

ARCBC goes Interactive

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In today's age of web-based computing, life has changed significantly through the extraordinary role of Information Technology. The Internet has made the world a lot smaller and the World Wide Web has enabled the building of global networks without the constraints of geographical time and space.

Hindrances to information collection and dissemination have been greatly alleviated and hundreds of records have been freed from the confines of file drawers and cabinets.

Through the Internet, the ASEAN Regional Centre for Biodiversity Conservation (ARCBC) has been able to disseminate a wealth of information through its website (<http://www.arcbc.org.ph>). With this in mind, ARCBC pursues to deliver

additional services through its new sub web, the ARCBC Interactive, which houses a number of databases serving the purpose of building global biodiversity-related networks. The following are some of the features of ARCBC Interactive:

- The **World Roster of ASEAN Biodiversity Specialists** is a database that contains contacts and related information on Specialists / Experts in the different areas of Biodiversity Conservation. It also provides openings for future collaboration in research, training, networking and resource management.
- The **Organisations Database** contains contacts and related information on Organisations/Institutions covering different

specialisations in Biodiversity Conservation.

- The **Training Resource Centre** (currently under development) is a web-based repository of resources and reference materials ranging from manuals to visual aids on biodiversity conservation, protected area management and other related fields that are available on the Internet and institutions in ASEAN.

ARCBC Interactive provides the option for users to register and input their information after accepting the privacy policy spelled out by ARCBC. Three types of registration are available to better suit the different needs – USER, SPECIALIST and ORGANISATION. Registered USERS have the privilege of availing of the ARCBC electronic newsletter. Those registering as SPECIALISTS are included in the Roster of ASEAN Biodiversity Specialists. They can input their geographic, subject and taxonomic areas of specialisation. Registered ORGANISATIONS benefit from similar privileges and are included in the Partner Organisations Database. Data entered by Specialists and Organisations are retrievable by interested parties through simple or special search facilities.

Those registered can edit their information online by supplying their login credentials. It is necessary to keep these confidential. Also, the site allows retrieval of one's credentials by sending them to the user's registered email in cases where these are lost or forgotten.

To know more of ARCBC Interactive and the web databases therein, visit <http://www.arcbc.org.ph/interactive>. For inquiries, comments and suggestions on ARCBC Interactive, please send an email to webdba@arcbc.org.ph. ■

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Training Materials Translation Project

Grants for Translating Biodiversity Training Materials to Southeast Asian languages

The ASEAN Regional Centre for Biodiversity Conservation (ARCBC) is offering grants for translating and publishing outstanding conservation training materials in local languages. We are inviting trainers, conservationists, authors and publishers to nominate materials that they think should be made more widely available. Our main criteria for selecting materials for this project are that they are of excellent quality and proven usefulness and, can readily be made regionally relevant.

Please visit ARCBC's website now to find out more and make your on-line nomination. Log on to <http://www.arcbc.org.ph/training/training.htm>

Note: If you cannot get access to our website, please email webmaster@arcbc.org.ph and we will send you an email based nomination form or write us at ARCBC Headquarters:

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