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SCESAP held its first international colloquium in Bogor with over 60 participants. There was a variety of studies presented. All participants enjoyed presentations and there was an animated discussion. It was also good opportunities to make scientific network with each other. On behalf of all participants, we are grateful for the valuable support from local hosts, supporters, organizers, staff and the students of Bogor Agricultural University (IPB). We look forward to seeing you at the next society meeting in Cebu!

Brief report on 1st SCESAP International Colloquium Bogor July 2016

Handoko Adi Susanto
RARE Indonesia

Seas of the Southeast Asia are known as the centre of marine biodiversity, and the diversity of marine biota is a potential source for commercial/industrial development, including materials for food, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, chemicals and bioenergy. However, this region is under high stresses, not only man-induced ones such as over-exploitation of marine resources for fisheries and ornamental trade, pollution and coastal degradation but natural threats such as global warming. By assessing various aspects of biodiversity (ecosystem, community structure, species, and genes) and the connectivity among marine organisms, we may have a better understanding of their current state e.g. probabilities of resilience/resistance to disturbances and changing conditions.

Diverse fields of marine sciences including molecular taxonomy/biodiversity, marine biotechnology and bioremediation, oceanography and related topics provide vital knowledge and tools for the exploration and utilization...
of marine resources. We believe that collaboration among scientists is a key for success in our endeavour. In particular, inter-regional and inter-disciplinary collaboration in marine science is crucial, especially in tropical regions.

This SCESAP international colloquium is expected to be a bridge among Asia Pacific scientists, students and managers involved in marine sciences and related disciplines. The colloquium, as part of annual scientific meeting of The Society for Coastal Ecosystem Studies–Asia Pacific (SCESAP), is designed to catalyse research and information exchange among scientists/students/managers in Asia Pacific and Southeast Asia in particular. It will provide opportunities for sharing experiences and information concerning research and development in diverse areas of coastal/marine science and technology.

The colloquium is hosted by Faculty of Fisheries and Marine Sciences, Bogor Agricultural University (known as IPB), and by The Centre for Coastal and Marine Resources Studies (CCMRS IPB). The main theme of the colloquium is “Connecting Marine Biodiversity to People”, covering 4 sub-themes namely (1)Marine biodiversity, policy and management, (2)Fisheries and marine biotechnology (3) Degradation of coastal ecosystems and habitat loss, and (4) Coastal ecosystems in social & cultural contexts.

There were 55 presenters involved in this colloquium, including 27 oral presentations and 24 poster presentations in this two-days event. The participants came from Japan (AMBL-Kyushu University, Univ of the Ryukyus), China (Xiamen University), and various universities and NGO’s in Indonesia, including Mulawarman University, Riau University, Halu Oleo University, Hang Tuah University, Syarif Hidayatullah University, Makassar University, Univeritas Pendidikan Indonesia, STIPER Kutai Timur, Brawijaya University, Reef Check Indonesia, Wildlife Conservation Society Indonesia, RARE Indonesia, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries Indonesia, and Faculty of Fisheries and Marine Sciences IPB.

Seven keynote and special presentations also delivered. The keynote presentations were presented by the (1)Dr Alan White, chief of party SEA USAID-Project; (2)Dr Luky Adrianto, dean of faculty of fisheries and marine sciences IPB, (3)Dr Sri Fatmawati, from ITS Surabaya who just finished her post-doctorate from LEMAR, France; and by (4)Dr Ario Damar, the head of CCMRS IPB. Three special presentations delivered by Mr Tauifq Alimi, vice president of RARE Indonesia, Ms Cassandra Tania, from WWF Indonesia, and Prof Tokeshi as the president of SCESAP.

This event was also financially supported by RARE Indonesia, WWF Indonesia, and Center for Environment Studies IPB.

