

Teaching Material on Biodiversity Conservation (TMBC)

Teacher's material

Plan for the lesson about the Irrawaddy dolphin

Title: Appropriate steps to save endangered species using the example of the Irrawaddy dolphin

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Level: Secondary level I (Class 7-9)

Materials: Sheet with additional information, working instructions

Aims: The students develop a better understanding of endangered species. They should be motivated to work by themselves on nature protection. And they also have to learn what causes species to become endangered.

Progress of work: Two teaching units of 90 minutes.

1. Introduction: Before the worksheets are handed out to the class, the teacher has to talk generally about endangered species to find out what prior knowledge the students have. Also, important terms related to the topic have to be explained.

2. Questions about the Irrawaddy dolphin and the petition from worksheet 1 should be answered in groups.

- What are the characteristics of the Irrawaddy dolphin?
- What does its living environment look like?
- Are petitions useful to save endangered species?

3. Online search in groups about the questions on worksheet 2:

- What are the consequences of the construction of a reservoir dam on Lake Mekong?
- Is the Irrawaddy dolphin affected by the construction measures?
- Why is the government of Laos acting against all reason?

4. Role playing game:

In groups, the students take up different positions on the given topic. They try to convince the others of their opinion.

5. Creation of a poster showing the results of the online search, and subsequent discussion in the classroom.