

THANK YOU TO ALL PARTNERS OF TROPIMUNDO





































THE UNIVERSITY OF QUESTIONS

















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museum



















































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Student Award and the Lorenzo Borella Memorial Award for the best

TROPIMUNDO thesis.

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Welcome word from the Chair

After obtaining the European Commission's only educational excellence label (Erasmus Mundus) in 2019 our Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree in Tropical Biodiversity and Ecosystems (TROPIMUNDO) faced, together with the rest of the world, a global health crisis. Upon arrival in Guadeloupe, Sri Lanka and Malaysia in February 2020 none of our students could have predicted that they would have had to spend most of their tropical hands-on semester behind a computer following online classes. While we must face the reality of a changed world and a shift from live to online classes in 2020, we are doing everything in our possibility to make sure our students achieve the learning competences aimed at in our inter-university programme.

Our 12 teaching partners in Belgium, France, Italy, French Guyana, Guadeloupe, Cameroon, Madagascar, Reunion Island, Sri Lanka and Malaysia and our >50 Associated Partners from the field of research, government, NGOs, SMEs, international associations, etc. assure excellence in education, research and international networking in tropical biodiversity and ecosystems, a focus muchneeded in this era marked by a largely tropical biodiversity crisis. Nearly 140 graduates working on rainforests and woodlands, savannahs, mangrove forests, seagrass beds, coral reefs and even tropical open ocean waters have participated in and contributed to our excellence programme, and many are now pursuing academic careers as lecturers and/or researchers.



Prof. Dr. Farid Dahdouh-Guebas Université Libre de Bruxelles Vrije Universiteit Brussel TROPIMUNDO General Coordinator

Credits/Contacts

Calendar info: This calendar was made using photographs courtesy of our students. All photographs were taken between 2013 and 2020. National holidays in Belgium, France, Italy, Cameroon, Madagascar, Sri Lanka and Malaysia, our study sites, were included and so were selected events of international importance.

Calendar Cover Illustration: Gersey VARGAS RIVERA: Corvus splendens (Vieillot). In the darkest times, the sunsets get brighter, Matara, Sri Lanka.

Information page photograph Above: Left: Three generations of TROPIMUNDO Students & Alumni and two Coordinators on a memorable MMM5 conference in Singapore (July 2019). This freestyle photograph was voted to become the temporary official Twitter banner. Right: Every year the TROPIMUNDO Student and Coordinator dinner ends in music and singing., Farid DAHDOUH-GUEBAS

www.tropimundo.eu info@tropimundo.eu

Did you know?

Did you know that TROPIMUNDO was the first Erasmus Mundus programme to offset the carbon emissions caused by its compulsory student and staff mobility? In the meantime it has become an annual tradition.





PV-PVC-KE-103000000008881-01012019-31122019-5608547-5608772-MER-C-F

From: Mikoko Pamoja, Kenya

To: Tropimundo

Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree in Tropical Biodiversity and Ecosystems - TROPIMUNDO 2017-2019



January 2021





Barbara MEYERS: *Top*: Swamp forest dominated by *Pterocarpus officinalis* Jacq. upstream of mangrove forests, Petit-Bourg, Grande-Terre, Guadeloupe.

Monday	Tuesday	WEDNESDAY	Thursday	FRIDAY	Saturday	Sunday
DECEMBER M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31			FEBRUARY M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	1 New Year Hari Tarun Baru Malaysia	2	3
4	5	6 Epiphany	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Eliza VAN DE SANDE: Inset: Brachythemis contaminata (Fabricius), Lion's Nature Education Centre, Hong Kong.



