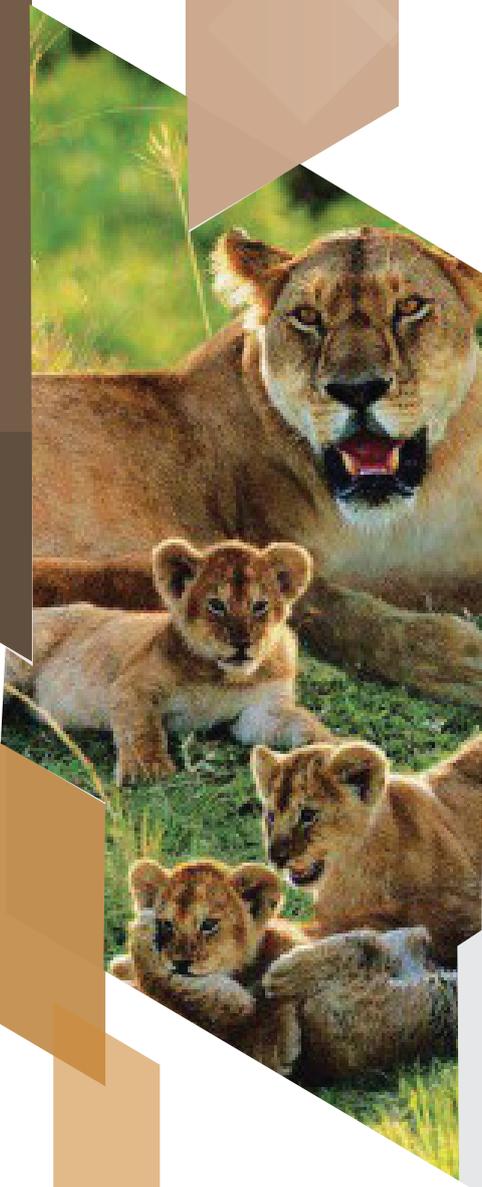




AIT
Asian Institute of Technology



**WORLD
WILDLIFE DAY
3 MARCH**

LISTEN TO THE YOUNG VOICES

**1 March 2017
AIT Conference Center**

Presented by:



Wildlife
Enforcement
Monitoring
System



AIT Solutions

Technology • Engineering • Environment • Development • Management

BACKGROUND



**WORLD
WILDLIFE DAY**
3 MARCH

The World Wildlife Day celebrates the diverse wild fauna and flora that inhabit our world and benefit human life and the ecosystems. A large number of species are at risk of extinction due to multitudes of anthropogenic impacts on the biophysical world. Poaching and trafficking are one of the major causes of serious decline in biological diversity on earth. Safeguarding the future of the species is critical for securing our future and that of the planet.

The theme for the **World Wildlife Day 2017, "Listen to the Young Voices"** emphasizes the role of the younger generation as future leaders and decision-makers, in conservation of endangered wildlife and also, the need to raise awareness on the intrinsic value of the biological diversity for the survival of future generations.

The Asian Institute of Technology and the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation of the Royal Government of Thailand are joining hands to mark the World Wildlife Day 2017 and encourage youth to protect endangered wildlife.

The celebration will be launched at the Asian Institute of Technology on 1 March 2017 as the ground to nurture future generations from the region and beyond. Representatives from governments, development partners, non-governmental organizations and media will join the AIT community in an active dialogue to not only highlight ongoing endeavors in raising awareness among the youth on the importance of wild fauna and flora

and engaging youth for conservation of biological diversity but also identify roles that younger generations can actively pursue to secure the survival of species at the brink of extinction.

The celebration will continue on 4 March 2017 at the Khao Kheow Open Zoo in Chonburi Province. The event, in presence of international community, will serve as an opportunity to witness conservation at work, gain up-close understanding of some endangered species of wild fauna and flora, and partake in conservation act like releasing some species to the wild.

The events aim to bring governments, academicians, scientists, non-governmental organizations, development partners, youth and media to an active dialogue on the criticality of engaging youth as future leaders and decision makers of the world, to appreciate the intrinsic value of the biological diversity and the vital services that they provide, and empowering them to act at both local and global levels to protect endangered wildlife.

