



THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN ASIA-PACIFIC PROGRAM
RESEARCH SCHOOL OF PACIFIC AND ASIAN STUDIES

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RMAP BULLETIN FEBRUARY 2007

RMAP NEWS

The RMAP Blog preparations are now well underway. The blog will feature as the news portal for our program replacing the website noticeboard announcements and monthly email bulletins. We are currently ironing-out a few technical glitches with RSPAS IT personnel and hope to have the blog go public in the very near future. You will receive a last bulletin announcing the blog with instructions on how to use it and how to subscribe to the news in the last email version of the RMAP Bulletin.

Blogs are the latest form of communication on the web where entries, known as postings, are made in journal style and displayed in reverse chronological order. The word Blog is the abbreviation or short form of Weblog.

The RMAP Blog will contain the latest news about RMAP staff and students, information on forthcoming seminars, book releases, published papers and so on. Initially the Blog will be maintained and screened by the RMAP website coordinator, Rachel Lorenzen, and the RMAP Publications Manager, Mary Walta. In time, all RMAP staff and students will be able to post new items straight to the blog.

Readers can subscribe to the RMAP blog to receive the latest news instantaneously and they can also leave comments on our posting site. The news items will be categorised to make searching for past news items of interest easier.

Magnus Moglia's recently published chapter can be found on the RMAP website at: http://rspas.anu.edu.au/rmap/project_details.php?searchterm=smalltown_watermanagement

At the end of January, a contingent of people from RMAP attended the International Conference on 'Critical Transitions in the Mekong Region' in Chiang Mai, Thailand. RMAP Fellow, Andrew Walker, presented a paper entitled, 'Beyond the Rural Betrayal: Lessons from the Thaksin Era for the Mekong Region' and Ph.D. students Panpilai Kitsudsuaeng and Jakkrit Sangkhamanee presented papers entitled 'The Involvement of Taidam Women in Market Economy of Northern Lao, PDR' and 'Ethnoecology and Mekong Knowledge in Transition: An Introductory Approach to Mekong Hydraulic Cognition' respectively.

RMAP Research Fellow, Kuntala Lahiri-Dutt, recently completed a short-term project for the World Bank examining the 'Impacts of Mining on Women and Youth in Two Locations in Kalimantan'. In March, she will be giving a keynote address to the conference on Mining and Development in India organised by the Centre for Science and Environment and will participate in a workshop on Water and Laws in India organised by the Centre for Policy Research in New Delhi. In addition, she has been invited to give seminars in the Centre for Social Responsibility in Mining in University of Queensland in April and the Institute of Development Studies at the University of Melbourne in May.

Personnel changes

We welcome Alison Francis who has joined RMAP as the new Program Administrator on a 3.5 day/week basis. She is also working part-time in the Graduate Studies in Sustainable Heritage Development Unit, at the end of the RMAP corridor, which is in the process of winding down its operations. Alison takes over from Caroline Ashlin who is now working on a range of projects in Economics, Strategic and Defence Studies Centre and State Society and Governance in Melanesia.

RETURNING STUDENTS

Yumiko Asayama has recently returned from three months in Japan and Fiji on fieldwork intended to clarify differences between Japanese and Australian approaches in conducting technical and financial assistance to Pacific Island countries; particularly in addressing climate change issues at bilateral and regional levels. Her interviews, particularly in Fiji, were designed to evaluate past and present projects/programs and financial assistance schemes from Japanese and Australian perspectives. She also interviewed other donors, including the Pacific regional organisations, with the aim of identifying how the donor assistance meets the needs expressed by Pacific Island countries. Through her interviews, she was able to distinguish between the different interpretations of 'effectiveness' from Japanese, Australia, and Pacific Island countries perspectives. She was also able to see first-hand the adverse effects of globalisation in Fiji, Tuvalu and Kiribati, and how these effects negatively influence livelihoods; especially living with impacts of climate change.

Hendra Yusran Siry, who was named the United Nations Nippon Foundation Fellow for the 2006-7, completed his fellowship on 7 February 2007. Hendra conducted his research on decentralised policy on coastal zone management (CZM), through an overview of the approaches taken by Malaysia, Indonesia and Philippines governments. His research was based on previous work on theoretical and practical aspects of decentralised CZM for Malaysia and Indonesia.

His second fellowship posting was with the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (DOALOS), at the United Nations (UN). He attended the sixty-first General Assembly of the UN on Oceans and the Law of the Sea on 7 December 2006. In this plenary meeting, the issues on maritime security was highlighted as important to livelihoods, security, trade and energy supply and dependent on safe and secure shipping through the world's sea lanes.

Mike Fabinyi returned to RMAP on 5 February 2007 after undertaking fieldwork in the Philippines. Since January 2006 he was working on the Calamianes Islands of Palawan. His research was focused on understanding the political tensions surrounding different aspects of marine resource use in the region. In particular, he examined debates on the introduction of marine protected areas and attempts at regulation of the live reef fish trade which provides the primary livelihood for most islanders. The research involved living with a fishing household in a small rural community and frequent trips to a nearby town where the various fish traders,

conservationists and government officials were based. He will now be based in Canberra writing up the thesis.

Photos taken by Mike Fabinyi during his fieldwork on the Calamianes Islands of Palawan.



Freshly caught tuna being grilled for *pulutan*, or as the food accompanying alcoholic drinks.



Fresh grouper (*Plectropomus leopardus*) getting packed for export to Taiwan.