**Voice of participants (unedited testimonies)**

“It was an excellent forum. The great representative speakers from many experts (governments, international and national organizations, also academics) gave us important speech and helps us better understand about marine biodiversity, policy and management, the challenges, the opportunities and giving a positive endeavour to seek new models of international cooperation, and its can inject new positive energy into next strategies on biodiversity management.” (L Meilana, Xiamen University, China)

“I met and broaden my network with new and especially young scientists working in and around coastal habitats. I got new membership now, and will continue to contribute in the next SCESAP meeting.” (DGR Wiadnya, Brawijaya University, Indonesia)

“Although the colloquium was design in a simple way, a lot of information and new innovations in the coastal ecosystem studies be presented and discussed. Though limited time many exciting news and strategic discussions, especially studies from around Asia region. Also very glad to meet with friends SCESAP members and new network around Asia Pacific.” (Y Afianto, Rare Indonesia)

“I feel grateful of such event that could strengthen the bonding of coastal ecosystem researchers, practitioners and enthusiasts alike. Asia-Pacific with SCESAP is surely ready to lead unprecedented era of coastal management in the future.” (I Pradana, Xiamen University, China)

“Better to have more frequently such SCESAP Colloquium, as it is important to share among scientists in Asia Pacific about research on marine biodiversity around Indonesia and Asia.” (D Prabuning, Reef Check Indonesia)

“First, I would like to express my gratitude to everyone who has contributed to the SCESAP International Colloquium in Bogor in 2016. This was my first visit to Indonesia, and I had a fruitful time while staying there during and after the meeting. As the organizers said that there was not enough time to prepare for the colloquium (so this was why most participants were from Indonesia), the conference progressed without serious problems. Above all, this was a good opportunity for...” (Y Afianto, Rare Indonesia)
me to understand the present situation in Indonesia more deeply. Topics of oral and poster presentations were mainly concerned with 'conservation' matters, and there were diverse topics from micro to macro scales including, for example, reports of MPAs covering several regions. These gave me an impression that Indonesian people are interested in and focused on the creation of sustainable society. Presenters included not only those who were successful at the forefront of research but also students who attended an international meeting for the first time. There are not enough chances to present in English in the case of domestic meetings, so I think this kind of colloquium offers a good opportunity for training young international researchers. Finally, I am looking forward to seeing you in Bogor in 2019!” (F Kato, Kyushu University, Japan)

“I presented my undergraduate study in the poster session. I took part in this international colloquium with a little bit of nervousness because this was my first presentation abroad. Some people looked at my poster and gave me comments on my study. Some presentations in oral and poster sessions were partially related to my research in terms of research purpose or method. These were good lessons for me and pointed out problems of my own study to me. Further, the colloquium itself was a good lesson for me in order to improve my study and presentation. Some posters were very easy to understand in comparison to mine. Some presenters gave attractive talks and showed slides which were clear about what the person would like to tell the audience. This colloquium was a good experience for me. I hope to participate in academic conferences if given chances in the future.” (T Hamasaki, Kyushu University, Japan)

“This summer I participated in the first SCESAP international colloquium in Bogor. The second time of SCESAP meetings for me, but this was the first time in Indonesia so I was excited. While conference participants were mainly from Indonesia, they included not only research ecologists but also practitioners/administrators and more. So I could learn many different views concerning the natural environments in Indonesia and how they are affected by human activities. I was not familiar with the Indonesian natural environments, so this time I learned many things. Indonesia is one of the most important diversity hot spots in the world, so this conference was timely and very fruitful for me. Moreover, I had an oral session slot, in which I talked about the relationship between an alga and its associated organisms. After my talk, the audience asked me many questions and I also had discussions during the break time. Overall, I have had a great time throughout the conference. So this was my first experience to join such a meeting in Indonesia, and I had a wonderful time. I am thankful to SCESAP for giving me such a great opportunity.” (T Hotta, Kyushu University, Japan)
Day 1

Trial of an early warning system for marine pests at Banda Islands, Indonesia
Hawis Madduppa*, Joana Dias, Mareike Huhn, Justin McDonald

Management effectiveness of buleleng marine protected areas: Lesson on how to initiate marine manage area (MMA) with local resources
Dewa Rahjana, Suraji, Veronica Niken, Ayub, Derta Prabuning*

Landing of scalloped hammerhead shark (Sphyrna lewini) in Tanjung Luar following inclusion in Appendix II CITES
Prayekti Ningtias*, Irfan Yulianto, Siska Agustina

Marine tourism impact on coral reefs in Seribu Islands national park, Indonesia
Ika Yusnita, Fredinani Yuliandia, Handoko Adi Susanto*

Trophic model for Tangerang coastal waters using mass balance Ecopath model
Nina Nurmalia Dewi*, Mohammad Mukhils Kamal, Yusli Wardiatno

