

Agenda >
Southeast Asia

Stability of the Rainforest Margins

29 September -
3 October 2002
Bogor, Indonesia

Southeast Asia constitutes one of the world's most extensive rainforest regions. It is characterized by a high degree of biodiversity and contains a large variety of endemic species. However, various forms of encroachment, mostly those consisting of human interventions, seriously threaten the very existence of rainforests in this area.

The international symposium on 'Land use, nature conservation, and the stability of rainforest margins in Southeast Asia' wants to bring together recognized scientists of various disciplines who are involved in research on the depletion and preservation of rainforest resources, with special reference to Southeast Asia. It is expected that they can contribute to the identification of such factors and processes that have either stabilizing or destabilizing effects. At the same time, researchers within the large-scale research programme on the 'Stability of Rainforest Margins in Indonesia' (STORMA) will get the opportunity to share insights and findings with researchers from related projects in the tropics. STORMA is jointly conducted

by those universities mentioned below and financed by the German Research Association (DFG). Using an holistic approach ever since July 2000, STORMA has been focusing particularly on the margin areas of Lore Lindu National Park in Central Sulawesi.

The symposium offers a forum for presentations of the 'state of art' of current research, for discipline specific and cross-disciplinary perspectives of the complex issue of rainforest conservation, and for joint research efforts by disclosing gaps of knowledge.

Referring to the main themes of STORMA, the research symposium will focus on five interrelated areas of research and integrate relevant experience with special reference to Southeast Asia: 'Social and economic develop-

ment and change' reflects the role of human beings in the use, conservation and management of natural resources, including the topics cultural landscape, migration, social organization, socio-economic security, legal aspects of land ownership and land use, governmental and non-governmental organizations, access to markets, rural development policies, behaviour of farm households, and econometric and linear programming models.

'Biodiversity and conservation' emphasizes issues of land-use in rain forest margins and its influence on biodiversity, ecological functions, plant-animal interactions, bio indication, habitat (fragmentation, destruction, and management), species richness, ecological guilds, and conservation.

'Water and nutrient cycles' focuses on the effects of land-use systems on water and nutrient cycles, by comparing water and nutrient fluxes in rainforests and agro systems. Interactions between rainforest and land-use sites and the impact of land-use on water and nutrient flux-

es will be discussed as well as watershed monitoring and modelling.

'Land-use systems in agriculture and forestry' deals with the comparison of the different land-use systems of tropical rain forest margins like forest gardens, annual crops in slash-and-burn and agro-forestry systems as well as intensive cultivation in the valleys. Topics as soil fertility, slope stabilization, mobilizing and balancing nutrients, pests and diseases, weeds, and participatory research will be discussed in this panel.

'The integrated modelling of land-use change' is to discuss the integrated modelling of the STORMA project that consists of two components, a Land-Use Model and an Ecosystem Model, representing interactions of socio-economic and biophysical processes. The basic idea of the Land-Use Model is to estimate the potential use for land as a function of driving forces such as pop-

ulation, income, prices, and water availability. This land is then allocated using a generalized cellular automata approach based on the principles of suitability maps and land-use rules.

The International Symposium on 'Land use, nature conservation, and the stability of rainforest margins in Southeast Asia' is jointly organized by Institut Pertanian Bogor and Universitas Tadulako (Indonesia) as well as University of Göttingen and University of Kassel (Germany). <

Information >

For more information, contact:
Robert Weber
SFB 552 – Symposium 2002
Institute for Geography
Goldschmidtstr. 5,
D – 37077 Göttingen, Germany
Tel: +49-551-3912960/-399543
Fax: +49-551-398006/-3912139
E-mail: symp2002@gwdg.de
http://www.gwdg.de/~symp2002.

Centring the Margin: Agency and Narrative in Southeast Asian Borderlands

Although a relatively recent focus of study, anthropologists and other social scientists increasingly recognize borderlands as a zone of contact in which the most important transnational social spaces become particularly visible: labour and marriage migration, religious movements, trading networks, and supra-national politics. Using social memory and qualitative methodologies as the main tools, the aim of this book is to focus on the interaction of populations in the borderlands with the agents of the state. While every borderland has to be studied in its own right, the question of just how border people are situated in history is a question that concerns us all.

