



STRENGTHENING SURVEILLANCE AND
MONITORING TO TACKLE THE SURGE IN
FOREST LOSS AND LAND DEGRADATION,
INDUCED BY INTENSIFYING CONFLICT IN
THAILAND'S BORDER AREAS

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(PP-A/60-369)



Background

The aftermath of the Myanmar coup in February 2021 has driven its thousands of people into Thai's border areas. The fighting along the borders is escalating and more intense in late March and April 2023. Displaced people are not totally sealed in the refugee camps. Often, they look for food, NTFPs, and other biological resources in nearby forest areas.

Political and Armed Conflicts in Myanmar



Target areas



Objective

To tackle the surge in deforestation, forest/land degradation and food security loss in the disturbed Thailand-Myanmar border areas

Duration: 9 months (1 Jul 2024 – 31 Mar 2025)
Budget: USD 278,078.48

Outputs and

2 outputs and 7 activities

Activities

Output 1: Robust forest monitoring system installation to assist local authorities and communities in monitoring forest loss and degradation



Activity 1.1: Prepare hard copy and digital copy of land use/forest cover maps in 1990 and present, and assess changes



Activity 1.2 Prepare the vulnerable deforestation areas map using GIS and monitor the risk areas using drone technology



Activity 1.3: Develop and install SMART PATROL SMART technologies for citizen science and community reporting illegal activities (logging, poaching and encroachment)



Activity 1.4: Install cameras and NCAPS technologies for real- time monitoring and reporting illegal activities (logging, poaching and encroachment)

Outputs and

2 outputs and 7
activities

Output 2: Fulfilled requisite capacity enhancement of local authorities, community groups and youth in community forest protection and sustainable livelihood development



Activity 2.1: Conduct trainings and workshops on forest and land monitoring, and user-friendly digital forest monitoring platform