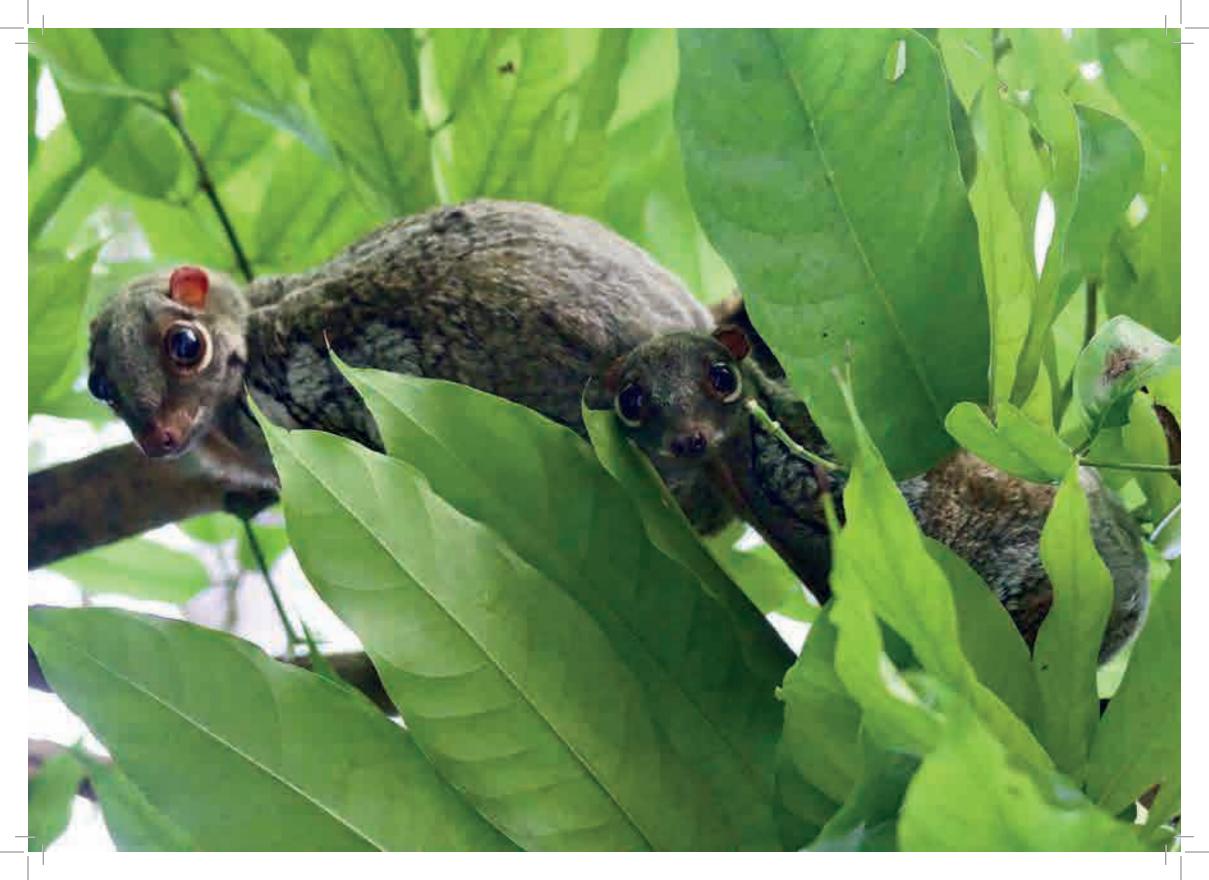
February 2021



Fernanda GARCIA VALDEZ: Top: Colorful Malaysia, Kapas Island, Pulau Kapas, Terengganu, Malaysia.

Monday	Tuesday	WEDNESDAY	Thursday	FRIDAY	Saturday	Sunday
1	2	3	A National Day in Sri Lanka	5	6	7
	World Wetlands Day					
8	9	10	11	12 Chinese New year	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
JANUARY M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31			MARCH M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31			

Eliza VAN DE SANDE: *Inset left*: The Borneo pygmy elephant *Elephas maximus borneensis* (Deraniyagala) blends in perfectly between the trees along the Kinabatangan river, Malaysia. *Right:* Jambu Bongkok, Malaysia.



March 2021





Molly GILBERT: *Top*: Mother and infant Sunda colugo *Galeopterus variegatus* (Audebert) spotted in the rainforests of Langkawi. These cryptic animals use their camouflage to hide in the forests of Southeast Asia. Langkawi Island, Malaysia.

