

ASEANET Planning Framework (compiled from the outputs of the ASEANET LOOP Workshop of 14-15 July 2010)

ASEANET Vision: The capacity to name organisms is accessible to serve the needs of people in the ASEAN Region enhancing environmental and developmental sustainability.

ASEANET Mission: Enhance human well-being and biodiversity conservation in the ASEAN Region by building capacity to discover, name and classify living organisms.

Component 1: Enhanced information sharing between ASEANET Boundary Partners

Desired End-User Outcomes:

- End-users have improved access to the quality taxonomic information they require to make informed decisions on issues that relate to biodiversity conservation and its sustainable use contributing to the following regional outcomes:
 - Safe and sustainable trade
 - Sustainable biodiversity conservation
 - Food security through sustainable agriculture

Desired Boundary Partner Outcome(s)	Activity Cluster(s)	Suggested Actions & Responsibilities	Notes
1.1. Information on known pest presence in the region is easily accessible	Contribute to the production of an ASEAN list of known pests (PRIORITY B)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASEANET-Sec to compile list of pest records in ASEAN countries with their associated reference (e.g. from CPC and other sources) & send to the network for comments • Updatable list posted on the ASEANET website 	ASEANET can contribute to production of lists of known pests. This is not the same as an official pest list compiled according to IPPC criteria (ISPM 19: Guidelines on lists of regulated pests). A lot of countries say that there is not enough money for the production of an official list as they cannot undertake thorough surveys and subsequent authoritative identification.
1.2. Information on known invasive species presence in the region is easily accessible	Contribute to the production of an ASEAN list of known invasive species (PRIORITY B)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASEANET-Sec to compile list of invasive species records in ASEAN countries with their associated reference & send to the network for comments • Updatable list posted on ASEANET website 	Some information is already available. e.g. the checklist submitted to The Asia-Pacific Forest Invasive Species Network (APFISN).

Desired Boundary Partner Outcome(s)	Activity Cluster(s)	Suggested Actions & Responsibilities	Notes
1.3. Information on known indigenous species presence in the region is easily accessible	Contribute to the production of an ASEAN list of indigenous species (PRIORITY C)		This task is too vast for ASEANET to lead on but the network can contribute by facilitating access to / making contact with those working in this area (see outcome 1.7)
1.4. Improved communication within the ASEANET network and better dissemination of information of taxonomic relevance for the ASEAN Region	Improve ASEANET website (PRIORITY A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASEANET members contributes information & ASEANET-Sec populates website • BioNET-Sec to produce a generic request for information which can be used as a template for ASEANET 	The website can only be improved if information is forthcoming
	Publish results of expeditions/scientific publications (at least citation details)/grey literature, important publication notices (PRIORITY B)		
	Database exchange (PRIORITY A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • System at national & regional levels • Acquiring software e.g. Brahms, LUCID, etc. • NBIN: can link to that (National Biodiversity Network) • Simple links for now 	
1.5. Use of BioNET resources increased to maximise network's impact	Provide contributions to the ASEANET website (PRIORITY A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit latest relevant news in the region (similar information to that compiled for the BioNET bulletin but for ASEANET member countries) • BioNET-Sec and ASEANET-Sec to harmonise mailing lists 	
	Utilise the PowerPoint presentation - Taxonomy: Understanding the World Around Us and other BioNET-Sec and ASEANET-Sec resources such as the Why Taxonomy Matters Case Studies (PRIORITY A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All: look at the resources available on the BioNET and ASEANET websites • Incorporate relevant resources into daily activities as necessary • BioNET-Sec to produce a covering letter explaining the use of the presentation as a PR/Awareness raising activity 	At the time of writing, the presentation has been translated from English into 4 languages (French, Spanish, Kiswahili and Hebrew) with Chinese and Japanese translations in the pipeline, downloaded from the BioNET website over 900 times and widely praised as a very accessible and powerful PR and awareness raising tool.