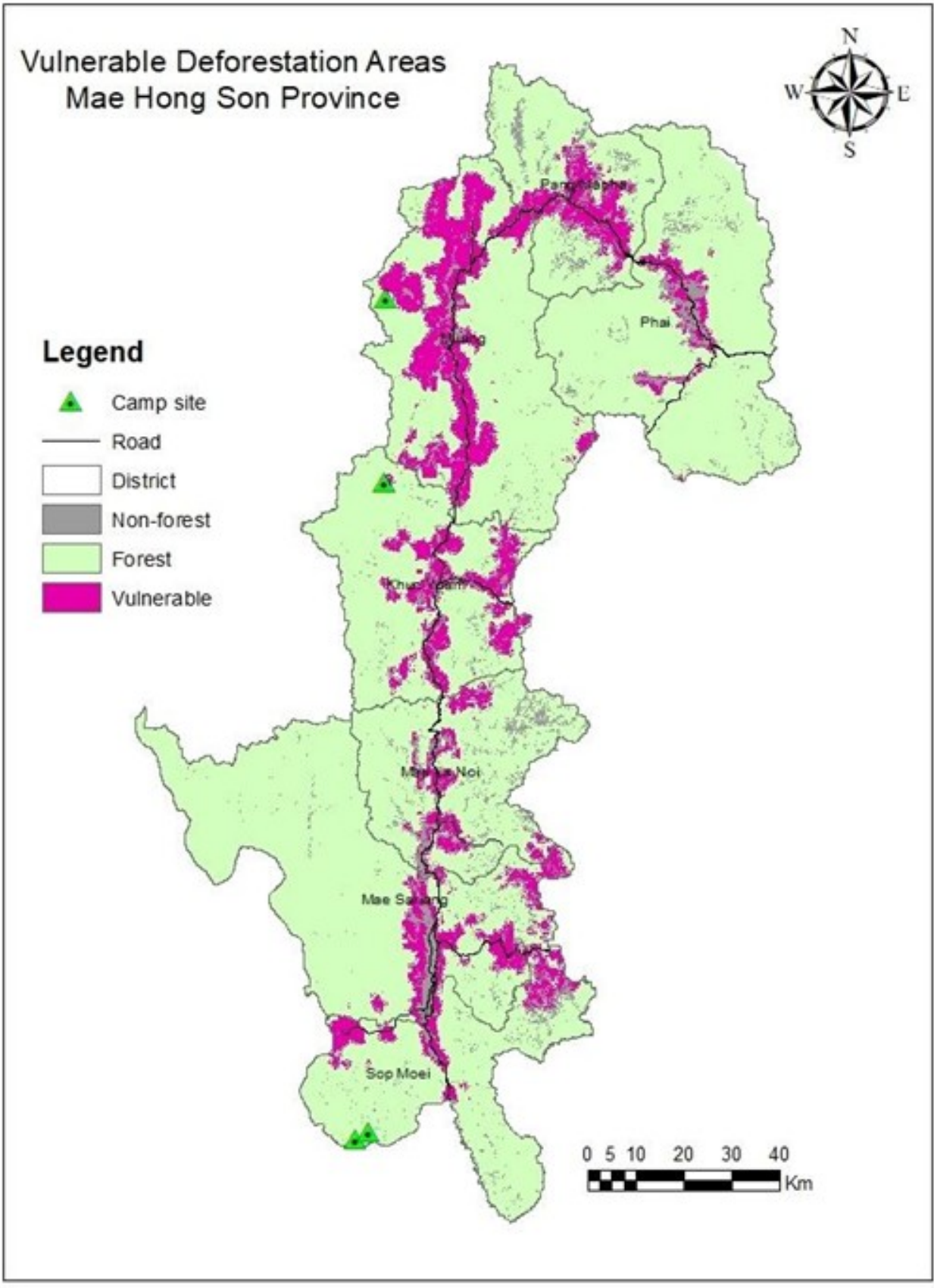
