

Meeting Mahakam project

October 2007

Present: Jaap Timmer, Ricardo, Piet Hoekstra, Ton Hoitink, Syarif Budhiman, Ton Hoitink, Rory Dalman, Duddy Ranawijaya, Tine Missiaen, Bob Hoogendoorn, Joep Storms, Salomon Kroonenberg (chair), Bart Vermeulen, Jan de Leeuw

Logistics

Ton Hoitink's group will ship their equipment in December. Should any other participants wish to send equipment in the same shipment, this must be in Wageningen before December 1st. Based on reactions, most other groups use lightweight materials, and will send their equipment separately or take it on the passenger flights.

Jaap Timmer will be based in Jakarta for the next couple of years for another job starting December. He will provide us with logistic help, etc which needs someone in Indonesia. Any movements of people or equipment should be communicated to Jaap. Jaap will provide everyone with his email address, phone, address etc when available.

Field trip plans:

Jaap & Ricardo will visit the Mahakam Delta from January to June.

Ton Hoitink has made a schedule for his three PhD student field trips. Plans are for long term monitoring studies with 2 out of 3 students in the field at all time. Based on 4 months on, 4 months of.

Jan de Leeuw's projects on coral reefs, will be in January and February, yet the distance will prohibit much overlap.

Syarif Budhiman will possibly go on a field trip in January to March, plus June to August.

Duddy Ranawijaya will start with coring in a January field trip. Echosounder measurements with Tine Missiaen and Rory Dalman will probably start in July.

Visa and research permits

A research permit can be obtained through LiPi, this is definitely necessary for long term (2 months plus) field trips. Piet Hoekstra mentions that they have had severe trouble in obtaining permits through LiPi. 6 months processing time is the absolute minimum. Field work can be done without a LiPi research permit for short field trips, if one is accompanied by an Indonesian researcher. The foreign researchers works as "scientific consultant" and carry an MGI permit. Duddy Ranawijaya mentions that this construction can cause trouble with law enforcement agents (police and army), as they are not familiar with this. It may be necessary to hire "security" in the field.

Long term visa (2 months plus) are of type C, and must be applied for beforehand (note it is necessary to send all material using traced post). Shorter visit visa can be done using a Type B "Social Cultural Permit", this can be obtained using a letter of invitation (from MGI), a letter from LiPi, the Return ticket, photos of the bearer and 45 euros.

Finances

Salomon Kroonenberg tells us that the project budget has been cut, and is currently 75.000 Euro short. A revised budget has been made based on some changes.

Any costs made from the central budget must go through an invoice to the TU Delft, Salle will sign for these.

Other subjects:

Ton Hoitink proposes to purchase bathymetric maps of the Mahakam River and delta. These maps can be made based on remote sensing data by Argos; this data must be calibrated using field data. The results seem promising, yet the cost this data necessitates budget cuts in the project. Ton Hoitink will send everybody a proposal for the project; this can be evaluated in the future.

Syarif Budhiman mentions that ITC has (older) satellite photos and data available for the entire drainage basin, river and delta.

Rory Dalman will take over the research position left by Albert Kettner, starting July 2008.