

**PRESENTATION GIVEN AT THE TRANSLINKS NATURE,
WEALTH AND POWER WORKSHOP**

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**20 million indigenous
people in Southeast Asia**

100 million in South Asia

NIFPS

**subsistence use & source of social,
economic and ecological values**



Forest Conservation and NTFP Enterprise Development in South and Southeast Asia



Non-Timber Forest Products Exchange Programme for South and Southeast Asia

NTFP Exchange Programme



where our partners are...

NTFP-EP Objectives

- Forest management and sustainable harvesting of NTFPs
- Tenurial security and the recognition of user rights
- Livelihood security through the enhancement of subsistence uses
- Increased income from value addition and marketing-domestic and regional/international
- Strengthened negotiating position of forest-dependent communities vis-à-vis traders, policy makers, and other external agents on issues which may affect their environment and livelihood



NTFP-EP Strategies

- Facilitating exchange of expertise, experience and approaches
- Providing technical support/backstopping and enabling training
- Giving inputs in strategy discussions
- Documenting best practices and success stories and providing information on NTFP-related issues
- Mobilizing resources and essential contacts
- Sourcing advocacy support for local initiatives and helping articulate needs and aspirations



NTFP in forest conservation

- Sustainable NTFP utilization and marketing provides an alternative for more destructive forms of forest use.
- As the management of NTFPs is often part of the indigenous knowledge systems and practices of indigenous peoples, the marketing of sustainably-gathered NTFPs provides an opportunity for the passage of such knowledge to others in the community and to future generations
- The conservation and sustainable management of NTFPs also promote biodiversity conservation because they need the various forest species for them to grow and thrive. For e.g. rattan species need pollinators, and in turn, wild honey is only produced if native bees have enough nectar from flowering trees.



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NTFP in empowerment

- Country partners have been more active with planning and evaluation to resolve programmatic issues, develop a more focused and long-term program, and build synergy among network partners and donors
- Use of Virtual Academy to provide timely scientific argumentation for community-based resource management systems as well as for policy support
- Establishment of network of allies especially with lobby organizations like Sawit Watch, WWF Indonesia and Harisson Nagu Liang Co, FOE, FERN that helped with country-specific lobby and policy support in Malaysia and Indonesia



NTFP in empowerment

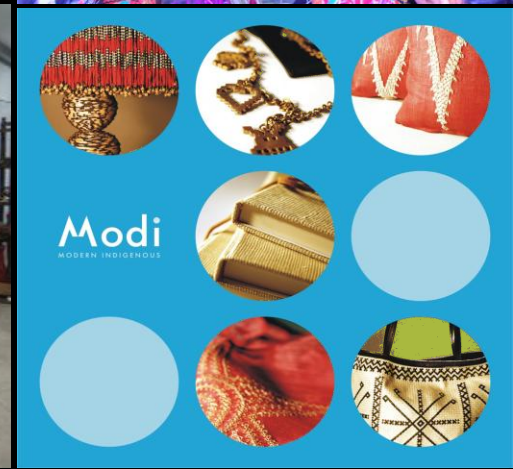
- Regular, timely, accurate and accessible information for decision-making particularly on issues relating to resource management and livelihood development



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NTFP in economic well-being

- Sustainable livelihood approach (contextual, adaptive)
- Increased livelihood options through value addition of products to fetch better quality and price – domestic and regional/ international market



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Threats and Issues on NTFPs

- *Food crop vs. Fuel crop?*
Monoculture plantations (oil palm, pulp and paper plantations and transboundary haze)
 1. Malaysia - 2.4 million hectares in Sarawak approved for oil palm conversion in 2006
 2. PNOC – Alternative Fuels Corp. will establish 1,000 ha jathropa meganurseries and pilot plantations and 700,000 ha of biofuel crop plantations (1M mT biodiesel refining capacity) especially in Palawan and Mindanao and even with IP groups and ancestral lands



Threats and Issues on NTFPs

- Mining (economic accelerator in the Philippines being the 5th most mineralized country in the world)
- Conflicting development policies on land tenure and resource management
- Corporate globalization – rising export demand especially for versus resource capacity, production capacity (cultural traditions) of the IPs