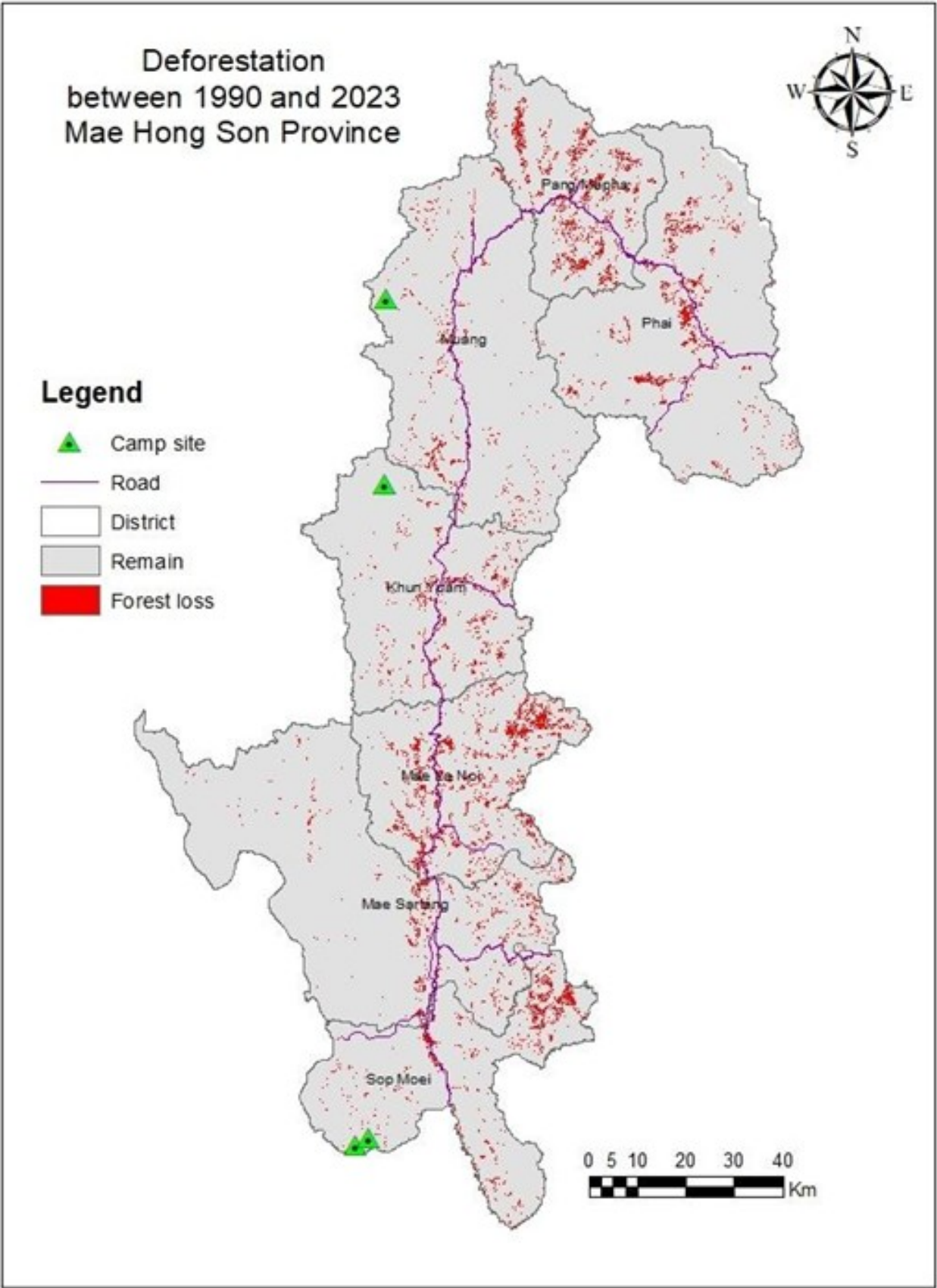
