

## Bali Call to Action



(L-R): His Excellency I Ketut Sudikerta (Vice-Governor of Bali Province), Dr. Ir Hilman Nugroho (Director-General of Watershed Control and Management, Government of Indonesia), Prof. Sanit Aksornkoe (President of ISME), Dr. Manoel Sobral Filho (Director of the United Nations Forum on Forests), Dr. Steven Johnson (Officer-in-Charge, ITTO)

“International Conference on Sustainable Mangrove Ecosystems: Managing a Vital Resource for Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement” was held in Bali, Indonesia, 18 - 21 April 2017.

The conference was jointly organized by the International Tropical Timber Organization, the Ministry of Environment and Forestry of Indonesia and ISME, in collaboration with many partners and private sectors. Participated by 272 participants from 25 countries, the Conference adapted its Bali Call to Action for Sustainable Mangrove Ecosystems. Key messages of the Bali Call are:

1. Prioritizing the conservation and sustainable management and use of mangrove ecosystems in national policies, laws and regulations at all levels of government, and strengthening law enforcement to reduce the continuing loss and degradation of mangrove ecosystems.
2. Promoting sound land-use planning, clarifying land tenure and user rights for communities with consideration for cultural sensitivity, and ensuring the effective involvement and empowerment of local communities, especially women.
3. Promoting effective mangrove restoration through the improved assessment of degraded and deforested mangrove ecosystems, science-based decision-making to identify the best restoration strategies and practices, and

long-term monitoring and management to determine and improve the overall success of restoration programmes and increase productivity.

4. Facilitating access to international financing mechanisms as well as national public and private-sector sources to scale up mangrove-based climate-change mitigation and adaptation and enhance the resilience of coastal regions and communities.

5. Generating and disseminating knowledge on the causes, patterns and consequences of change in mangrove ecosystems at the local to globe scales, reporting on the status of mangrove management worldwide, and raising awareness of the vital importance of mangrove ecosystems to planetary well-being.

For further details, please visit: [itto.int/mangrove2017](http://itto.int/mangrove2017)

## Workshop in Thailand

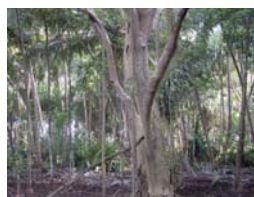
“The International Conference on Climate Change, Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Policy and Practice” was held 27-29 June 2016 at the Sirindhorn International Environmental Park (SIEP) Cha-am, Phetchaburi, Thailand. The Conference was held in celebration of fifth cycle birthday anniversary of Her Royal Highness Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, who graciously presided over the opening ceremony of the Conference. President of ISME, Prof. Sanit Aksornkoe, is the Chairman of the Executive Board Member of SIEP. The Executive Director of ISME, Prof. Shigeyuki Baba and Treasurer, Dr. Chan Hung Tuck, participated in the Conference and received a special gift directly from Her Royal Highness in recognition of their efforts in carrying out years of various activities to conserve and rehabilitate mangrove ecosystems on global level.



Receiving gifts from H.R.H. Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn. (Prof. Baba, left, Dr. Chan, right.) Photos provided by SIEP.

## Maldivian mangroves facing serious threats

Mangrove forests on Keylakunu and Kulhudhuffushi Islands in Haa Dhaalu atoll of the Maldives are facing serious threats due to reclamation of land for airport and resort development.



Keylakunu Island  
(photo by S. Baba, 2001)

Destruction of mangrove forest on these islands is at odds with the world consensus to conserve forests as summarized in a declaration from the 2014 UN Climate Change Summit, which says: “Reducing emissions from deforestation and increasing forest restoration will be extremely important in limiting global warming to +2°C. Forests represent one of the largest, most cost-effective climate solutions available today.”

Conservation and restoration of mangrove forests are accelerating in many parts of the world. Small island countries, such as the Maldives, Tuvalu and Kiribati, etc., are especially vulnerable to sea level rise. It is regretful that the Maldives, one of such countries exposed to the risk of sea level rise, is destroying their mangrove forests.