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

- Raise awareness on the importance of biological diversity and vital ecological services they provide for sustenance of life on the earth.
- Highlight contributions that different stakeholders including AIT are making in engaging youth and empowering them to ensure effective management of biodiversity.
- Identify the proactive roles that younger generations can play in order to address major threats to wildlife, e.g., including habitat change, over-exploitation or illicit trafficking.
- Strengthen strategic alliances and partnerships for effective and collaborative management of biological diversity and ecosystem services for sustainability.

DATE AND VENUE



1st March 2017 at AIT Conference Center Auditorium, Asian Institute of Technology, Pathumthani

4th March 2017 at Khao Kheow Open Zoo, Chonburi

TARGET PARTICIPANTS

Policy-makers, practitioners, scientists, academicians, researchers, development partners, non-governmental organizations, diplomatic community, university students, media representatives and AIT community (AITIS students, graduate and post-graduate students, faculty, management, staff) are expected to participate in the events.

OUTCOME

Enhanced awareness, improved engagement and increased empowerment of global citizens, both young and old, on the intrinsic value of biological diversity, the intricate relationships of ecosystem services integral for survival of future generations and the roles that different stakeholders play for their effective management for sustainability; for conservation of wildlife; and to act as agents of change at local, national and global levels to protect endangered species of wild fauna and flora.

OUTPUTS

1. A video “*Listen to Young Voices from AIT*”
2. An event report outlining the discussions and the activities
3. A press conference to highlight stakeholders’ efforts in conservation of biological diversity

DRAFT AGENDA

09:45-10:00	Registration*
10:00-10:05	Video “Listen to Young Voices from AIT”
10:05-10:15	Opening Remarks <i>Mr. Surendra Shrestha, Vice President for Development</i> Asian Institute of Technology
10:15-10:30	Keynote Address <i>Dr. Klairoong Poonpon, Director</i> Division of Administrative Services Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation Thailand
10:30-11:00	Photo Session & Coffee-break
	Plenary session Chairperson <i>Dr. Klairoong Poonpon, Director</i> Division of Administrative Services Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation, Thailand
11:00-11:15	Wildlife Asia Activities <i>Dr. Robert Mather, Chief of Party</i> USAID Wildlife Asia
11:15-11:30	UNDP: Community Engagement against Illegal Wildlife Trade <i>Mr. Doley Tshering, Regional Technical Adviser</i> United Nations Development Programme
11:30-11:45	Public Participation in Wildlife Management <i>Dr. Somying Thunhikorn, Director</i> Division of Wildlife Research Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation Thailand
11:45-12:00	Wildlife Enforcement Monitoring System: A Multi-stakeholder Engagement Model <i>Manesh Lacoul, Deputy Director</i> WEMS Secretariat, AIT Solutions Asian Institute of Technology
12:00-12:20	Open session Role of Youth to Address Major Threats to Wildlife
12:20-12:30	Closing Remarks <i>Dr. Naveed Anwar, Executive Director</i> AIT Solutions
12:30-13:30	Lunch for invited guests

**The program agenda for the March 4 event will be provided at the registration*

ABOUT WEMS

- WEMS, a web-based information-sharing platform developed by the United Nations University, offers a systematic approach to empower governments in managing information on enforcement and provide evidence of their efforts in attaining their national targets and fulfilling their international commitments.
- WEMS is a tool to reinforce evidence-based environmental governance at local, national, regional and global levels and promote information governance through streamlining national and regional reporting processes for multilateral environmental agreements and specific targets under the Sustainable Development Goals.
- WEMS Initiative was launched in East Africa in 2011 through the Lusaka Agreement Task Force. WEMS is being implemented in Congo-Brazzaville, Kenya, Liberia, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.
- WEMS Secretariat was recently established at AIT Solutions under the Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand to replicate the initiative in Asia while scaling it up in Africa and instituting a transcontinental collaboration through capacity development, community of practice and outreach.



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