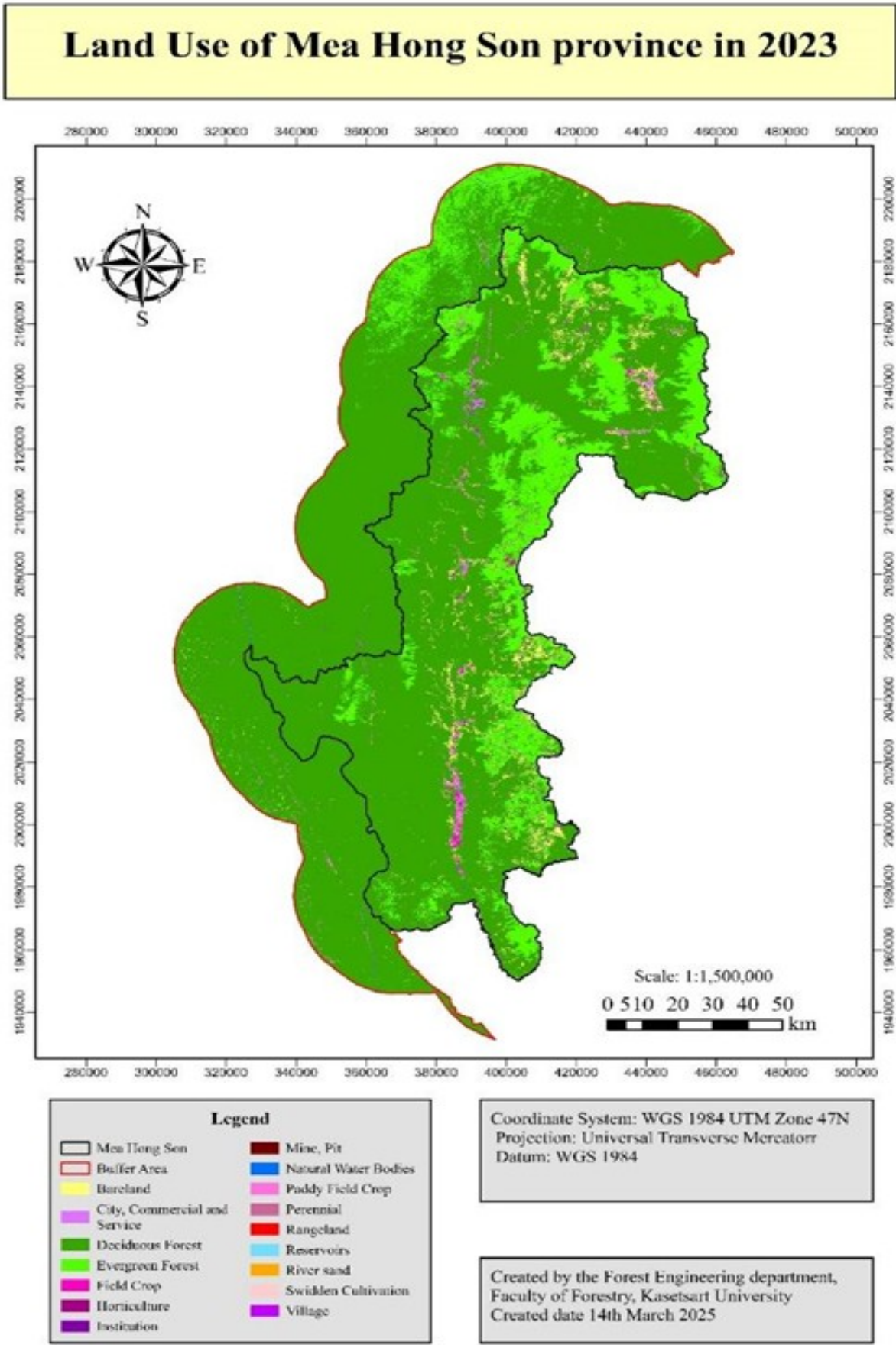