Ecological relationship in Sargassum-associated community
Taku Hotta*, Mutsunori Tokeshi

The differences of cryptic organism biodiversity in dead coral head with and without overgrown Terpios in Seribu Islands, Indonesia
Fajar Nugroho*, Luthfi Anzani, Burhanis, Gesten Hazeri, M Ismatullah Jay, M Andre Nugraha, Beginer Subhan, Hawis Madduppa

Seagrass community at Pidakan coast pacitan in rainy and dry season
Nurul Kusuma dewi*, Joko Widiyanto

Urbanization and its impact on social ecological sustainability of coastal urban Jakarta, Indonesia
Imanda Hikmat Pradana*, Xiongzhhi Xue

Contamination of Pb, Cu and Zn in coastal fish as a bioindicator of pollution in Selat Air Hitam, Riau Indonesia
Yusni Ikhwon Siregar*

Day 2

Marine habitat conservation through social marketing campaign in Indonesia, Malaysia and Timor Leste
Yayat Alianto*

The importance of mesophotic coral biodiversity: Okinawan explorations and perspectives
Frederic Sinniger*, Rian Prasetsia, Saki Harii

Examining seafloor complexity in the coral reef ecosystem of Harapan-Kelapa Island, Jakarta using benthic terrain modeler and in situ rugosity
Alexandra Maheswari Waskita*, Syamsul Bahri Agus, Adriani Sunuddin

How the coral bleaching network enable comprehensive tracking of bleaching across Indonesia
Firdaus Agung, Permata Yudiarso, Hadi Dewanto, Derta Prabuning*, Herwata Putra, Angel Slagian

Relationship of phytoplankton succession and water quality in Ebony Lake, Pantai Indah Kapuk, North Jakarta
Niken TM Pratiwi*, Sigid Hariyadi, Inna Puspa Ayu, Desy Mulyawati

Density and distribution of toxic benthic-dinoflagellate Prorocentrum and Ostreopsis in Trikora Beach, Bintan Island, Riau Archipelago
Thamrin, Bintal Amin*

The economic loss of seagrass habitat for local fisheries in the eastern coast of Bintan Island
Yudi Wahyudin*, Luky Adrianto, Tridoyo Kusumastanto, Yusli Wardiatno

Status of shark fisheries in Nusa Tenggara Barat and adjacent waters, Indonesia, and its management option
Irfan Yulianto*, Prayekti Ningtias, Stuart J Campbell, Made Dharma, Tasrif Kartawijaya, Juan Santos, Sarmento, Harry W Palm, Cornelius Hammer

Behavior and distribution of dolphins at Kiluan Bay, Lampung
Tri Nur Sujatmiko*, Aulia Rahmania Putri

Environmental threats to irrawady dolphin (Orcaella brevirostris) habitat in Banten Bay
Muta Ali Khalifis, Mohammad Mukhils Kamal, Enan Mulyana Adivilaga, Adriani Sunuddin*

Molecular identification and genetic diversity of microalgae Chlorella from coastal waters in Indonesia
Kaisar Akhir*, Dietriech G Bengen, Hawis H Madduppa, Sutomo

Incorporate low emission development strategy (LEDS) into local economics improvement: a case study in coastal communities of Sumba Island, Indonesia
Zulhamshay Imran*, Prianto Wibowo, Benny Osta Nababan, M Arsyad Al Amin, Yus Rustandi, Fery Kurniawan, M Qustam Sahibuddin

Severity of coral reef mass-bleaching events in southeastern Jave Sea
DGR Wiadnya*, PD Samuel, DK Saputra, A Darmawan

Distribution and protected area opportunity for horseshoe crabs in Indonesia
Lusita Meilana*, Qinhua Fang

Assessing genetic diversity of rabbitfish (Siganus canaliculatus) across environmental gradient from Jakarta Bay to Kepulauan Seribu
Mutliara Kristina Margarethah Hutabarat*, Tri Prartono, Beginer Subhan, Hawis Madduppa
Does habitat structure affect coexistence in a sessile organisms community?
Fumihiro Kato, Mutsunori Tokeshi

Biodiversity of marine micro-plankton arround Manokwari, west Papua province, Indonesia
Inna Puspa Ayu*, Niken TM Pratiwi, Aliati Iswantari, Desy Mulyawati, Goran SA Sulaiman, Sigid Haryadi, Beginer Subhan, Hawis Madduppa, Dondy Arafat