Monday	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	Thursday	FRIDAY	Saturday	Sunday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Maha Shivaratri Day Israa and Miaraj	12	13	14
International Women's Day	1.0	4 7	10	10	20	1
15	16	17	18	19 Father's Day in Italy	20	21
					Spring Equinox	World Forestry Day
22	23	24	25 Navaratri	26	27	2 8
World Water Day Human Rights Day						
29 Martyrs' Day in Madagascar	30	31	FEBRUARY M T W T F S S			APRIL M T W T F S S
			1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28			1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

Eliza VAN DE SANDE: Inset: Vegetation around Tasik Kenyir, Malaysia



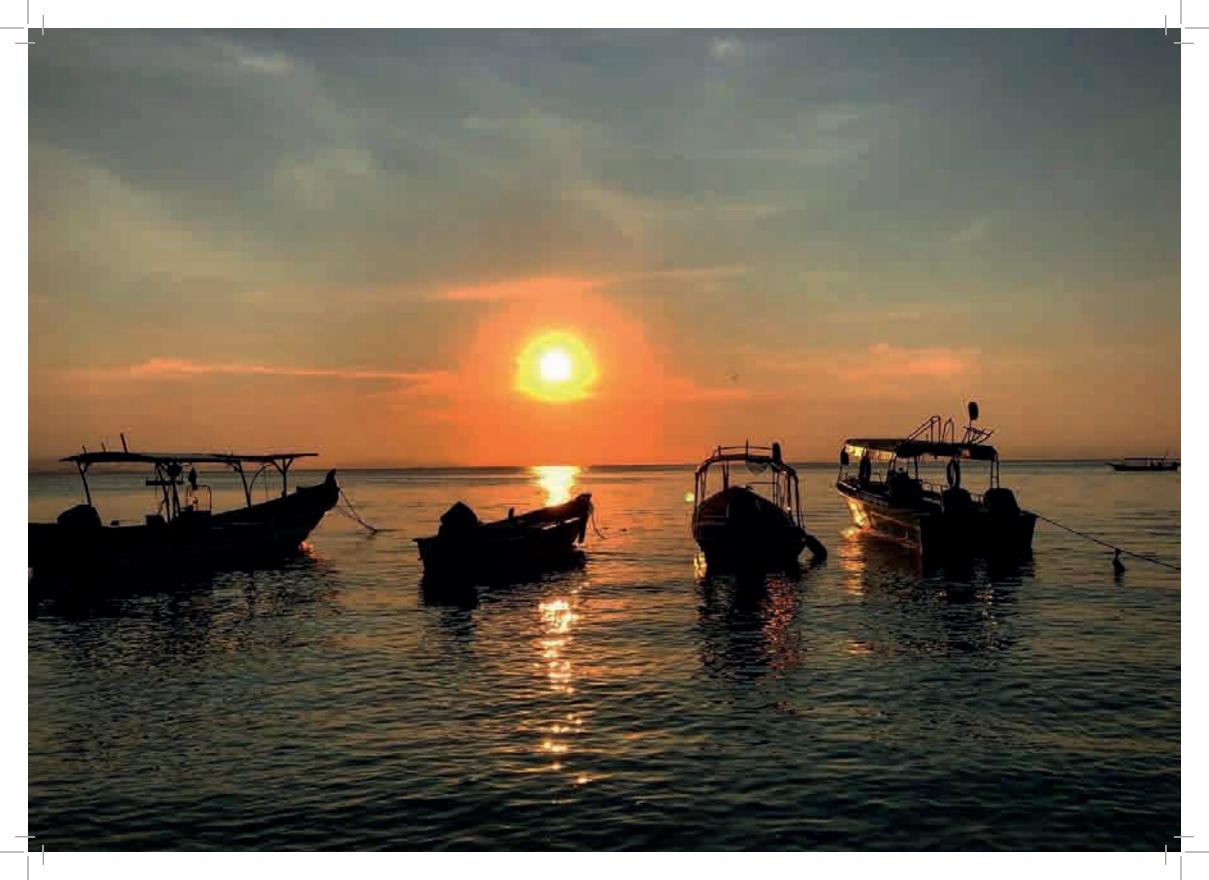
April 2021



Samuel OFORI: *Top*: Sri Lankan Kangaroo Lizard (*Otocryptis wiegmanni* Wagler). This is a photo of an endemic ground-dwelling agamid lizard species identified in the Sinharaja Rainforest during the field school in Sri Lanka.

