

# SUSTAINING MARINE BIODIVERSITY THROUGH BLUE ECONOMY SYMPOSIUM

### **6th-8th JUNE 2023** Pro Chancellor Arts Centre, Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD).

### THEMES

 Blue Economy: Balancing Economic Growth with Marine Conservation

Marine Biodiversity: Importance, Threats and Conservation
 Strategies

 Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture: Enhancing Marine Biodiversity and Economic Development

MAIN ORGANIZER:



CO-ORGANIZED BY:



Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center

SUPPORTED BY:









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> Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations











# SUSTAINING MARINE BIODIVERSITY THROUGH BLUE ECONOMY SYMPOSIUM 2023

## INVITATION

Blue economy has been identified as fundamental strategy for sustaining marine biodiversity. The core value of the blue economy lies in the balance between maintaining a healthy marine ecosystem and ensuring economic benefits from coastal and marine resources for inclusive growth. Thus, transformation to an inclusive blue economy needs a common commitment, collaborative effort and integrated approach from the local to the global level. South East Asia is a known global hotspot of biodiversity and endemism, which harbour more than 75 percent of the coral global species. Today, this economically valuable ecosystem is declining alarmingly quickly.

To forge greater cooperation and promote effective programmes for potential future collaborations to preserve our marine natural heritage, the Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism through the Department of Fisheries, Brunei Darussalam together with Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) and The Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Centre (SEAFDEC), will be co-organising the 'Sustaining Marine Biodiversity Through Blue Economy Symposium 2023'. This three-day symposium will be held at the Pro Chancellor Arts Centre, Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD), from 6th to 8th June 2023.

This symposium aims to bring together leading academic scientists, educators, industry leaders, managers, environmentalists, and other stakeholders to share their knowledge and expertise in the fields of marine biology, ecology, management and conservation. The program of the symposium also includes diving and exploring vibrant tropical coral reefs in the pristine Brunei waters and city tour of Bandar Seri Begawan, the capital of Brunei Darussalam.



In this regard, it is our honour and pleasure to extend our warm invitation to your esteemed organisation to participate in the Sustaining Marine Biodiversity Through Blue Economy Symposium 2023. We truly hope you will be able to join us in this symposium which provides a premier platform for the relevant stakeholders to come together to create a new paradigm to tackle significant issues, providing actionable solutions and uniting our community to achieve our common objectives.

For registration and more information, please visit the Department of Fisheries website <u>http://www.fisheries.gov.bn</u> or <u>Cuck HERE</u> to register. On behalf of the Symposium Committee, we welcome everyone to this event. Tutiaty Abdul Wahab

Permanent Secretary Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism SUSTAINING MARINE BIODIVERSITY THROUGH BLUE ECONOMY SYMPOSIUM 2023

## DESTINATION

#### **BLUE ECONOMY: RAINFORESTS OF THE SEA**

The Sultanate of Brunei Darussalam is strategically located on the northwestern coast of the island of Borneo. Although not well known as an epicentre of reef biodiversity, its coastal waters are punctuated by a series of shallow shoals and patch reefs that provide habitat for corals, wealth of fishes, and myriad reef-dwelling invertebrates. Brunei's biological richness are a genuine surprise packet for both marine scientists and recreational divers.





Brunei Darussalam's with a very limited sea as well as coral reef area, it is particularly important to conserve the relatively small amount of these prized resources. About 45km<sup>2</sup> of coral reef areas represent very productive, highly diverse biotic communities with a total of 410-reef building corals.

Despite the relatively homogenous habitat, the reefs host highly diverse coral communities. The coral communities are most notable in respect of the very unusual co-occurrence of high distinctive suite of reef-building (hard) corals, soft corals and gorgonian sea fans.

Brunei's coral reefs play significant roles in the nation's socio-economy, particularly in supporting fisheries and eco-tourism industries. Brunei's reefs provide important ecosystem services and have significant economic value or 'natural capital'.