The mangroves in Keylakunu island is very precious since the island harbors probably the only *Avicennia* forest in the Maldives. Destruction of such mangrove forests may be an irreparable loss not only to the Maldives but also to the world. From the biological point of view, propagules of *Avicennia marina* may not be dispersed any more from Keylakunu island to adjacent islands, because the very important seed resource of *A. marina* will be lost.

Details on the situation in the Maldives can be found through:

- RaajjeTV launches campaign to raise awareness on Keylakunu island, which is to be destroyed for resort development (<https://raajje.mv/en/news/22500>)
- Reclamation underway for Kulhudhuffushi swamp’s bund wall (<http://en.mihaaru.com/reclamation-underway-for-kulhudhuffushi-swamps-bund-wall/>)
- Stop Destruction of Kulhudhuffushi Mangrove ([https://secure.avaaz.org/en/petition/President\\_Abdulla\\_Yameen\\_Stop\\_Destruction\\_of\\_Kulhudhuffushi\\_Mangrove/](https://secure.avaaz.org/en/petition/President_Abdulla_Yameen_Stop_Destruction_of_Kulhudhuffushi_Mangrove/))
- Conservation and Management of Maldivian Mangrove Habitats – Baseline Study, Haa Dhaalu Keylakunu island (<http://www.bluepeacemaldives.org/mangroves/islands/keylakunu/>)

## Kiribati Order of Merit bestowed to ISME Executive Director

In 2015, the Government of Kiribati bestowed national honor of the Kiribati Order of Merit known as “*Boutokan Toronibwain Kiribati* (BTK)” to Prof. Shigeyuki Baba, the Executive Director of ISME in recognition of his efforts and contribution to



Prof. Baba receiving the Kiribati Order of Merit from the then President of Kiribati, H.E. Anote Tong.

“encourage and support mangrove planting in Kiribati for protection of coastlines from rising seas and preserving biodiversity of islands of Kiribati.”

ISME has been planting mangroves in Kiribati Since 2004, with financial support from Cosmo Energy Holdings Co., Ltd, and in collaboration with the Kiribati Ministry of Environment Land and Development.

## Contributions received during 2016-2017

During fiscal years 2016-2017, we received contributions from the following people, company and a voluntary group. Individual names listed in alphabetical order of family name.

Mr. Keiji Afuso, Prof. Sanit Aksornkoe, Prof. Shigeyuki Baba, Dr. Chan Hung Tuck, Dr. Tomomi Inoue, Dr. Mami Kainuma, Ms. Kazuko Kondo, Ms. Kanae Kouki, Mr. Takumi Miyazaki, Prof. Yukira Mochida, Mr. Atsunobu Nanamori, Ms. Satomi Ohnishi, Mr. Kazunori Oshiro, Ms. Sayuri Taira, Mr. Kaito Yaeyama, Ms. Hinako Yamagishi, Tokio Marine Assistance Co., Ltd., Tokio Marine & Nichido Share Happiness Club

## Special thanks to Prof. Phan Nguyen Hong

We want to express our special gratitude to Prof. Phan Nguyen Hong of Viet Nam for his donation of JPY250,000 in 2016. Prof. Hong is one of the field-oriented and very active mangrove scientists with worldwide recognition for his dedication and

achievements to the restoration of mangroves not only in Can Gio district where mangroves were destroyed by the US defoliant during the Viet Nam War, but also country-wide in Viet Nam.

He received some national and international awards such as the 2008 International Cosmos Prize. Prof. Hong, now 82, has been a supportive member of ISME since its inauguration in 1990.

## ISME in 2016-2017 Some Major Events



Gujarat, India  
(December 2016)



Tarawa, Kiribati  
(February 2017)



Sabah, Malaysia (August 2016)

### 2016

**January:** Visited Kiribati for planting and discussion

**April:** 11th Meeting of SFD/ISME PSC, Sandakan, Sabah

**July:** Organized 8th Eco-study Tour for Children, Iriomote Is. Okinawa; Attended Inauguration of Seacology-SUDEESA Mangrove Museum, Pambala-Chilaw, Sri Lanka

**August:** 12th Meeting of SFD/ISME PSC, Sandakan, Sabah

**September:** Visited Fiji and Kiribati for planting, research and discussion

**December:** Visited project site in Gujarat, India; Attended 22nd Annual Meeting of Japanese National Mangrove Society, Tokyo