Activity 2.2: Conduct training on sustainable livelihood development activities and income generation to local people and Myanmar refugees



Activity 2.3: Produce, share and disseminate information, knowledge management, and outreach to other community forests

Land-use map and vulnerable deforestation

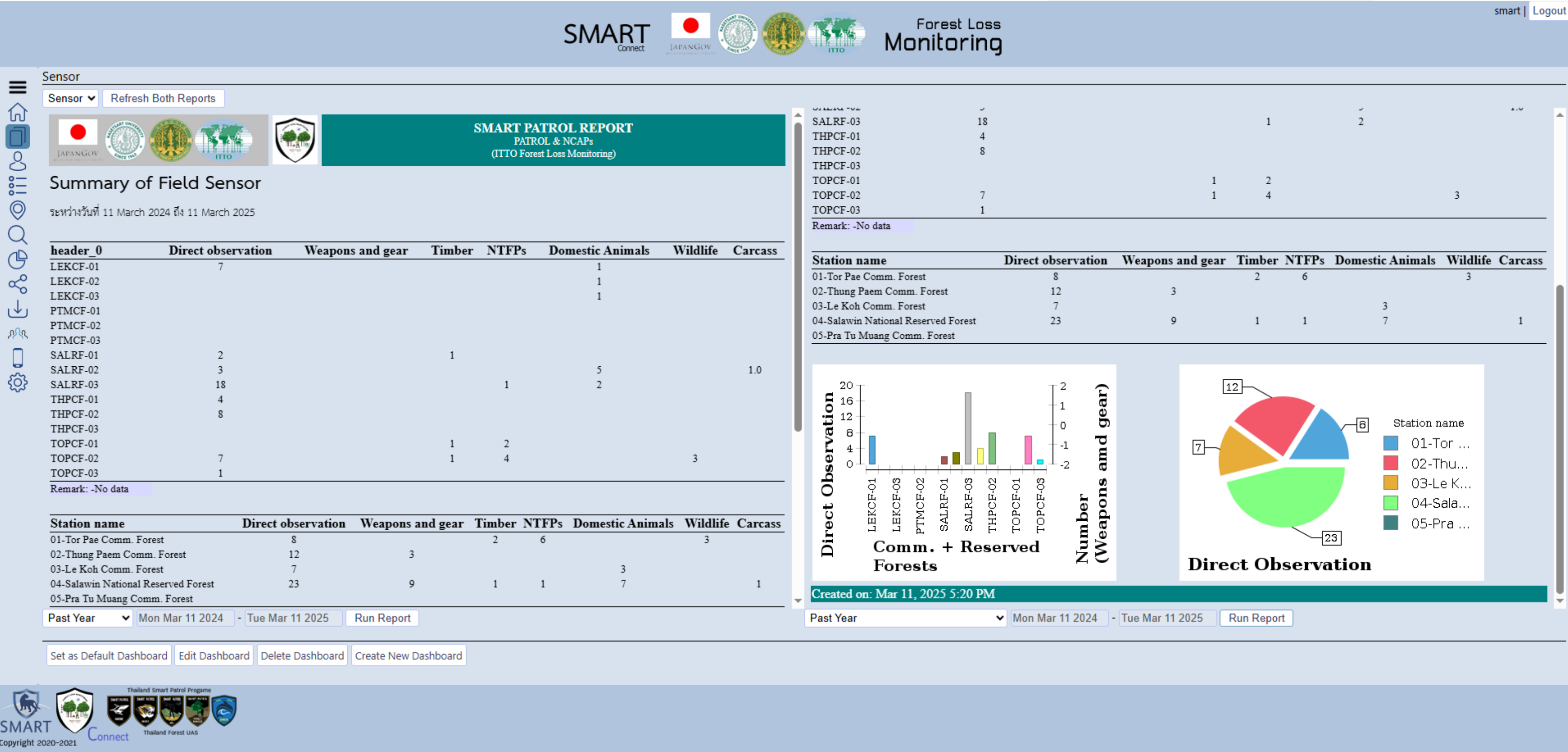


1.3 SMART PATROL Technology



[smart](#) | [Logout](#)

Reporting system

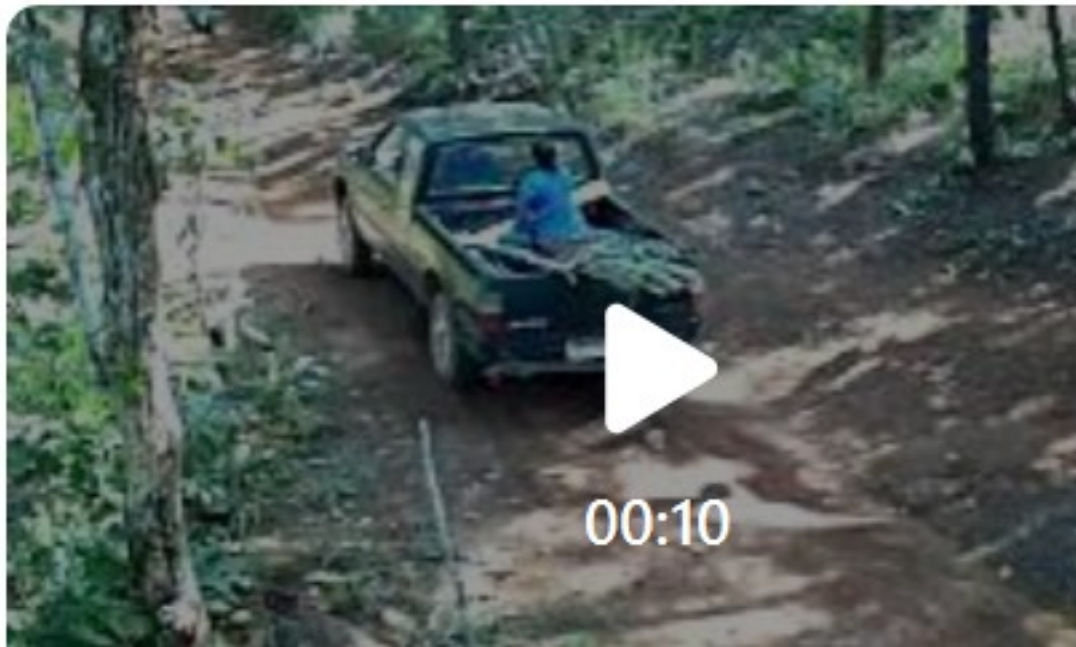




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Table 10 No of photos recorded from the cameras