The *bodeguero* or fish-packer unpacking fresh grouper from the ice-hold.



A local hook and line fisherman holding up his catch of the day.



A "Nemo" (*Amphiprion ocellaris*) ready for export to the US as part of the marine aquarium trade.



Two of my neighbours.

Sarinda Singh has just returned from a two month contract with Wildlife Conservation Society to work with the Watershed Management and Protection Authority (WMPA) in central Laos. The WMPA is the Lao government body responsible for managing the Nakai-Nam Theun National Protected Area and is supported through the Nam Theun 2 hydropower project. Sarinda's main work was to consider the feasibility of using village surveys for biodiversity monitoring in the protected area.

Photos taken by Sarinda Singh on her recent trip to central Laos.



Nam Theun in Nakai-Nam Theun National Protected Area



Officials working with villagers



Nam Theun 2 construction in Gnommolat



Village in Nakai-Nam Theun National Protected Area

FORTHCOMING SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES OF INTEREST

Please refer to the RMAP website link for updates and list of current seminars
<http://rspas.anu.edu.au/rmap/seminars.php>

RECENT ADDITIONS TO RMAP WEBSITE AND PUBLICATIONS

Kuntal Lahiri-Dutt has designed a new website on Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining that can be accessed via www.asmasiapacific.org. The website has been established as an information network creating awareness about small-scale mining issues, advocating models of good practice and to aid policy formulation. Everyone is encouraged to take a look at the site and become contributing members of the Forum.

Rixon, A., M. Moglia and S. Burn, 2006. 'Exploring Water Conservation Behaviour through Participatory Agent-Based Modelling.' In A. Castelletti and R.S. Burn (eds), *Topics on System Analysis and Integrated Water resource Management*. Amsterdam: Elsevier.
http://rspas.anu.edu.au/rmap/projects/docs/Moglia_ExploringWaterConservation.pdf

AWARDS

Congratulations to Masayuki Nishida on being awarded The Australian National University Japan Alumni PhD Scholarship and Keri Mills on being awarded a \$3000 grant from the

Association of Canadian Studies in Australia and New Zealand to go to Gwaii Haanas in Canada.

OFF-LINE PUBLICATIONS

Karen Fisher (RMAP Research Assistant) has had a co-authored paper published examining trends and issues affecting the future economic development of Asian cities highlighting reasons for differential competitiveness and performance of urban regional economies and the implication this has on sustainability.

Roberts, B.H., and K.T., Fisher, 2006. 'Urban Regional Economic Development in Asia: Trends, Issues and Future Challenges.' *Australasian Journal of Regional Studies*, 12 (3): 165-187.

Dr Lorrae van Kerkhoff (Post-doctoral fellow, NCEPH ANU) is editor for the journal *Environment: Science and Policy for Sustainable Development*. If you have a paper drafted and are waiting to find a good venue for publishing it, or have one in mind (thesis chapters or think-pieces) Lorrae will see if it is suitable and help you get it published (subject to peer review processes). It needs to be a proposal and/or abstract at this stage, but will need to be in publishable form within the course of the year. If you are interested contact Lorrae by email: lorrae.vankerkhoff@anu.edu.au or on ext 55616

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Position, Organisation and Contact

The Millennium Development Goals Centre
(The MDG Centre) World Agroforestry Centre
(ICRAF)

Environment Specialist

Email icrafhru@cgiar.org

Information available on:
<http://www.cgiar.org>

Job Description

The MDG Centre is recruiting an Environment Specialist to lead its work towards achieving MDG 7: Ensuring environmental sustainability. As for all technical positions at the Centre, the Environment Specialist will work at both the national and local levels to ensure the two-way flow of experience between national policy/planning and field implementation.

INTERNET RESOURCES

Name and address

The Learning For Sustainability website

<http://learningforsustainability.net>

This site replaces the NRM-changelinks site which has provided links in this area since 1998.

Description

This site is designed for government, agency staff, NGOs and other community leaders working to support multi-stakeholder learning processes in sustainable development and natural resource management arenas.

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

American Australian Association Education Fund **Australia to USA Fellowships**

Applications due March 2007

Information available on:

<http://www.americanaustralian.org/Educational/>

The International Water Management Institute

Post Doctoral Fellows(Sri Lanka)

Ecological/Environmental Economics
Landscape Ecologist

Applications due 4 March 2007

Information available on:<http://www.iwmi.org>

UNDP Human Development Program

Academic Fellowships for Asia Pacific

Application due 15 March 2007.

Information available on:

<http://www.undprec.lk/>

The American Australian Association is the largest non-profit organisation in the United States devoted to relations between the United States and Australia and New Zealand.

The International Water Management Institute is a non-profit scientific research organisation focusing on the sustainable use of water and land resources in agriculture and on the water needs of developing countries. IWMI is undertaking further scientific analysis of the impact of agriculture and water management on the sustainable development and conservation of wetlands.

The academic fellowships are intended to foster innovative research with human development dimensions, and the media fellowships aim to encourage advocacy and dissemination of issues of concern from a human development perspective.

WORKSHOPS, SHORT COURSES AND FORUMS

International Conference on Environmental
Science and Technology 2007
Call for Abstracts

<http://www.AASci.org/conference/env/2007/index.html>

The 3rd International Conference on Environmental Science and Technology sponsored by the American Academy of Sciences will be held on August 6-9 2007 in Houston, Texas, USA. The conference will provide a multidisciplinary platform for environmental scientists, engineers and management professionals to discuss the latest developments in environmental research.

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