Role of government and private sector in marine ecotourism related biodiversity conservation in Pramuka and Air Islands, Seribu Islands
Lily Surayya Eka Putri*

Spatial distribution and biophysical chemistry characterization of pearl oyster farming environment condition in Smau Strait - East Nusa Tenggara
Enggar Yulia Wardani*, Yusli Wardiatno, Syamsul Bahri Agus

Potential of fishing port development in the east Java
Nurul Rosana*, IV Djamat Prasita

Population of giant clam (family Tridacnidae) in intertidal zone of Cibunar and Cidaon coast, Ujung Kulon national park
Rikho Jerikho*, Khuswatun Chasanah, Sari Ramadhan, Anastasia Kenes

Evaluation of zonation of the mangrove conservation area (MCA) in Pamurbaya
Viv Djamat Prasita*, Agus Subianto, Asbar

Assessing decapod diversity between two dead coral heads Acropora sp. with and without overgrowing by black invasive sponge Terpios hoshinota
Ahmad Taufiq Ghozali*, Samsul Bahri, Muhammad Faizan, Rika Anggraini, Mutia Ramadhan, Khajar Imaniar, Beginer Subhan, Hawis Madduppa

Characteristics of cytochrome oxidase subunit I gene (COI) bamboo lobster (Panulirus versicolor Latreille, 1804) from Pelabuhan Ratu Bay
Diah Syamsul*, Yusli Wardiatno, Nurlisa Alias Butet

Identify the conservation opportunity through genetic side and distribution for horseshoe crabs in Indonesia
Lusita Meliana*, Qinhua Fang, Yusli Wardiatno, Nurlisa Alias Butet, Majariana Krisanti

Addressing some concerns on the use of fish aggregating devices
M Fedi A Sondita*, M Riyanto, R Yusliandayani, S Martasuganda, Budy Wirawan, MS Baskoro

Resilience assessment after coral bleaching event in Amed Bali
Omega Raya Simarangkir*, Fredinan Yulianda, Mennofatria Boer, Derta Prabuning

Distribution of host sea anemones in waters surrounding Sangalaki Island, Berau Regency, east Kalimantan province
Omega Raya Simarangkir*

A comparative analysis of water quality of Palabuhanratu Bay and Tangerang coastal zone using pollution index
Yusli Wardiatno, Hefni Elfendi, Majariana Krisanti, Sigid Haryadi, Ali Mashar*, Yuyun Qonita

Development of a real-time PCR assay for the quantification and identification of a diatom genus Skeletonema
Tomomi Hamasaki*, M Yamada, M Otsubo, N Enjoji, T Katano

Plankton community structure of ornamental lake Bukit golf mediterania, Pantai Indah Kapuk, north Jakarta
Niken TM Pratiwi*, Zulhamsyah Imran, Sigid Haryadi, Gigih Adi Mandere

Commercial feed applications that substituted Noni leaf silage flour with marine yeast inoculant as feed of Anguilla bicolor
Nuhman*

Cryptic diversity on two dead coral head overgrown and not overgrown by invasive sponge Terpios sp. in Kepulauan Seribu, Jakarta
Ahyar*, La Ode Abdul Fajar Hasidu, Eka Nurrahema Ning Asih, Yusarwan Yamadipo, Toufan Phardana, I Gede Wahyu Dhani Darmawan, Khajar Imaniar, Beginer Subhan, Hawis Madduppa

Marine gastropods identifications along Pelabuhan Ratu beach, west Jave to Sawarna beach, Barten, Indonesia
Wahyu Setia Widodo*, Nabila Putri Utami, Dhiyassalam Imam

Diversity of fishes in Segara Menyan, coastal area of Mayangan, Subang, west Java
Gusti Abi Zar Al Ghiffary*, Meilisa Ruspayeni, Suci Istiqomah, Qurrata Ainin, Neri S Sihombing, Novia Indah Kintani, Wyatt Rımadıyanı

Macrobenthos as pollution indicator on coral reef ecosystem in Pramuka Island, Seribu Islands, Jakarta
Regitri Darmawan*, Geza Saputra

