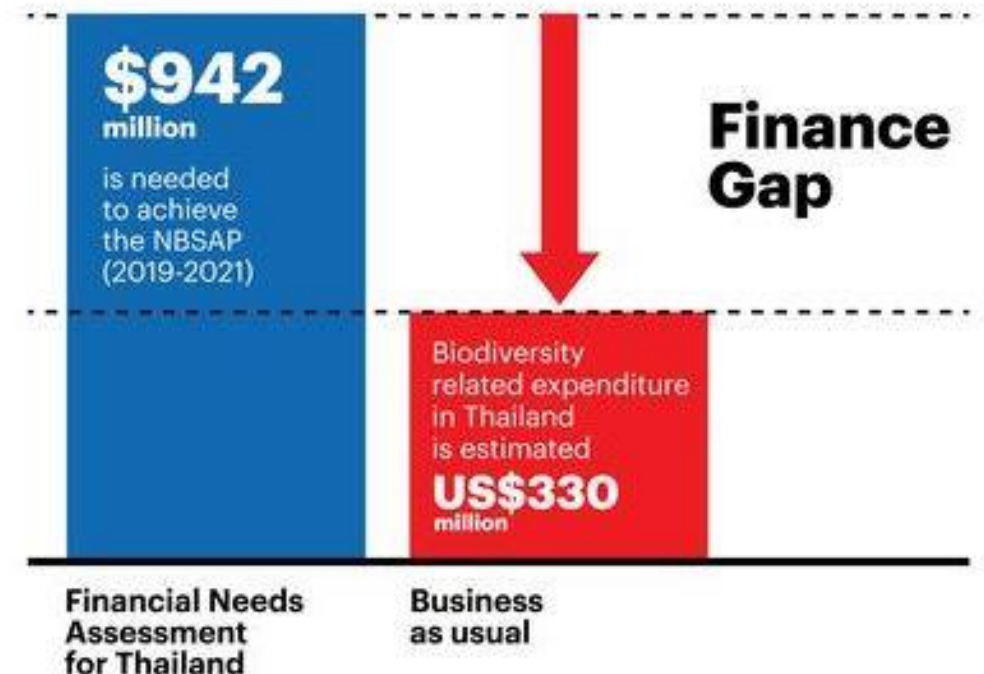
Sources include: [World Bank](#), UNDP BIOFIN BER 2016

GDP = USD 455 billion (World Bank, 2017)

BIODIVERSITY FINANCE PLAN FOR THAILAND

Translating **Thailand's 20-year National Strategy**, especially on the sustainable utilization of natural resources as a foundation to green growth and inclusive development, into **actual implementation with financial strategies** with regard to the Integrated National Biodiversity Plan

Finance for Nature



MOVING THE FRONTIER BETWEEN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE FINANCE-WHERE POSSIBLE AND MEANINGFUL



1. Mobilizing Resources
2. Delivering Better
3. Re-aligning existing resources
4. Preventing future costs

*Public finance
cannot do it
alone!*

OVERVIEW OF TRENDS IN THE MARINE AND COASTAL ECOSYSTEMS IN THAILAND

Thailand has a coastline of **3,148** kilometers.

23 provinces with coastlines (Total 76 provinces)

