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ESABII Training of Trainers (ToT) on CITES POLICIES and IDENTIFICATION of Threatened Species, March 9 – 12, 2015

VISTANA Kuala Lumpur Titiwangsa, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

REPORT SUMMARY

The Training of Trainers (ToT) on CITES Policies and Identification of Threatened Species was held from 9 till 12 March 2015 at the Vistana Kuala Lumpur Titiwangsa, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The three and half-day workshop was conducted under the framework of the East and Southeast Asia Biodiversity Information Initiative (ESABII), and organized and generously funded by Ministry of the Environment, Japan. It was co-hosted by the ASEAN-WEN, Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI) and Traffic Southeast Asia.

Representatives from the Biodiversity center, Ministry of the Environment, Japan, lecturers from TRAFFIC Southeast Asia and Indonesian Institute of Sciences were present at the opening ceremony.

Present at this workshop were a total of 15 participants from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand, Vietnam, Mongol and Malaysia. The workshop's objectives were to build the capacity of participants from East and Southeast Asian countries to deliver training modules on CITES, the wildlife trade, relevant national laws and policies, and the identification of reptile species found in trade in this region (*Agenda and List of Attendees attached as Appendix A & B respectively*).

The first day of the workshop focused on the topics of preparation and organisation skills essential to conducting a successful training. There was also a session on presentation techniques, and another on the different ways in which people learn and how to ensure that training include aspects of each to help ensure that knowledge taught is retained. These topics were presented by Ms. Claire Beastall and Ms. Renee Yee from TRAFFIC Southeast Asia.

On the second day, morning session was held under the pertinent modules of the WTRC lectured by Ms. Beastall and Ms. Yee from Traffic and focused on the CITES permit exercise. In the afternoon session, three specialist invited from LIPI organized a session on the ferns and orchid listed in CITES. Dr. Bayu Adjie and Dr. Wita Wardani gave lectures on the ferns, and Dr. Irawati delivered a presentation on CITES listed orchid.

On the third day, participants were brought to Forest Research Institute of Malaysia (FRIM) for one-day field study on the identification of CITES listed plants especially ferns and orchids. The trainer for this topic was Dr. Irawati (Orchid specialist), Dr. Bayu Adjie and Dr. Wita Wardani (Ferns specialist). Under the guidance of FRIM staff, Dr. Lau Kau Hoo, participants were brought to botanic garden, herbarium and the nature trail.

For the last day of the training, participants learned the actual cases of smuggling techniques commonly used in the trade among Southeast Asian countries. One of the highlights of the last day was that one participant from Mongolia reported the current trend of trade related to CITES in Mongolia and updated the situation of the country since their first participation in last year.

DAY 1 SUMMARY

The workshop began with the opening ceremony, with Mr. Hidehisa Takahashi, deputy director and Dr. Hidetsugu Miwa, technical officer representing the Ministry of the Environment, Japan, Ms. Irawati, former director from LIPI, and Ms. Claire Beastall and Ms. Renee Yee from TRAFFIC in Southeast Asia. Mr. Takahashi officiated the ToT course with a brief speech, encouraging delegates to participate and share experiences with each other as the course provides a useful opportunity for networking amongst the Southeast Asian and other Asian nations.

The Training of Trainers (ToT) course then continued with Ms. Claire Beastall and Ms. Renee Yee providing key techniques and sharing experiences on how to organize a successful training programme. It began with a quick overview of the ToT, providing the objectives of the course, the agenda and expectations of both the organizers and the participants. The next session, 'How to Plan a Workshop', emphasized the importance of good organization and logistics, with the main message being that preparation is the key to success. These sessions were followed with 'Making a Presentation' and 'Training for Learning'. Key techniques include keeping the language simple, ensuring that key points are clearly defined, providing good visuals and encouraging participation from the audience. The presenters also frequently reminded participants that creativity and flexibility are also important to ensuring that any training programme runs smoothly. The morning session was concluded by 'Using the Training Management Package (TMPs)'.

The afternoon session was initiated with the WTRC (Wildlife Trade Regulations Course) module organized by Traffic on topics such as a general introduction to the international wildlife trade, the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) and the CITES Appendices. The 'Using the CITES Appendices' presentation included an exercise allowing participants to practice

what they had learnt, giving them an opportunity to look through the recently updated CITES appendices to look for the CITES listing for a variety of species selected by the trainer. This practical exercise was facilitated by Ms. Beastall and Ms. Yee from Traffic Southeast Asia.

