

## WHV – Ha Long Bay, VIETNAM

### ● Ha Long Bay, Vietnam Natural site inscribed in 2000

7 – 17 August 2012

 Ha Long Bay, in the Gulf of Tonkin, includes some 1,600 islands and islets, forming a spectacular seascape of limestone pillars. Because of their precipitous nature, most of the islands are uninhabited and unaffected by a human presence. The site's outstanding scenic beauty is complemented by its great biological interest.



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Ha Long is a large bay with a multitude of limestone rocks and a limited number of earth islands formed from decayed lateritic mountains. Numerous caves and grottoes are found, with stalactites and stalagmites. There is a diverse flora throughout Ha Long, and primary tropical forest is found. The result from preliminary surveys indicates the presence of about 1,000 fish species. Mammals, reptiles and birds are also found on the islands, especially those derived from laterite.

**Project objectives:** The project aims at connecting people in social activities especially focusing on World Heritage and environmental issues. I will attract the concerns of people about the World Heritage and promote the precious roles of community in protecting and improving the site. Information about how other countries promote, protect and preserve their World Heritage and their best practices will be disseminated to local residents and youth.

**Project activities:** The international volunteers and national volunteers, who will be selected through national essay competition about World Heritage, will organise workshops in local high schools in Ha Long about world heritage and climate change and join with local youth for cleaning up activities at the beach and on the bay, and will also have the occasion to visit the bay.

**Partners:** Ho Chi Minh Youth Union and Language link Vietnam will support the project.