The condition and distribution of stony corals (Sclerectinian) in Spermonde Archipelago: a preliminary study
Nurhikmah Tenripada*, AN Virinda Yusuf, Andi Andriana

Molecular validation of sperm whale (Physeter macrocephalus Linnaeus, 1758) based on COI and 16S rRNA genetic markers
Endah Sri Rahayu*, Mohammad Mukhils Kamal, Nurlisa Alias Butet, Diah Syamsul, Widy Triapriyanti, Sohibul Taufik, Muhammad Wahyudi

Percentage cover and distribution of benthic invertebrates invasion on coral reef ecosystem
Mustami Yuda Sastria*
BOOK Reviews

The Biology of Mangroves and Seagrasses

PJ Hogarth (2015)
Oxford University Press, Oxford
x + 289 pages

Shallow-water coastal communities like mangroves and seagrass beds have grown in appreciation over the last several years as their various ecological roles in the marine and estuarine environments are elucidated. One of the most significant and astonishing highlights was the claim that mangrove patches have saved some coastal human communities when the deadly Indian Ocean tsunami struck on December 26, 2004. Conceivably some mangrove stands have served to dissipate the physical impacts of the rushing waters where they stood strong against the forces of the advancing waters, effectively serving as “bioshields,” borrowing from the terminology used by some optimists.

Until about a quarter century ago, one can only read piecemeal information about mangroves mentioned in passing in many general ecology textbooks. Research on mangroves especially those involving hours of wading in murky waters or fetid swampy conditions under the merciless tropical humidity and heat can certainly turn away the weak hearted. But thanks to those pioneer mangrove researchers who endured mud, methane and mosquitoes like Peter Hogarth who labored long hours in Malaysian mangrove forests, our level of understanding of these fabulous estuarine ecosystems has been enriched considerably. The book under review does not only showcase the many facets of mangrove biology but also the multiple aspects of the biology of seagrasses or marine angiosperms of which little is known until about a decade ago. The author has painstakingly put together scattered information from the seagrass literature into this volume. Without doubt, the intimate ecological relationship and connectivity between mangroves and seagrasses is one of the enduring themes throughout this book and rightly so. They share many ecological niches, sometimes overlapping in their physical spaces on the fringes of the tropical oceans, and are important components of the nutrient cycles of shallower waters. In this book, both entities are treated in parallel and at great lengths with a decidedly heavier emphasis on the mangroves more than the seagrasses, a reflection of the past research experiences of the writer although not his fault altogether.

This work starts with a general treatment of mangroves and their environment specifically their special adaptations to the saline environment and the swampy waterlogged soil. Special mention is made about their need for inorganic nutrients as well as their reproductive adaptations as a response to the special nature of their habitat. The same discussions are given for the mostly submerged seagrasses. Despite their distinction, however, it was shown that they are nevertheless very intimately linked through material and energy exchanges, and even more tightly linked to fishery activities by humans.

A helpful chapter outlines some basic concepts and methods of ecological measurements and modelling useful in mangrove and seagrass communities useful for students and beginners. The concepts are made easier to understand by using simple language and illustrative examples. Another chapter deals with how distinct are mangroves and seagrasses. Despite their distinction, however, it was shown that they are nevertheless very intimately linked through material and energy exchanges, and even more tightly linked to fishery activities by humans.

Three chapters of practical importance capped this book. The first of these deals with questions about biogeography and diversity within and among mangroves and seagrasses. In this era of rapid environmental change, human activities have put added pressures on these fragile communities arising from unregulated, irresponsible resource use of mangrove species throughout the tropics. Examples of mangrove reforestation are highlighted as a way to reverse forest decline. The final chapter, a fitting and timely addition to the third edition of this book, talks about the potential effects of global warming and sea level rise on mangroves and seagrasses and effectively connects this book to the vigorous discussions of the day.

The list of references found at the end of the book represents a major and newest compilation of works on mangroves and seagrasses with almost 500 titles to which the readers must refer should there be any need for further information. The extensive index (topic and taxonomic) makes this book easier to use for everyone. This volume under review is one of the many titles under The Biology of Habitats Series of the publisher, and hence it is not surprising that the writing is textbook style and does not assume prior knowledge of the topic. This book is recommended as supplemental reading in coastal ecology courses as well as primary textbook for specialized courses in aquatic botany. Without doubt, the presentation, scope and overall writing style will appeal to a wide audience and will provide a balanced perspective of mangrove and seagrass communities even without getting one’s feet wet or stuck in swampy gridlock. But believe me, being among the physical, visual, aural and olfactory spectacle in the confines of the mangrove forest is part of the experiential package of a biological foray, notwithstanding mud, methane and mosquitoes!

