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Biodiversity & Conservation:

International Conservation & Biodiversity News

Coral Reef Conservation in Indonesia: A new report highlights both the commitment and the challenges of Indonesia's marine protected areas (MPAs). The country, which holds a sixth of the world's coral reefs, is actively expanding its network of MPAs. However, the report indicates that many management plans for these areas are generic and lack specific actions to address threats like overfishing, pollution, and climate change, which are impacting the reefs.

Global Biodiversity Funding: The second programming tranche of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF) is set to open on August 11, 2025. This will make an additional $161.8 million available to support the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, with the first selection round of this tranche focusing on projects from Small Island Developing States (SIDS), and Least Developed Countries (LDCs).

Mangrove Conservation: An opinion piece from an Indonesian newspaper calls for a shift from community-based to "community-owned" mangrove conservation. It argues that empowering local communities with legal rights and genuine control is the key to achieving Indonesia's ambitious goal of restoring over 600,000 hectares of these vital ecosystems.

National (India) Conservation News

Wildlife Trafficking Bust: Customs officials at Ahmedabad airport have successfully rescued and "deported" a number of exotic animals, including two Pallas's squirrels, six Coxen's fig parrots, and a red-billed leiothrix. The animals, which were smuggled in a passenger's luggage from Thailand, were sent back to their native country. The Coxen's fig parrot is listed as critically endangered.

High-Tech Conservation: A recent report on conservation innovations highlights the increasing use of technology, such as AI and drones, for real-time monitoring of deforestation, tracking wildlife, and assessing ecosystem health. This aligns with the broader trend of using technology for more efficient and effective conservation efforts.

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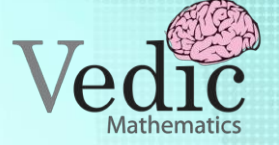
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MCQS

1. What is the primary criticism of Indonesia's marine protected area (MPA) management plans?
a) They are too expensive to implement.
b) They lack specific actions to address threats like pollution and overfishing.
c) They are not expanding fast enough.
d) They do not involve international partners.

Answer: b) They lack specific actions to address threats like pollution and overfishing.
The report on Indonesia's coral reefs highlights that while the country is expanding its MPAs, many of the management plans "are generic and lack specific actions to address threats like overfishing, pollution, and climate change."

2. What is the total amount of additional funding that will be made available with the second programming tranche of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF)?
a) $100 million
b) $161.8 million
c) $200 million
d) $1.618 billion

Answer: b) $161.8 million
The news states that the second programming tranche of the GBFF will make "an additional $161.8 million available" to support the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

3. What type of conservation is an opinion piece from an Indonesian newspaper advocating for to protect mangroves?
a) Government-led conservation
b) International-led conservation
c) Community-based conservation
d) Community-owned conservation

Answer: d) Community-owned conservation
The news summary mentions that the opinion piece is calling for a shift from "community-based" to "community-owned" mangrove conservation, arguing that it's more effective.

4. According to the news, which of the following animals, rescued at Ahmedabad airport, is listed as critically endangered?
a) Pallas's squirrel
b) Red-billed leiothrix
c) Coxen's fig parrot
d) All of the above

Answer: c) Coxen's fig parrot
The news report about the wildlife trafficking bust specifically mentions that the "Coxen's fig parrot is listed as critically endangered."

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5. What technologies are highlighted in a new report as increasingly being used for conservation efforts?
a) Satellite phones and weather balloons.
b) AI and drones.
c) Advanced scuba gear and submarines.
d) High-powered telescopes and cameras.

Answer: b) AI and drones.
The news section on High-Tech Conservation highlights the increasing use of "AI and drones" for tasks like real-time monitoring of deforestation and tracking wildlife.

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