Monday	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	Thursday	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	Sunday
MARCH M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31			1	2 Good Friday	3	4 Easter
5 Easter Monday	6	7 World Health Day	8	9	10	11
Ramadan begins	13	14 Sinhala & Tamil New Year Day	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 Earth Day	23	24	25 Italian Liberation Day
26	27	28	29	30		MAY M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Anne Marieke DE GEEST: Inset left: Odontomantis (Saussure) looking at the camera whilst resting on the spiral-shaped Cheilocostus speciosus (J.Konig) C.Specht. Younger instars are ant mimics. Sinharaja Forest Reserve, Sri Lanka. Gersey VARGAS RIVERA: Right: Merops leschenaulti (Vieillot) Curious young chestnut headed bee eater with glistening eyes, Bundala National Park, Sri Lanka.



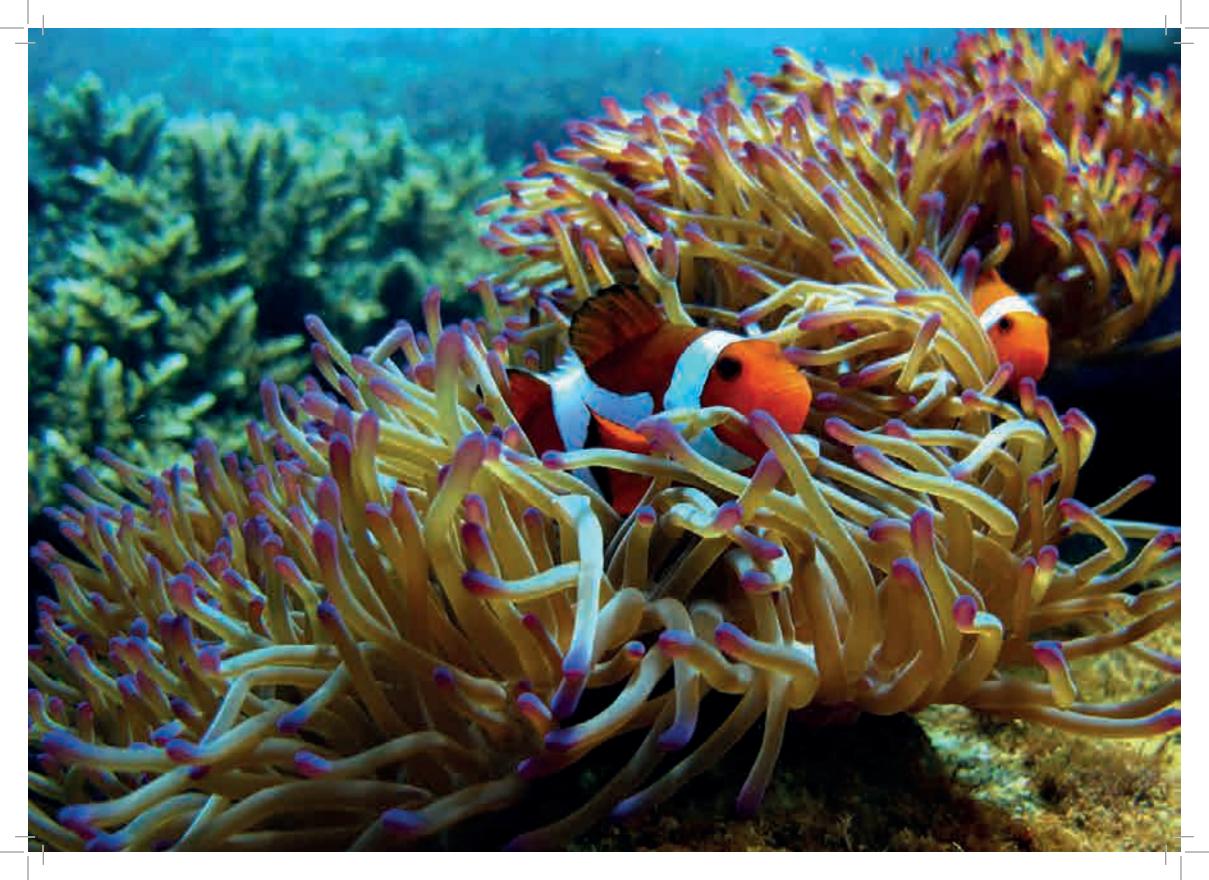
May 2021



Molly GILBERT: Top: Sunset over Coral Bay, Perhentian Islands, Malaysia

Monday	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	Thursday	FRIDAY	Saturday	Sunday
APRIL M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30					1 Labor day	2
3	4	5	6	7	France Victory 1945 World Migratory Bird Day	9 Mother's day in Belgium
10	11	12	Ascent Hari Raya Puasa: Ramadan ends	14	15	16
17	18	19 Buddha Birthday	20 National Day in Cameroon	World Day of Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development Endangered Species Day	22	23 Pentecost World Turtle Day
24 Pentecost Monday	25	26 Vesak Buddha Purnima	27	28	29	30 Mother's Day in France
31				JUNE M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	WY T	

Pol FERNANDEZ MATO: Inset top: Waves breaking on a little shore of Kapas Island, Malaysia. Rachel LEONG Ai TING: bottom left: Calotes versicolor (Daudin) Male changeable lizard soaking up the sun. The orange head and anterior part of body, and black marking on the throat are typical of breeding males, Universiti Malaysia Terengganu Campus. Bottom right: Melaleuca cajuputi (Powell) or Cajuput is especially known for their ethnobotanical uses in Southeast Asia. Essential oils extracted from their leaves have antiseptic and medicinal uses for relieving rheumatism and joint pains.



