

Thailand's NBRU hosts TNA Workshop

► By DUANGMAL SINTHUVANICH

The Office of Environmental Policy and Planning (OEPP) under the Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment hosted the workshop on training needs assessment on biodiversity conservation and protected area management in Bangkok, Thailand on 11 October 2000.

Participants to the one-day workshop represented several government and non-government groups as well as international agencies (**See Box**) involved in biodiversity conservation and protected area management. They identified the stakeholders involved and their respective roles in conserving and managing national biodiversity and assessed their eventual training curricula and courses including references or educational materials.

During the workshop, the partici-

pants assessed the involvement of 15 government agencies and several private and non-government organisations in the conservation of biodiversity and management of protected areas.

Training programmes in biodiversity conservation and protected area management include those developed by the Department of Livestock Development, Royal Forest Department, Department of Fisheries, Biodiversity Research and Training Program and the Regional Community Forestry Training Centre for Asia and the Pacific. Most of the programmes are supported with instructional materials and training manuals.

Staff of the various agencies teach most of the topics while experts from the university or related agencies are invited as lecturers for some specific issues. Experts from international organisations are oc-

asionally invited to share their experiences. The background and capabilities of the instructors are quite adequate for the country's current training programmes.

The training courses being offered include the following:

For officers and staff of the Royal Forest Department:

- Development of community forest organisations in buffer zones
- Tourist service in protected areas
- Research and management of marine national parks
- Wildlife
- Seminars for section heads of the Wildlife Conservation Division and administrators
- Forest botany

For those outside the Department:

- Roles of communities in controlling and preventing forest fires
- Roles of youth in natural resources management
- Forest protection for youths
- Natural resources management for youths through community participation
- Organisations
- Roles of women in natural resources conservation

The participants proposed seven priority sectors deserving additional training inputs:

- Data management
- Taxonomy
- Biodiversity inventory and assessment
- *Ex-situ* conservation
- *In-situ* conservation and protected area management
- Biodiversity awareness
- Economic valuation

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List of Institutions Represented

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University • Forest Management and Economics Research Division • Department of Fisheries Aquatic Animal Natural Resources Museum Phuket Marine Biological Center • Department of Livestock Development-Animal Husbandry Division • Department of Agriculture National Bureau of Plant Species Protection Entomology and Zoology Division • Asian-Pacific Regional Training Center on Community Forest • Ministry of Education – External Relations Division • Department of International Organizations-International Development Affairs Division • Natural Resources and Biodiversity Institute • Agriculture Land Reform Office | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Royal Forestry Department • Mahidol University • Chulalongkorn University • Thammasat University • National Biological Control Center • Department of Environmental Quality Promotion • Office of Environmental Policy and Planning • Chulabhorn Institute • Thailand Environmental Institute • Science for Education Center • Thailand Institute of Scientific and Technological Research • Wildlife Fund Thailand under the Royal Patronage of H.M. The Queen • World Wide Fund for Nature • National Bird and Nature Conservation Society • The Wild Animal Rescue Foundation of Thailand |
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