### 2017

**February:** Visited Kiribati for planting and discussion

**March:** 13th Meeting of SFD/ISME PSC, Sandakan, Sabah

**April:** Co-organized International Conference on Sustainable Mangrove Ecosystems, Bali, Indonesia

**June:** Attended SUDEESA Mangrove Scientist Forum in Sri Lanka

**July:** Organized 9th Eco-study Tour for Children Iriomote Is. Okinawa

**August:** Visited Viet Nam for field research and discussion; Attended 3rd International Conference on Biological Sciences and Biotechnology (ICBSB) in Medan, North Sumatra, Indonesia

**September:** Visited Kiribati for planting and discussion; 14th Meeting of SFD/ISME Project Steering Committee, Sandakan, Sabah

**October:** Visited project site in Gujarat, India

**December:** Attended 23rd Annual Meeting of Japanese National Mangrove Society, Tokyo

## From ISME Secretariat

ISME's Homepage renewed. New contents include ISME calendar, ISME projects, etc. PDF of some of our public-ations are available for free download. Please visit: [mangrove.or.jp/english/](http://mangrove.or.jp/english/)



Renewed HP

## New Members

### - INDONESIA-

- La Bula Amrisa
- Abidin Rahifudin

### - SOLOMON ISLANDS-

- Eddison Judah Saeni

### - THAILAND-

- Ajcharporn Piumsomboon

### - U. S. A.-

- James E. Duval
- Aroloye Ofo Numbebe

Thank you for joining us!



## ISME/GLOMIS Electronic Journal

### Volume 13, No.5 (October 2015)

Special Edition: Gaps in mangrove science by Maxwell, G.S.

### Volume 13, No.6 (November 2015)

Botany, uses, chemistry and bioactivities of mangrove plants II: *Ceriops tagal* by Chan, E.W.C., Tangah, J., Kezuka, M., Hoan, H.D. & Binh, C.H.

### Volume 14, No.1 (January 2016)

Botany, uses, chemistry and bioactivities of mangrove plants III: *Xylocarpus granatum* by Baba, S., Chan, H.T., Kainuma, M., Kezuka, M., Chan, E.W.C. & Tangah, J.

### Volume 14, No.2 (March 2016)

Botany, uses, chemistry and bioactivities of mangrove plants IV: *Avicennia marina* by Baba, S., Chan, H.T., Oshiro, N., Kezuka, M., Maxwell, G.S., Inoue, T. & Chan, E.W.C.

### Volume 14, No.3 (April 2016)

Introducing CGMFC-21 (Continuous Global Mangrove Forest Cover for the 21st Century) by Hamilton S. E.

### Volume 15, No.1 (January 2017)

Botany, uses, chemistry and bioactivities of mangrove plants V: *Acrostichum aureum* and *A. speciosum* by Kimura, N., Kainuma, M., Inoue, T., Chan, H.T., Tangah, J., Baba, K., Oshiro, N. & Okamoto, C.

Please visit GLOMIS at <http://www.glomis.com>

**Newsletter in PDF** — To save paper and postage, ISME has started to disseminate electronic copies (PDF) of the Newsletter. If you wish to receive ISME Newsletter in PDF, please e-mail the Secretariat with your name and membership number.

### *Membership of ISME*

#### **Individual membership:**

JPY2,000 (approx. US\$20) annually

#### **Life membership:**

JPY20,000 (approx. US\$206)

#### **Institutional membership:**

JPY25,000 (approx. US\$257) annually

International postal money-order are acceptable. We also accept Visa, MasterCard, and American Express. Please avoid cheque payments. For further information, contact ISME Secretariat. Your contribution is appreciated. Your donation to the Society is also welcomed.

### *News from your country*

If you have any news from your country or your work concerning mangrove ecosystems that you wish to publish in the ISME newsletter, please forward a brief write-up to ISME Secretariat.

### *Send articles/publications of mangrove to ISME Secretariat*

ISME is organizing GLOMIS. Please send articles/publications concerning mangroves and mangrove ecosystems to ISME Secretariat.

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