June 2021





Maria Juliana VANEGAS GONZALES: Top: Amphiprion ocellaris (Cuvier) also known as false clown anemonefish living in the anemone Heteractis magnifica (Quoy & Gaimard, 1833), Malaysia is one of the few countries in the world when they are found in all the reefs. Pulau Bidong, Malaysia.

Monday	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	Thursday	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	Sunday
MAY M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	1	Peast of the Italian Republic	3	4	World Environment Day	6
7	8 World Oceans Day	9	10	11	12	13 Father's day in Belgium
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 Father's Day in France
21 Summer Solstice	22 World Rainforest Day	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				JULY M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Molly GILBERT: *Top*: *Ideopsis vulgaris macrina* (Fruhstorfer). Image of blue glassy tiger butterfly, taken at Lake Kenyir, Tasik Kenyir, Malaysia.



July 2021



Barbara MEYERS: *Top*: Caribbean tree fern *Cyathea arborea* (L.) Sm. in the low altitude evergreen forest in Guadeloupe National Park, Goyave, Basse-Terre, Guadeloupe.

Monday	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	Thursday	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	Sunday
JUNE M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 Feast of the Flemish Community in Belgium World Population Day
12	13	14 French National Feast	15	16	17	18
Eid al Adha (Feast of Sacrifice)	20 Eid al Adha (Feast of Sacrifice)	21 National Day in Belgium	22	23	24	25
International day for the Conservation of Mangrove Systems	27	28	29	30	31	AUGUST M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Rachel LEONG AI TING: Inset: Brown Anole (Anolis sagrei Duméril & Bibron) Foreign talent - Non-native species introduced from the Caribbean, believed to have arrived on shipments of plants intended for Gardens by the Bay. Introduced species have potential implications on other species and are therefore often closely monitored, Singapore.