Desired Boundary Partner Outcome(s)	Activity Cluster(s)	Suggested Actions & Responsibilities	Notes
	Translate the taxonomy PowerPoint presentation- (PRIORITY A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASEANET-Sec to seek volunteers (from teaching institutions?) for translation into local languages 	Suggested languages: Malay, Thai and Indonesian
1.6. Status of taxonomic facilities, infrastructure and human resources is understood	Update status of collections (PRIORITY A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASEANET-Sec will contact members for relevant information, can collate the information and provide links to information sources from the ASEANET website 	<p>Available material: Status of collections (2002- 2003 for insect collections + grey literature report on the status of the collections). Analysis of collections & expert list for Malaysia (2007). Saw Leng Guan can upload this onto the website. Information from collections in Indonesia is available on website (LIPI collections only but this is 90% of Indonesia collections).</p> <p>Seed banks (IRRI, Institute of Plant Breeding: Philippines), Vietnam has a seedbank, Thailand has a germplasm bank & also a large collection of rice varieties</p>
	Produce a regional registry of expertise (including links to those based outside the region) (PRIORITY A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASEANET-Sec to finalise a format • ASEANET-Sec to send a letter to relevant partners requesting information. 	<p>For example for those with species list information & a registry of end-users and relevant experts from outside the region</p> <p>Existing format to be utilised. e.g. the Australia Plant Health System (it's a good shell but not very well populated – Ian Naumann): Ian Naumann to circulate. Saw Leng Guan has a template for plants which he will share. Indonesia also has a format.</p> <p>The process of producing a regional registry of expertise is underway in the ARDN project</p> <p>The expert list will be not be peer reviewed</p>

Component 2: Outreach/ Publicity / Education & Awareness aimed at ASEANET's Boundary Partners

Desired End-User Outcomes:

- Greater recognition of the imperative for activities that relate to biodiversity conservation and its sustainable use to be underpinned by quality taxonomic support

Desired Boundary Partner Outcome(s)	Activity Cluster(s)	Suggested Actions & Responsibilities	Notes
2.1. Improved communication of the impact of ASEANET's activities	Compile good practice examples from the network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASEANET-Sec to request examples of practices undertaken in the network that have helped to reduce the taxonomic impediment 	e.g. of trainees from Malaysia and Thailand having gone on to train many other individuals.
2.2. Greater interest and participation in taxonomy-related activities	Compile an ASEANET PR Pack (PRIORITY A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASEANET-Sec to ask LOOP material for distribution • BioNET-Sec to provide standard layouts and wordings for components that are common across BioNET LOOPS 	Need to update the ASEANET flyer
2.3. Increased support for activities that relate to taxonomy (in terms of finding and other forms of commitment)	Undertake public awareness presentation(s) (PRIORITY A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BioNET-Sec to produce a standard template to be customised by the LOOPS 	Presentations to be given opportunistically in conjunction with existing events
	Communicate to policy makers in language that they can understand (PRIORITY A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BioNET- Sec can help to facilitate the process as in the previous activity 	Key questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is taxonomy? • Why is it important and how does it link to their priorities?
	Communicate to funding agencies in language that they can understand (PRIORITY B)		Material s can be developed in conjunction with the above activity. This activity could be promoted to PRIORITY A if there is a concrete project idea that members want to promote to potential donors
	Updating National Institutions (NIs) on what ASEANET is and why being part of it is of value to them (PRIORITY A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular communications / updates every 3 months (from ASEANET-Sec) • Regular requests for information from the network (every 6 months) • BioNET-Sec to be produce a document on why being part of BioNET is of value to members 	Use ARDN knowledge network as a vehicle for outreach. We need a mechanism to attract people "carrots"(to be clearly articulated once the nature of the communications are agreed upon)

Component 3: Capacity building aimed at ASEANET’s Boundary Partners

Desired End-User Outcomes:

- Capacity built at the individual, institutional and inter-institutional levels in taxonomy to address the taxonomic imperative that underpins biodiversity conservation and its sustainable use.