DAY 2 SUMMARY

The first session on Day 2 was 'CITES Permits and Certificates' and 'Fraudulent Permits'. The presentation on fraudulent permits was followed by a practical exercise allowing participants to find errors on a 'fake' permit. Those interesting lectures for this morning session were also conducted by Ms. Renee Yee and Ms. Claire Beastall from TRAFFIC Southeast Asia. According to those lectures, the main objective of this session was to lead the participants through the presentations that they may deliver when conducting training back in their home countries. There was also focus on both the presentation materials and the important facts and figures which can be included as background material when teaching these presentations, with the presenters frequently reminding participants to revise and update materials whenever necessary. Participants were also introduced to both the learning activities for the CITES Appendices and Fraudulent CITES permits. Those who provided correct answers were given small rewards.

As a new challenge of the CITES ToT training this year, the afternoon session focused on the plants especially ferns and orchids related to CITES. The first presentation was given by Dr. Bayu Adjie from Bali Botanic garden on 'Identification of CITES-listed Plants. Identification of Tree ferns'. As a fern specialist who had deeply engaged in ESABII training, Dr. Bayu introduced the general information of tree ferns, and its economic importance which caused the regulation of international trade. Dr. Wita Wardani from Bogor Botanic Garden presented on 'The Scaly Tree Ferns (Cyathaceae) and its management under CITES regulation: Case Study in Indonesia.' Dr. Wita briefly introduced the history of Indonesia's commitment on CITES and focused on the management of scaly tree ferns based on the NDF assessment and its working program. Dr. Irawati from Bogor Botanic Garden presented 'Orchid and CITES' with visualized presentation files. Since orchid is the largest family of the flowering plants and it much attracted people's concern with its beautiful appearance, all orchids are listed in Appendix I and II (Annotation no. 10 and footnote #4). Lecturers invited from Indonesia are generously introduced the situation of the plant trade related to the current CITES situation.

DAY 3 SUMMARY

On the third day of the workshop, participants went to the Forest Research Institute of Malaysia (FRIM) for one day session on CITES listed plant species. After the brief

introduction of FRIM by Dr. Sam Yen Yen (Senior Research Officer: FRIM), all participants were brought to Kepong Botanic Garden (inside FRIM) attended by Dr. Lau Kah Hoo (Research Officer: FRIM) and Ms. Syahida Emiza Suhaimi (Research Officer: FRIM). In Kepong botanic garden, three specialist of ferns and orchids from LIPI actively assisted the tour, which offered a good on-site training in order to identify the species listed in CITES regulation.

The afternoon session began after moving to the Herbarium. In this session, Dr. Wardani and Dr. Irawati took the lead of herbarium tour, there the participants much learned how to identify the listed species and the management of specimens. The last session in FRIM was the nature trail, which guided by Mr. Wan (nature guide: FRIM). In nature trail, Ms. Beastall and Ms. Yee from Traffic also supported the observation of insects and animals in the nature.

DAY 4 SUMMARY

The final day of the workshop included 'Commonly Traded Species in Southeast Asia' which showed the details of wildlife trade case-studies found in each ASEAN countries and the techniques commonly used by wildlife smugglers presented by Ms. Beastall and Ms Yee. For the 'Smuggling Technique' presentation, the presenter gave examples of a variety of smuggling styles and techniques commonly used to smuggle wildlife; with a selection of props passed around to give the participants an idea of these techniques. The presenter recommended that those organizing their own course should obtain wildlife products that have been seized and make these available at their own trainings.

The custom bureau of Mongolia firstly participated ToT training in the last year and dispatched five delegates to the training this year. One of the Mongolian delegates was given an opportunity to share the experiences of smuggling case in Mongolia. Ms. Munkhzul Orolmaa from Mongolian custom delivered a presentation about the smuggling case found in Mongol custom.

Throughout the 3 and half day training workshop, participants were guided through relevant modules of the WTRC. Training materials given included the speakers' notes, providing participants with some background knowledge and further examples relevant to the slides.

In the closing ceremony, Dr. Hidetsugu Miwa from Ministry of the Environment, Japan concluded the 3 and half day workshop with his appreciation for the participation of each delegates and contribution of lecturers from LIPI and Traffic Southeast Asia. The delegates from Mongolia presented Ministry of the Environment, Japan with a commemorative gift (gold plaque engraved with an eagle: symbol of Mongolian customs) as an expression of gratitude.

As announced in the last year, the Identification Sheets for Wildlife Species Traded in Southeast Asia was already translated in each local language of ASEAN and Mongolia. It was provided for each participant with USB device containing all presentation materials. The leaflet of ESABII, AP-BON and the biodiversity center, Ministry of the Environment, Japan were also distributed to each participants and those who contributed to the field study in FRIM.

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- Ministry of the Environment-Japan
- ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network
- Traffic Southeast Asia
- Indonesian Institute of Science (LIPI)

ANNEXES

- Appendix A Agenda
- Appendix B List of Attendees
- Appendix C Photos
- Appendix D Presentation Materials