August 2021





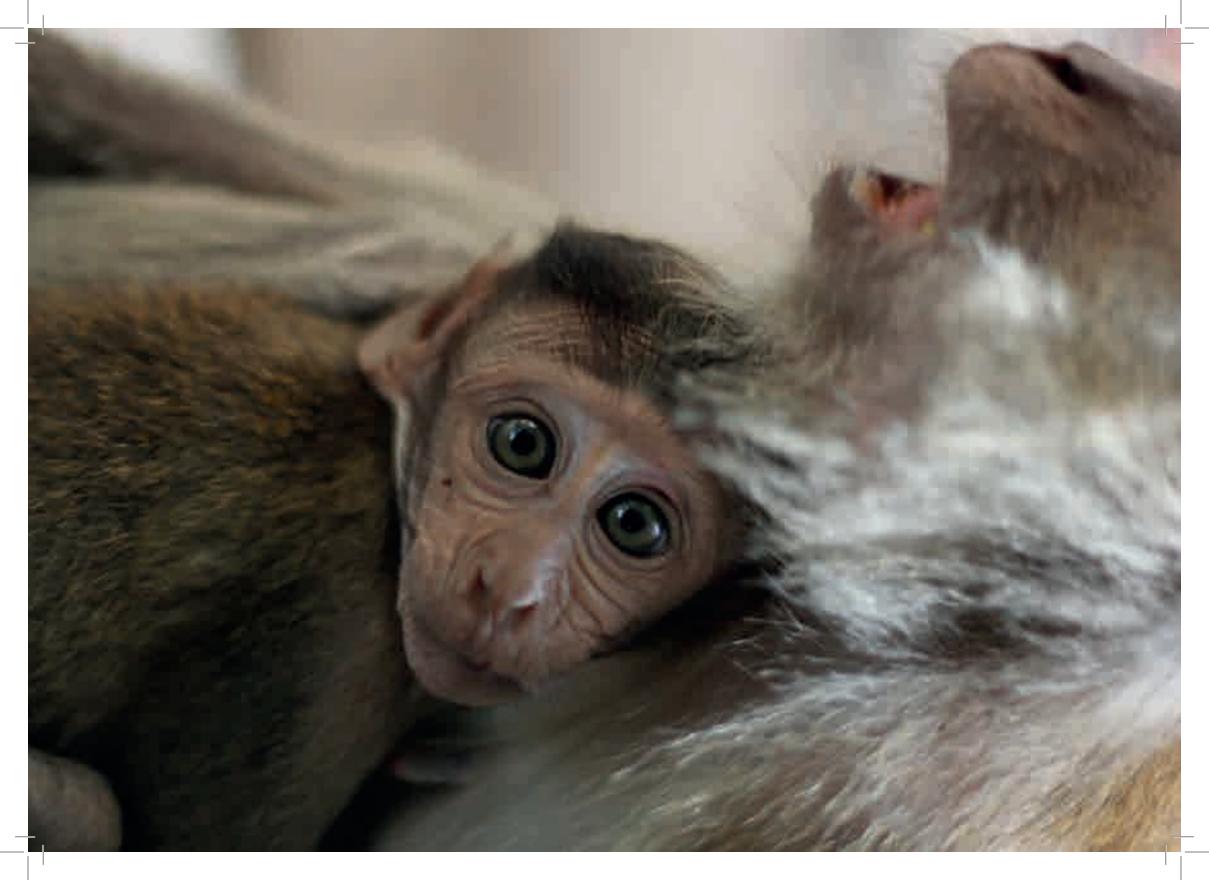
Pol FERNANDEZ MATO *Top*: Sunrise in the island. Perhentian Islands, Malaysia.

Monday	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	Thursday	FRIDAY	Saturday	Sunday
			JULY M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31			1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 International Day of the World's Indigenous People	10 Muharram New Year	11	12	13	14	Asumption Ferragosto in Italy
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 National day in Malaysia			SA PARTY		SEPTEMBER M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

Pol FERNANDEZ MATO: Inset top left: Microhyla achatina (Tschudi) The frogs came to hunt when it started raining. Perhentian Islands, Malaysia.

Eliza VAN DE SANDE: Top right: Pongo pygmaeus (Linnaeus) This young Bornean orangutan loves humanwatching, Sepilok, Malaysia.

Fernanda GARCIA VALDEZ: Bottom: Ahaetulla (Link). Snake resting on a tree branch. Terengganu, Malaysia.