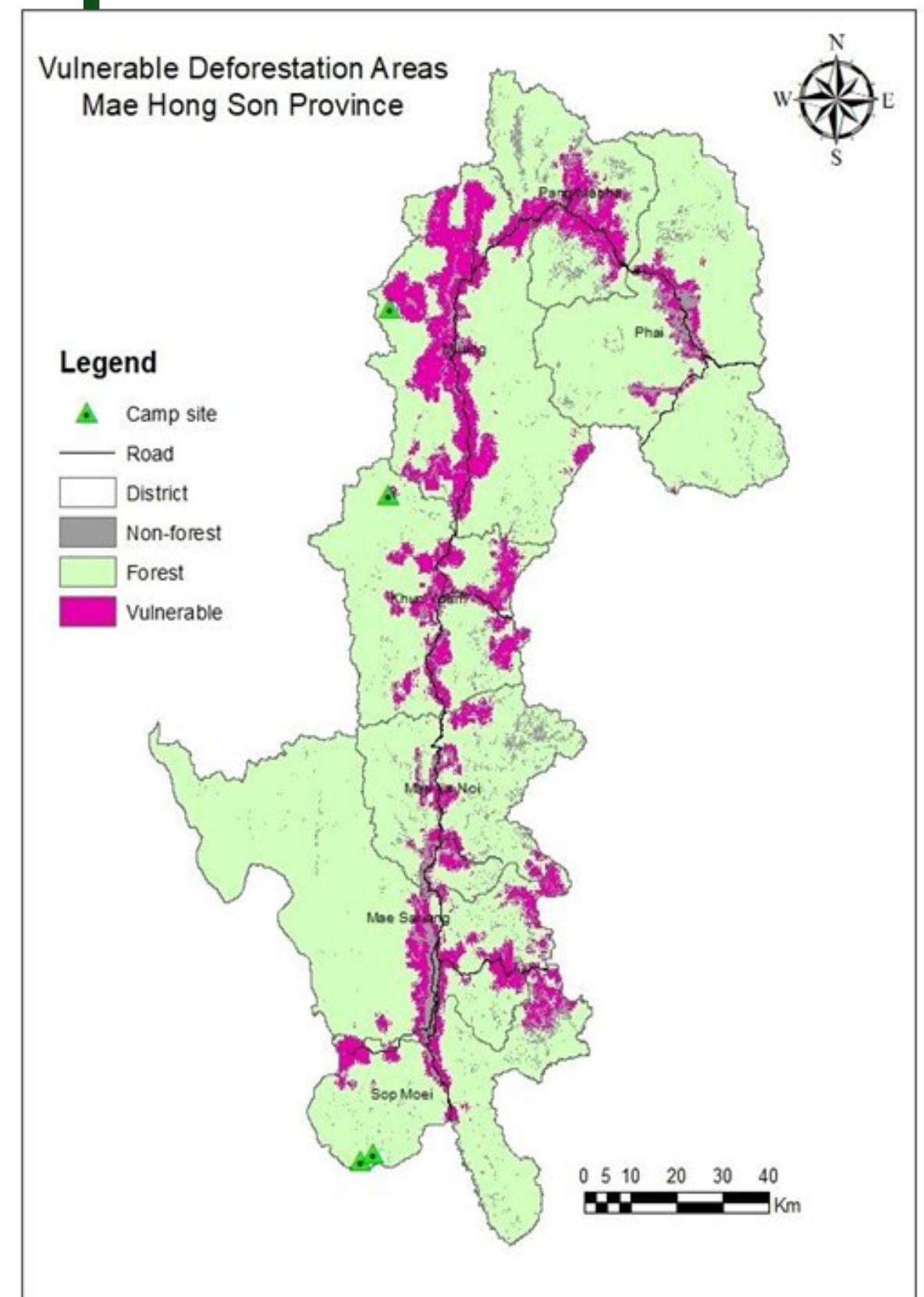
Places	Image number	Human	Weapon	NTEFPs	Agricultural equipment
Le Ko Community Forest	1,001	44	10	3	0
Pratoo Muang Community Forest	1,073	354	50	20	0
Salween National Reserved Forest	1,930	1,002	53	79	2
Thung Pam Community Forest	1,068	287	24	35	3
Tor Pae Community Forest	1,313	114	6	17	2
Total	6,385	1,801	143	154	7