Session 1 : Blue Economy: Balancing Economic Growth with Marine Conservation

- Biodiversity for sustainable development
- Indigenous knowledge and traditional practices: contributions to marine biodiversity conservation and blue economy
- Marine biotechnology: innovations and opportunities for sustainable economic development
- Blue carbon: role of marine ecosystems in climate change mitigation and adaptation

Session 2 : Marine Biodiversity : Importance, Threats and Conservation Strategies

- Biodiversity hotspots for conservation in Brunei Darussalam
- Ocean Governance and Maritime Domain Awareness: Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ)
- Ocean Literacy and Education: Raising Awareness and Empowering Communities for Marine Conservation

## PROGRAM

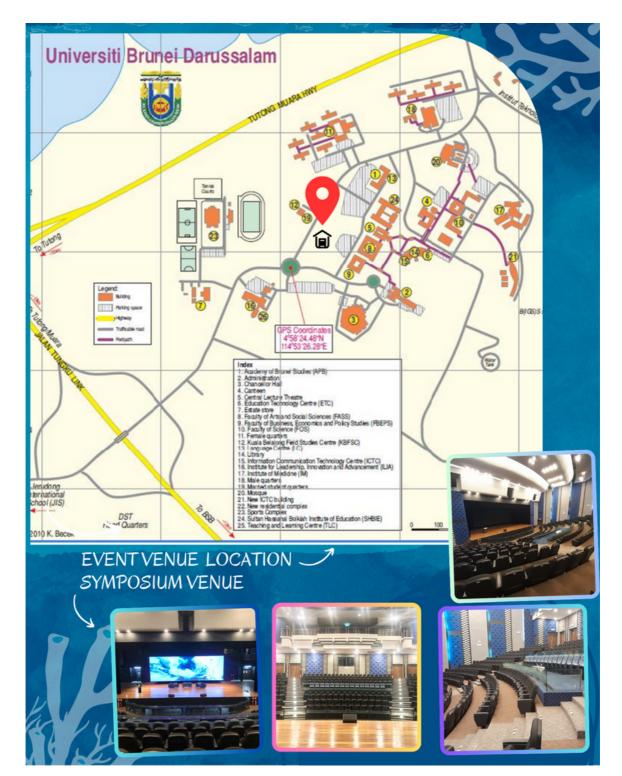
Session 3 : Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture : Enhancing Marine Biodiversity and Economic Development

- Marine Spatial Planning: Ensuring
  Sustainable Use of Marine Resources and
  Conservation of Biodiversity
- Combating Illegal, Unregulated δ Unreported Fishing, (IUUF).

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# VENUE

### Pro Chancellor Arts Centre Universiti Brunei Darussalam



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# **KEYNOTE SPEAKERS**





#### Ms. Malinee Smithrithee

Ms. Malinee was nominated by the Government of Thailand to serve as the Chief of the Training Department and concurrent Secretary-General of SEAFDEC for a period of four (4) years from 1 October 2019 to 30 September 2023, and given the task of leading the operations of SEAFDEC and in the implementation activities in line with the directives of the SEAFDEC Council. Ms. Malinee obtained her Bachelor of Science degree in Fisheries and Master of Science (Fisheries Science) from Kasetsart University, Thailand; and also Master of Science (Aquaculture) from Ghent University, Belgium.



#### Dr Camille Goodman

Dr Camille Goodman joined the Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources and Security (ANCORS) at the University of Wollongong as a Senior Lecturer in March 2021. She is also a Visiting Fellow at the ANU College of Law, where she completed her PhD on 'The Nature and Extent of Coastal State Jurisdiction over Living Resources in the Exclusive Economic Zone' in January 2019, with support from the Sir Roland Wilson Foundation.

MAIN ORGANIZER:



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Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center

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UNIVERSITI BRUNEI DARUSSALAM



Australian Institute of Marine Science









# **SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE**

The share the			
Time/Day	DAY 1 6 June 2023 Tuesday	DAY 2 7 June 2023 Wednesday	DAY 3 8 June 2023 Thursday
07:00	Arrival of guests and participants	Arrival of participants	Arrival of guests and participants
07:30			
08:00			
08:30	Opening Ceremony		
09:00	Keynote Presentation	Diving/ Snorkeling Activity	Session 3: Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture: Enhancing Marine Biodiversity and Economic Development
09:30			
10:00	Coffee Break		
10:30	Session 1: Blue Economy: Balancing Economic Growth with Marine Conservation		
11:00			
11:30			
12:00	Lunch Break	Lunch Break	Lunch Break
12:30			
13:00			
13:30			
14:00	Session 2: Marine Biodiversity: Importance, Threats and Conservation Strategies		City Tour
14:30		Young Environmental Leaders Forum	
15:00			
15:30			
16:00			
16:30			