Lawrence M. Liao
Snorkeler’s guide to marine life of the Philippines

L. Goldman (2012)

Privately published by the author

ISBN 978-971-0321-34-6
Paperbound, 283 pages
For inquiries, please refer to https://coraltriangleadventures.com/snorkelers-guide-to-marine-life-of-the-philippines/

For many years, the rich marine biodiversity of Philippine waters have been celebrated by the world’s top image makers through many coffee table books, colorful posters, calendars, videos and other media showcasing its astounding kaleidoscope of colors, shapes and biodiversity. In fact, the spectacular variety of Philippine marine life has recently been made the topic of major exhibitions in such museums as the California Academy of Sciences and the Shedd Aquarium in Chicago, to name a few. The book under review could easily be counted as one of the latest contributions to this growing number of works that serves to document the bewildering number and diversity of marine organisms from this tropical archipelago of 7,107 islands sitting on the apex of the Coral Triangle.

This compact work under review is designed as a field guide that is splattered with colorful, in-situ photos of over 850 species of marine organisms from the shallower waters of Philippine coral reefs. Author Lee Goldman surely had a difficult task selecting species to be included in this book from among the more than 2,700 species of marine animals known to occur in the Philippines. However, he made this task a bit simpler by deciding to focus on organisms found from zero down to about five meters deep and by excluding animals that are “not directly accessible to snorkelers.” Thus was born the first Philippine marine life field guide for the use of bathophobics among us, for those of us who are simply happy and contented beachcombing or snorkeling among the intertidal seagrass beds and shallow coral reefs.

The diversity of marine animals included in this book starts with the sponges, sea anemones, corals, hydrozoans and jellyfishes. A separate section contains the flatworms and segmented worms, followed by crustaceans (crabs, shrimps and lobsters). The mollusks (chitons, snails, clams, squids and octopi) are well represented and so are the echinoderms (sea stars, sea urchins and sea cucumbers). A short section on local tunicate species precedes the treatment of bony fishes and sharks and rays which constitutes the bulk of this book. A short section on marine reptiles, mammals and plants wrap up the descriptive part of this book.

The species description and list are grouped into a simple classification system that is user friendly not requiring any scientific background. Each species is supplied with the current scientific name (minus the taxonomic authority), common English name and Latin family name. Information on approximate sizes of some species are also included. The descriptions are written in non-technical language, limited to easily discernable characteristics and accompanied by useful ecological notes to aid in identification. The underwater photography shows the most distinguishing characteristics in crisp and sharp photographic close-ups and habit shots, and is easily the crowning glory of this book. A remarkable feature of the underwater photos taken by the author is the fact that all of them “were taken with a Canon D10 point-and-shoot camera, while snorkeling, using only natural light” and in shallow depths. The author apparently had the novice snorkeler in mind when setting these photographic parameters.

The book is without doubt a visual feast. But the author, who holds bachelor and master degrees in marine biology, also strives to educate the readers. Each covered phylum is provided with an introductory section on the general biology of the each group, with technical terms highlighted and defined, accompanied by colorful diagrams of anatomical features. Inserted into specific sections of the book are special topics of general interest such as coral reef conservation, outbreaks of crown of thorns sea stars and schooling behavior of fish, among other topics. Interested readers who wish to learn more are directed by the author to the many references listed at the end of the book.

As the book subtitle indicates, this field guide also lists the best snorkeling sites in the Philippines. This snorkeling site honor roll expectedly lists localities almost exclusively within the Visayan Islands and Palawan, which this reviewer believes to be non-exhaustive as the Philippine archipelago undoubtedly harbors many more snorkeling sites than what have been listed. The book author has been categorical at the outset that his list is far from exhaustive. That no sites from the entire island of Mindanao and the northern section of Luzon Island were included can be best regarded as a result of time and logistical constraints on the part of the author.