September 2021

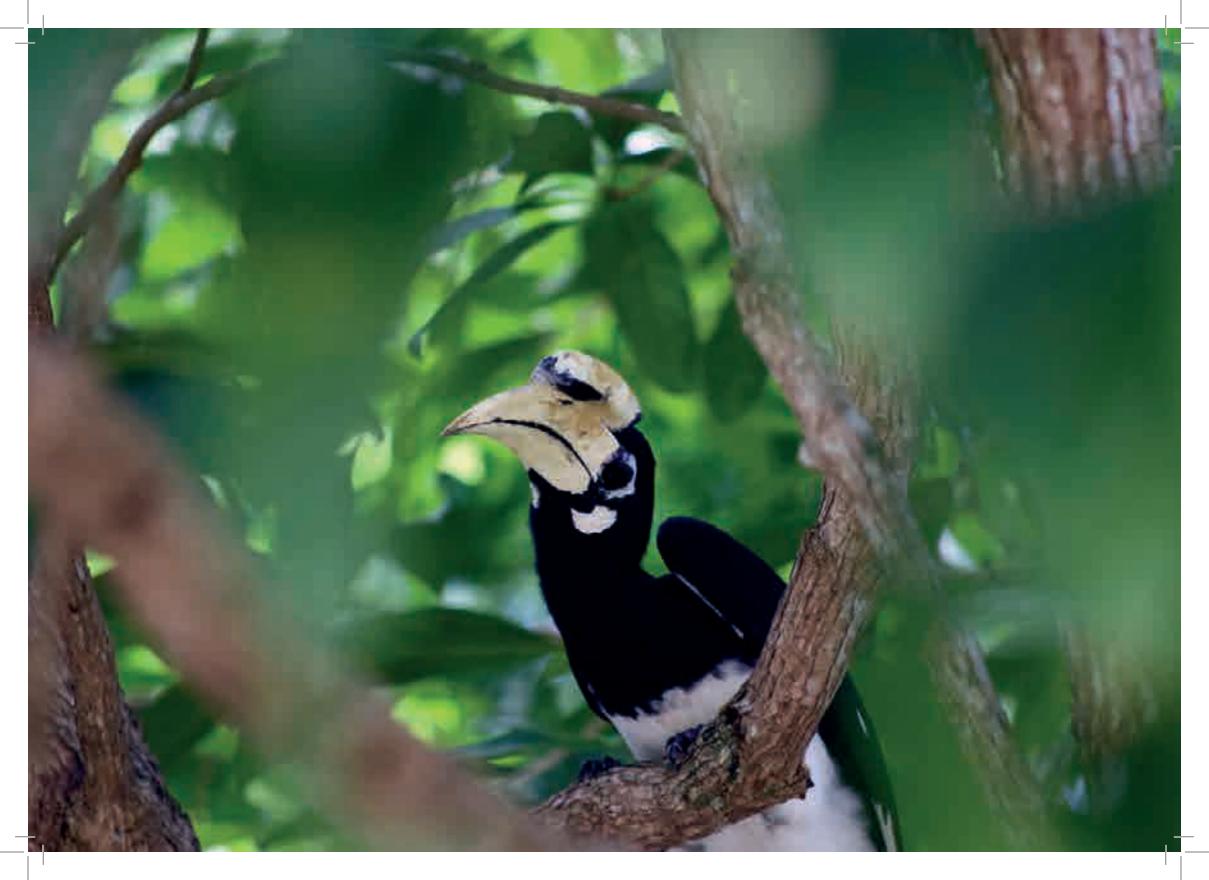




Eliza VAN DE SANDE: Top: Long-tailed macaque Macaca fascicularis (Raffles), Batu Caves, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Monday	Tuesday	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	Saturday	Sunday
AUGUST M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	National day in Malaysia International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer	17	18	19
Autumn Equinox	21 International Peace Day	22	23	24	25	26 World River Day
27 Feast of the French Community in Belgium	28	S 29	30			OCTOBER M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Samuel OFORI: *Inset top*: *Protaetia ceylanica* (Burmeister) Knuckles Sub-montane forest, Sri Lanka. **Eliza VAN DE SANDE**: *Bottom*: Sunset on Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia.