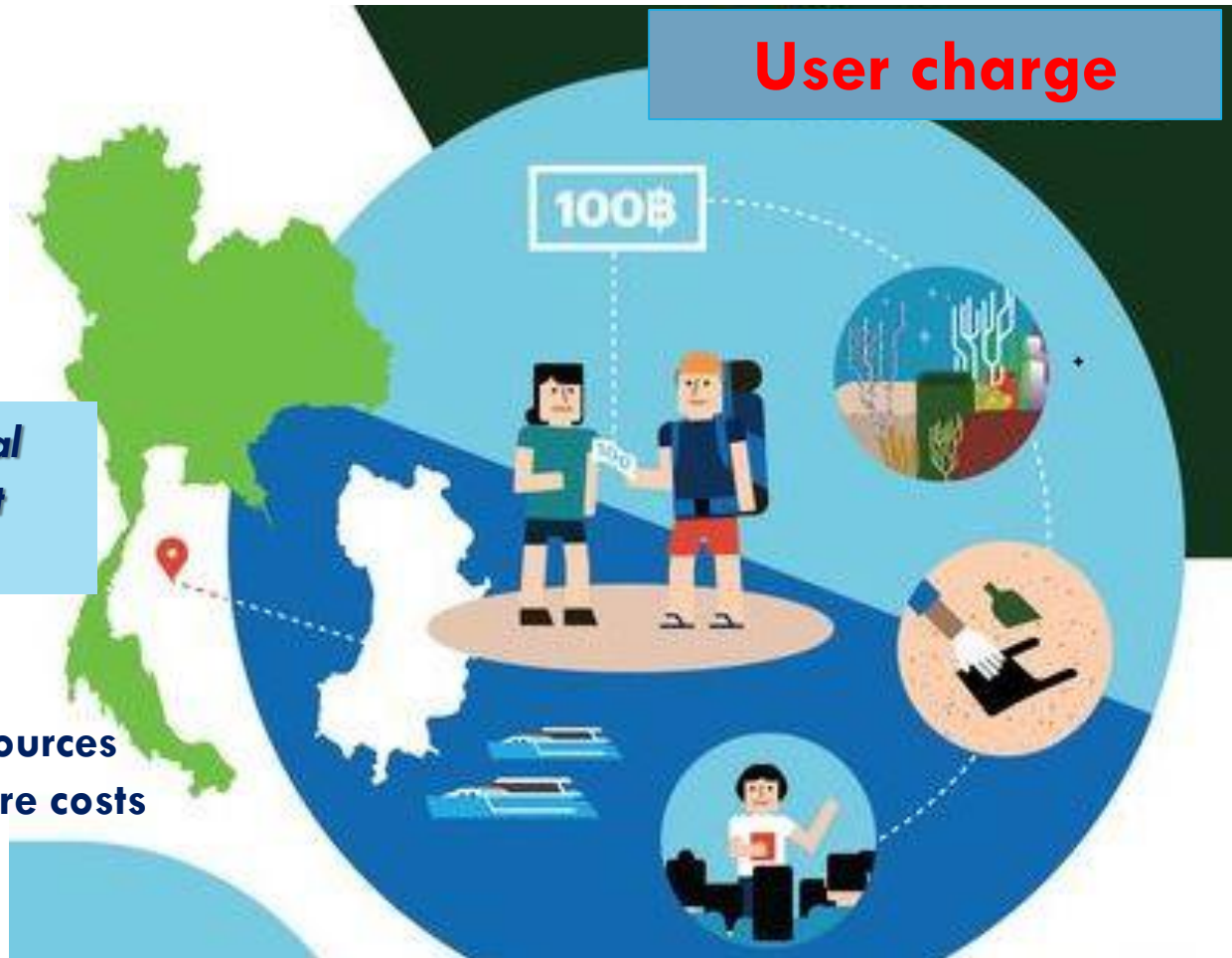
- 17 on the Gulf side,
- 6 on the Andaman side.

Coastal and marine ecosystems:

- mangroves
- seagrass
- coral reefs
- beach forests
- islands ecosystems



THE CASE OF *KOH TAO* ISLAND IN THAILAND



Finance results:

- Mobilizing Resources
- Preventing future costs

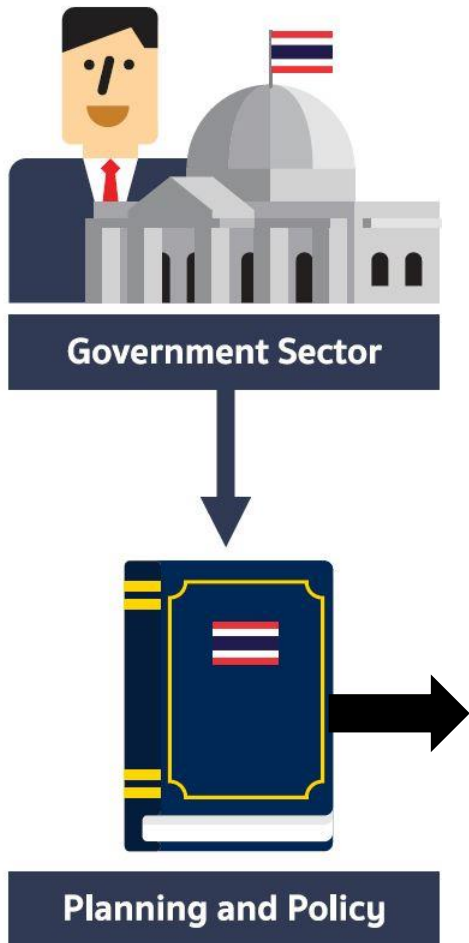
- Top 10 World's Best Learn-to-dive Destinations
- 300,000-500,000 visitors/year
- Located in the Gulf of Thailand, Pha Ngan District, Surat Thani Province.
- Total land area of 18.64 sq.km.
- 3 villages on the island.
- Not a Marine Protected Area, no current system for collecting entrance fees

INCREASING SOURCES OF REVENUE FOR CORAL REEF/ SPECIES REHABILITATION AND MANAGEMENT AND POLLUTION MANAGEMENT IN THE ISLAND OF KOH TAO