This book is another celebratory toast to the beauty and richness that is the Philippine marine biodiversity. This is a book for all marine life enthusiasts to have, for every Filipino to take pride in. It is useful in supplementing any marine biology class in the Philippines or anywhere in Southeast Asia and the western Pacific. Snorkelers, novice and the more experienced alike, will find this book as an added bonus to their marine experiences. The imagery and the bits of practical science that go into the book are inspiring. One can become an educated snorkeler from now on, or simply relish the beauty of marine biodiversity from the dry confines of one’s living room as an armchair snorkeler. The current edition is reportedly out of print already and that a new one is in the works. The author certainly deserves our thanks and support for this and other future wonderful volumes.

Lawrence M. Liao
3rd SCESAP Symposium 2017 in Cebu

4-9 December, 2017

Venue: University of the Philippines Cebu, Auditorium, Gorordo Avenue, Lahug, Cebu City, Philippines

Cebu, the host city of the 3rd SCESAP International Symposium, is a melting pot of bountiful nature and diverse culture. Situated in the central part of the Philippines that sits at the apex of the Coral Triangle, it showcases a vibrant cultural mix of the East and the West, the historical and the modern eras, and a marine biodiversity unsurpassed in many ways. The international symposium will highlight the latest research in all aspects of coastal marine science, offering an opportunity for a productive exchange among scientists working around the Western Pacific. The symposium will include a number of special sessions, including the one on the marine biodiversity in the South China Sea. Invited plenary speakers, paper and poster presentations as well as relevant workshops will be featured.

The city is an international travel hub with excellent domestic and international direct flight connections from most major Asian cities as well as Australia, the US West Coast and the Middle East. Coastal ecosystems of interest are easily accessible and promise to offer outstanding opportunities for symposium-related trips.

Further detailed information will be made available in the next issue of the SCESAP Bulletin as well as in the SCESAP official homepage: www.scesap.org

It’s going to be a wonderful 3rd SCESAP International Symposium in Cebu, so book those dates now!

Coastal Ecosystems: international journal of the SCESAP

Current contents: 2016 (Vol 3)

Mating system and group spawning in the wrasse Pteragogus aurigarius in Tateyama, central Japan
S. Shimizu, S. Endo, M. Sasaki, A. Murase, M. Masuko, M. Miyazawa, T. Sunobe

Decadal changes in the algal assemblages of tropical-subtropical Yonaguni Island in the western Pacific
E.A. Titlyanov, T.V. Titlyanova, T.L. Kalita and M. Tokeshi

Seasonal dynamics of the larval distribution and settlement of the clam Ruditapes philippinarum in the Suo-Nada Sea, Japan
AMBL-SCESAP Field Courses 2016

International Spring Field Course (6 - 13 March 2016)
International Summer Field Course (16-27 August 2016)
at the Amakusa Marine Biological Laboratory, Kyushu University, Reihoku-Amakusa, Japan

The Society, in collaboration with the AMBL, held both spring and summer field courses 2016 in Amakusa, Japan. The spring and summer courses had 26 (20 from Kyushu University and 6 from other universities) and 20 (12 from Kyushu University and 8 from other universities) participants, respectively.

Summer course report

Michael Jacob C DY

Amakusa, Japan is one of the best places to conduct a summer course because of its natural beauty and elegance. It is located in the southwestern part of Japan, where there are a lot of marine species and diversity occurring around the island.

The summer course lasted for 2 weeks. It was held at the Amakusa Marine Biological Laboratory of Kyushu University. This summer course is open to everyone from anywhere in the world. Students from different universities around Japan also came to attend the summer course.

I’m from Philippines who came and attended the said course. The summer course consisted of short and long courses. We were divided into 5 groups.

The groups will work together in the field, record data, making observations, measuring body sizes, identifying each species, comparing abundance and diversity between high and low tide species and performing data analysis. For the first day of the course, we collected organisms around the tidepool area at Akaia, measured the depth of the tidepool, and graphed the data. On the second day, at the Magarizaki site, we collected all mobile animals from 5 quadrats, measured and then released the marked snails. The released snails were observed if some snail went near the shore or just stayed around the releasing point on the third day of the course. On the fourth day, at the Tomioka port, we prepared bait traps for Vargula sp. (sea-firefly). On the last remaining days of the course, we headed to Ushibuka to snorkel, observe and draw organisms that we see and had a chance to observe dolphins at Tsuji-shima island.