The future of border studies in Southeast Asia lies in a project of marginal history, centred on the agency of transnational communities (e.g. the Karen, Miao, Iban, Bugis, and Orang Laut), and on the ways in which these

communities give meaning and shape to the transformation of the borderland. In this light, we emphasize historical dimensions and oral histories in the study of borderland communities within processes of the proliferation and redefinition of borders. We follow Baud and Van Schendel (1997) in exploring the social forces that originate in borderlands, along with the effects they have had both locally and beyond the borderland. The central interest reflects a more dynamic approach in the field of borderlands by focusing on the narratives, oral cultures, and local histories of the populations in the borderlands themselves. The authors united in this volume give voice to indigenous border people and document their struggles with the colonial and post-colonial state. By 'centring the margin' we hope to contribute to rewriting the history of the state - from the margin. We kindly invite paper proposals to this volume,

which will be the first effort to bring together individual studies on agency and narratives in Southeast Asian borderlands. <

Information >

Please send your proposal to the editors by 1 October 2002:
Dr Alexander Horstmann
Sociology of Modern Southeast Asia
Institute for the Study of Languages and Cultures of Asia and Africa (ILCAA)
Tokyo University of Foreign Studies
3-11-1 Asahi-cho, Fuchu-shi, Tokyo
183-8534, Japan.
E-mail: hnalex@aa.tufs.ac.jp
Dr Reed L. Wadley
Department of Anthropology
107 Swallow Hall
University of Missouri-Columbia
Columbia MO 65211 USA
E-mail: WadleyR@missouri.edu

Agenda >
Indonesia

31 October 2002
Leiden,
the Netherlands

Fatwas and the Dissemination of Religious Authority in Indonesia

In this workshop, members of the current IAS project on 'Islam in Indonesia' will present their research to date on aspects of *fatwa* production and transmission. Invited experts will also present papers with the aim of providing greater cohesion to the project and comparative comment.

Participants have been invited to consider the means, authority, audience, and impact of *fatwas* in Indonesia. More broadly they will address how *fatwas* are disseminated, what response they engender, and how a relationship is established between the *fatwa* requestor and *mufi*. Naturally the question of audience is crucial in this, and papers will explore whether *fatwas* reflect or determine the direction of debates over religion in Indonesia. Of course it is difficult to assess the impact of the *fatwa* on a given society. One might well ask whether *fatwas* really do affect the practice of Islam in Indonesia or are more connected to controversial issues. In this sense, the workshop will be a first step on the way to answering broader questions of the nexus between Islam and the nation state of Indonesia. <

Contact >

Convenors:
Michael Laffan and Nico Kaptein, Leiden University
Presentations will be given by Athon Mudzhar, Kees van Dijk, Nico Kaptein, Jajat Burhanuddin and Michael Laffan with comments from Muhammad Khalid Masud.
Those wishing to attend the workshop as an observer or to submit an additional abstract for consideration are invited to contact Michael Laffan at the IAS in the first instance. E-mail: m.laffan@let.leidenuniv.nl

[advertisement]

International Conference on Reform in Public Administration and Social Services in Asia
November 7-9, 2002

Papers are invited from scholars, specialists, and civil servants on the strategies, trends, problems, and related issues of reform in the public sector of Asian countries.

The working languages of the conference will be English and Chinese.

Interested paper writers should send a one-page, English-language abstract with personal data by the July 31st, 2002, with complete papers due by the September 31st, 2002. All correspondences should be addressed to: The Conference Programme Committee – Macao Polytechnic Institute, Rua Luis Gonzaga Gomes, Macao. (Fax: (853)719-227, email: cwchan@ipm.edu.mo).

[advertisement]

Add a European Distinction (Leiden) to your name

The Netherlands is recognised as one of the most globalised countries in the world. Its oldest university, Leiden (1575) has retained over the centuries the highest academic standards and is considered one of the leading universities in Europe. It is centrally located near Amsterdam, Schiphol Airport, The Hague (the judicial capital of the world) and Rotterdam (the world's largest port and important business centre). Leiden offers participants an outstanding study environment in a stimulating international community of students and faculty.

Leiden University School of Management (LUSM) offers inspiring programmes with a strong managerial focus and global approach in an intellectually stimulating learning environment:

- Master's in International Management (MIM),
- Master's in E-Business (MEB),
- Executive part-time Master's in Innovation and Change Management (ICM)

The internationally renowned Leiden Law School offers:


- Master of Laws (LL.M.): European Community Law, International Business Law, International Air and Space Law, International Taxation, Public International Law & International Criminal Law Specialisation

Leiden and Oxford jointly offer to young private and public executives a special opportunity to deepen their knowledge and gain experience in different European cultures in the:

- The Leiden-Oxford Diploma Programme (part-time)

For brochures and application, please contact:
Leiden University Worldwide,
Fax + 31 71 527 7298
postgrad@luwp.leidenuniv.nl
www.leiden.edu

Start: September

 Universiteit Leiden
The Netherlands