Desired Boundary Partner Outcome(s)	Activity Cluster(s)	Suggested Actions & Responsibilities	Notes
3.1. Capacity to provide ASEAN member countries and international markets with high quality, reliable and low-risk agricultural commodities	ARDN Project and linked activities (PRIORITY A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As documented in the ARDN Strategic Plan • Establish National Diagnostic Networks (central to the project) • Establish other component of ARDN (e.g. training and remote microscopy facilities) 	<p>The project was approved at the 2005 ASEAN meeting, is ongoing and is ready to work on</p> <p>The concept is about self-help where expertise is available</p> <p>ASEANET-Sec is asking for the network’s support in implementing ARDN (at the time of writing there are only 3 of the network active on the project)</p> <p>ASEANET-Sec can help facilitate activities as its personnel travel around the region in connection with the project</p> <p>Components will be added to ARDN as funds are found (e.g. if money for training courses is provided through the Australian Sanitary and Phytosanitary Capacity Building Program).</p> <p>Those in the network can approach the ASEANET Secretariat. Through ARDN the can be linked with the people in Australia –us. This is inked to support – e.g. a package involving remote microscopy and the associated support could be facilitated by ASEANET-Sec</p>
3.2. Capacity building projects in the region are catalysed	Develop project ideas within the network (PRIORITY A)	<p>Members to submit projects through or as ASEANET if it results in comparative advantage (e.g. in terms of improved implementation or increased chances of getting funded)</p> <p>JM “might be worth inserting an item on project development as something that could be done “opportunistically by/through</p>	<p>Developing projects could be undertaken opportunistically by/through ASEANET.</p> <p>Examples of such projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Smith (CABI) proposal to improve microbial culture collections so that they

Desired Boundary Partner Outcome(s)	Activity Cluster(s)	Suggested Actions & Responsibilities	Notes
		<p>ASEANET" => "adding value" = "project" in the traditional sense of the word i.e. long projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Example of projects: 	<p>are maintained according to global standards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indonesian proposal for a regional plant health / plant quarantine project • Rehabilitation of collections in the region (discussed at the 2010 ASEANET workshop)
3.3. Capacity built at the individual levels in taxonomy and in those activities that support the utilisation of taxonomy to meet mainstream goals	Training of "parataxonomists" i.e. producers & users of taxonomic products (PRIORITY A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASEANET-Sec, BioNET-Sec and ASEANET members to explore possibilities for training and initiate plans 	<p>e.g. production and use of LUCID keys & other validated user-friendly diagnostic tools. BioNET-Sec can help in partner matching but the demand has to come from the countries. Need to cater for local situation (i.e. work with the local experts at the National & Regional levels)</p>
	Training for front-line officers (border inspectors) in use of simple diagnostic tools (PRIORITY A)		
	Extension workers (ToT ¹ /ToMF ²) in use of simple diagnostic tools (PRIORITY B)		
	Reference collection management (PRIORITY A)		Saw Leng Guan: "We can run a regional course. ASEANET can act as a facilitator"
	Training at the MSc / PhD (PRIORITY A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASEANET members to facilitate this by circulating announcements 	This is already happening but it can be improved with strengthened participation
	Best practices for taxonomy (PRIORITY A)		Compilation of materials can be undertaken through ASEANET
	Molecular taxonomy inc. DNA barcoding (PRIORITY B)		ASEANET could potentially compile the library)

¹ Training of Trainers

² Training of Master Facilitators

Component 4: ASEANET Practices

Desired End-User Outcomes:

- ASEANET adequately equipped to respond to end user taxonomic needs and to catalyse the recognition of the taxonomic imperative that underpins biodiversity conservation and its sustainable use in the ASEAN region

Desired Boundary Partner Outcome(s)	Activity Cluster(s)	Suggested Actions & Responsibilities	Notes
ASEANET strengthened to better catalyse activities to build taxonomic capacity in the ASEAN region	Update network structure (PRIORITY A)	Renew and re-confirm NECI/NACI representation and LCC membership Reinforce Network organization with Letter of Agreement and Terms of Reference Allocate clear responsibilities to the LCC for charting new directions and the production and review of the network's biennial workplan	
	Strengthen inks between ASEANET and ASEAN (PRIORITY A)	Re-affirm linkages with ASEAN Secretariat through relevant WGs and adopt ASEAN mechanism for : Regular scheduling of NACI and LCC Meetings (biennial) Reporting to ASEAN WGs Endorsement of NACI representation on LCC	
	Establish clear funding mechanisms / responsibilities (PRIORITY A)	Operational funding support for NACI by national governments Technical Secretariat to take lead in engaging with regional development partners and seeking international funding opportunities in collaboration with NACI{s}	
	Maintain strong linkages within the network (PRIORITY A)	Enhance communication through regularly updated web presence, with emphasis on inputs from NACI(s)	Conducted as part of many of the activities in Components 1 -3.