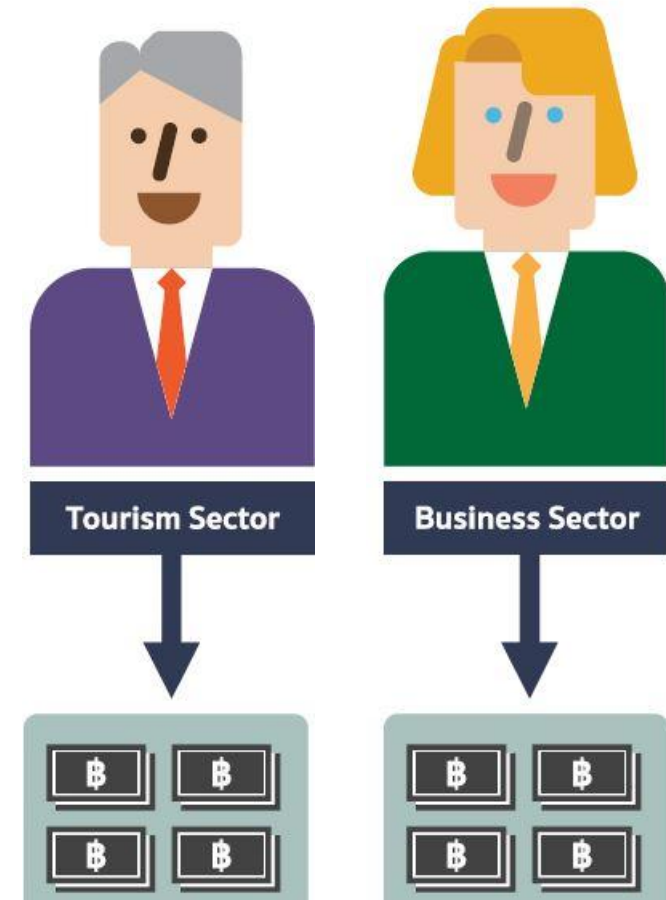
Institutionalization: Surat Thani Provincial Governor | Koh Tao Municipality | Save Koh Tao
| Businesses | Department of Marine and Coastal Resources | Department of National Parks,
Wildlife and Plant Conservation | Pollution Control Department | Department of Treasury |
Royal Thai Navy | Marine Department | 4th Army Area Commander | BIOFIN Thailand

PUTTING THE FINANCE PLAN TO SOLUTION...



USD 1.5 million revenues from environmental management charges

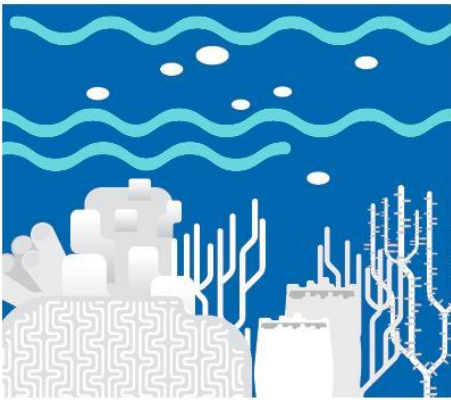
- (i) Conservation and restoration of coral reefs,
- (ii) Reducing sources of land-based pollution and thus preventing any potential harm to coastal resources.



BIODIVERSITY FINANCE RESULTS

Mobilizing Resources
Preventing future costs

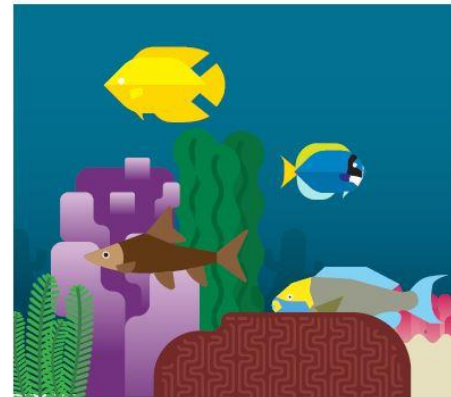
In order to address the finance gap, the biodiversity finance solution aims to create a mechanism— in the form of ***Environmental Management Charge*** to generate a steady flow of revenue that will be used primarily for the purpose of protecting and restoring the conditions of the island's coral reefs which is a key source of revenue for the island's tourism sector.



Restoration of coral reefs



A comprehensive marine turtle conservation program



Strengthening the resilience of marine and coastal ecosystem



Reducing sources of land-based pollution and thus prevent any potential harm or damage to coastal resources

SUSTAINABILITY...



- A self-financing mechanism for mobilising financial resources for conservation.
- Koh Tao municipality will be the champion of this project.
- The BIOFIN will replicate this experience in other municipalities with similar natural assets.





THANK YOU

