

## **International Student Field Course in Tropical Ecology and Rapid Biodiversity Assessment**

The International Student Field Course in Tropical Ecology and Rapid Biodiversity Assessment 2017 was held on 24 July to 13 August 2017. This program is collaboration between the Department of Plant Protection Bogor Agricultural University (IPB - Indonesia) and University of Vienna (Austria). It has an exclusively educational purpose by (1) giving Indonesian and Austrian students the opportunity to get a comprehensive introduction on the fauna of representative tropical island ecosystems, (2) learning how to conduct rapid biodiversity assessments (using selected target taxa, e.g. birds and butterflies) and (3) how to adequately analyze their data.

The collected data was used by the students to address questions in the field of island biogeography. Particularly they used their data to analyze changes in species richness and species composition of fauna model assemblages on Krakatau within the last decades. Furthermore, they will compare the composition of the Krakatau fauna with species assemblages, which was found on Panaitan and Peucang island (Ujung Kulon National Park), and a site on "mainland" Java (in the vicinity of Cidaun, Ujung Kulon National Park). Panaitan and Peucang islands may be characterized by a higher species richness and different species composition due to its proximity to mainland Java. Cidaun is characterized by a fauna representing the species pool available for the colonization of small offshore islands. This program also compare the species diversity of lowland located in Krakatoa, Ujung Kulon, and Way Kambas National Park with the highland species represented from Gunung Halimun Salak National Park (Cikaniki-Citalahab).

**IPB offers this summer course program annually to the international partners/students to joint this program. Please visit the following information at:**

**<http://ptn.ipb.ac.id/cms/id/berita/detail/43/international-student-field-course-in-tropical-ecology-and-rapid-biodiversity-assessment-2017>**

**online registration:** <http://bit.ly/ISFC2017>

**contact:** [damibuchori@yahoo.com](mailto:damibuchori@yahoo.com)