**Network-Centric Anti Poaching System:
NCAPs**

2.1 Conduct trainings and workshops on forest and land monitoring

Drone monitoring



2.2 Conduct training on sustainable livelihood development activities

Tissue culture



Bio-Char



Study visit at
ITTO Emerald Triangle



>200 domestic participants

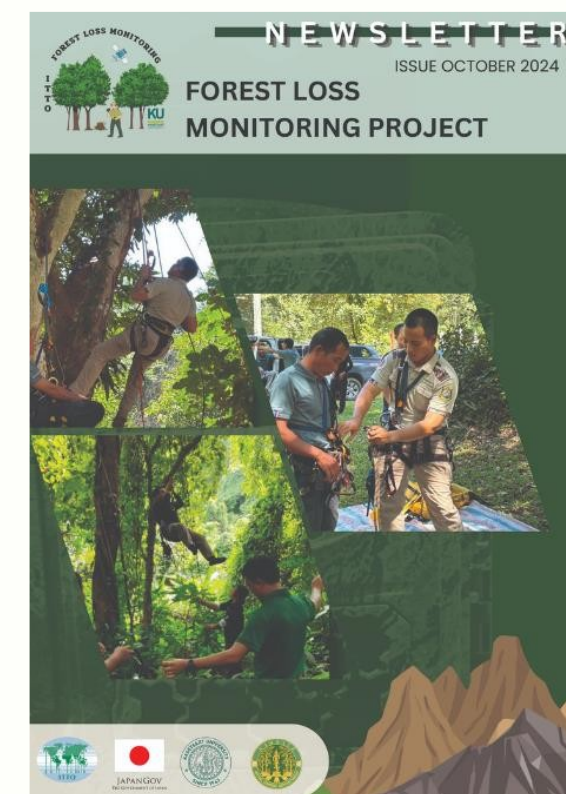
2.3 Produce, share and disseminate information, knowledge management, and outreach to other community forests



<https://itto-forestloss.org/>



Sharing lesson-learned workshop



Key Lessons: Project Implementation & Performance

> Community Adaptability to Technology

- Communities quickly adopted new tools (NCAPS, mobile apps).
- High digital readiness due to widespread smartphone use in Thailand.

Relevant & Practical Training

- Training topics selected through consultations.
- > • Focus on hands-on practice boosted engagement and sustainability.

Continuous Community Engagement & governance

- Field Coordinators ensured smooth coordination.
- > • Strong collaboration with communities accelerated implementation.

Agricultural Calendar Awareness

- Level of participation decreased during planting/harvest seasons.
- > • Real-time monitoring apps reduce burden of local participation.

Support & Coordination

- Exceptional technical and administrative support from Japan & ITTO.
- Long-term financial support from the government to mainstream the project approach to other community forests.

Key Lessons: Project Sustainability



> **Community-Led Learning Centers**

- Strengthened local capacity through continuous learning

> **Cross-Community Study Visits**

- Built networks for future knowledge exchange and collaboration.

Sustainability of Technology

- Communities willing to maintain system costs (batteries, servers).
- > • Long-term support and adoption by the Royal Forest Department.

Extended Learning Support

- Long-term training needs additional funding for continued impact
- Applicable for forest fire prevention.

THANK YOU For Generous Support from the **Government of Japan & ITTO**



ITTO Project :

“Strengthening Surveillance and Monitoring to Tackle the Surge in Forest Loss and Land Degradation, Induced by Intensifying Conflict in Thailand’s Border Areas (PP-A/60-369)”

FOREST LOSS MONITORING PROJECT

April 2025