On the last day, we had an individual reporting to show all our data and analysis from all field work and had a party together, celebrating the end of our summer field course.

On the last week of the summer course, the long course began. We spent most of the time in field works, gathering data, and presenting our research works and the data that we had collected during the long course. I had a truly amazing experience during this course. I am very thankful that I was part of the SCESAP and attended the summer course as it was also my first time to visit Japan.

It was a pleasure and honor to meet, talk and laugh with the most wonderful professors and students at the AMBL. I will never forget these experiences and learnings throughout the course. I hope many more students can have the same experience that not only teaches science but also international fellowship and cooperation.

Invitation to the Marine Ecology Field courses at AMBL, Japan 2017-2018

Spring Course 8-15 March 2017
(mainly undergraduates, Registration until 31 Jan 2017)

Summer Course 20-31 August 2017
(Registration until 30 June 2017)

Spring Course 14-21 March 2018
(mainly undergraduates, Registration until 31 Jan 2018)

Course Fees (including all meals & accommodation)
Summer: 20,000 JPY
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Educational & research cooperation

24 October, 2016
Manado State Polytecnic
Manado, North Sulawesi, Indonesia

The Society witnessed the exchange of MoU between the Manado State Polytechnic, Indonesia, and Kyushu University, Japan. The MoU ceremony was reported in the (internet) local newspaper: TRIBUNMANADO.CO.ID, Manado. Here, we introduce the article translated into English. The original article is available at the following.


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Students of the Manado State Polytechnic will have an opportunity to participate in the training course and go on to study at Kyushu University, Japan.

This was a follow-up cooperation involving the Polytechnic, Kyushu University, and the Society for Coastal Ecosystems Studies – Asia Pacific or SCESAP.

In a release received by Tribune Manado, on Monday the 24th of October 2016, it stated that the SCESAP has chosen, as its representatives in Indonesia, Manado State Polytechnic and the Institute of Agriculture (IPB), the educational and research institutions that have long monitored developments in marine coastal ecosystems in North Sulawesi.

Director of the AMBL - Kyushu University, Professor M Tokeshi (who is also President of SCESAP) said that collaborative research between the two institutions has been going on since 2003. Now, the new initiative opens the opportunity for Manado State Polytechnic students to improve their ability to study marine biology and ecology there.

Deputy Director of Academic Affairs, Manado State Polytechnic, Mareyke Alelo welcomed the cooperation. He called it a step towards further research in the field of environmental sciences with a focus on tourism, balancing utilization and maintenance of natural resources, which is a major concern.

Chairman of Marine Ecotourism Program Pahlano Daud who has been instrumental in facilitating cooperation hoped that research results and publications from collaborative educational institutions can be utilized by the public and applied to benchmark government policy.

(translator, JRP Daud)

The Editors of the SCESAP Bulletin welcome contributions in the form of news reports, photos, profiles of researchers and institutions, announcements, research capsules as well as book reviews for publication that are of interest to SCESAP members and Bulletin readers. Editorial contributions will be edited accordingly for brevity and format. Book reviews may be submitted in publishable form subject to final checking, or relevant books for review may be sent directly to the editors who will facilitate the reviews.

Published at SCESAP HQ in Reiho-Amakusa, Kumamoto, Japan

Publishing in the SCESAP Bulletin

The SCESAP Bulletin is published at an interval of 3-4 months. Contributions of all types are welcome, including opinions, regional news and announcements, short introductions of Society members and their research, and anything of academic/scientific/managerial interest to Society members. Please feel free to contact the editorial team or regional representatives, if you wish to discuss in advance your plans of writing. The editor and the editorial team reserve the right to edit any article submitted for publication in the Bulletin. We also welcome the submission of your prime-quality photograph(s) for the cover page. Photographs for inclusion in the "On Record" must be accompanied by a witty note without mentioning particular persons' names.

Materials in Word or RTF format should be sent to us by e-mail [bulletin(at)scesap.org]. Pictures should be sent in as JPEG or TIFF files suitable for printing at 300 dpi. The SCESAP retains the copyright of all materials published in the Bulletin.

Cover (2016, no.1):
Under water field survey in Seribu Islands, Indonesia. (photo by M Tokeshi)

Published in December 2016 (pages 1-10)