October 2021



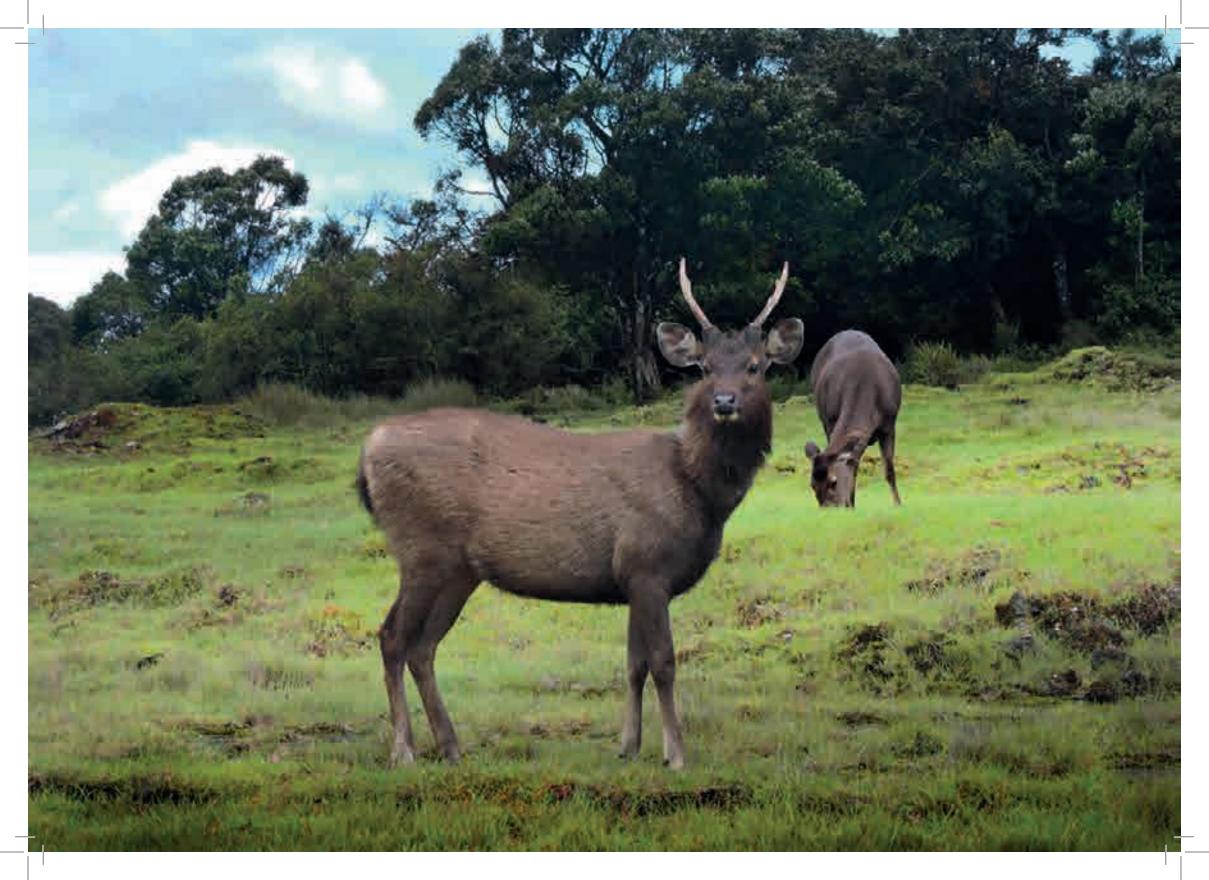


Molly GILBERT: Top: Anthracoceros albirostris (Shaw). An Oriental pied hornbill spotted amongst the trees in the forest in Langkawi Island, Malaysia.

Monday	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	Thursday	FRIDAY	Saturday	Sunday
SEPTEMBER M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30			NOVEMBER M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	1 Opening call for TROPIMUNDO applications	2	3
4 World Habitat Day	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Dussehra	15	16 World Food Day	17
18	19 Prophet Muhammad's Birthday	20	21	22	23	24 United Nations Day
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Anne Marieke DE GEEST: Inset: Three Ceylon Blue Magpies Urocissa ornata (Wagler) on a branch near Sinharaja Forest Reserve. Endemic species found in the rainforest.

They usually travel in pairs or small, vocal flocks, Sri Lanka.



November 2021





Gersey VARGAS RIVERA: Top: Sri Lankan sambar deer Rusa unicolor unicolor (Kerr), Horton Plains National Park, Sri Lanka.

Monday	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	Thursday	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	Sunday
All Saints day	2 Commemoration of the Faithful Departed	3	4 Diwali Deepavali	5	6	7
8	9	10	Armistice 1918	12	13	14
15	16 International Day of Tolerance	17	18	19	20	21 World Fisheries Day
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	Deadline for TROPIMUNDO applications	OCTOBER M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31			-	DECEMBER M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Pol FERNANDEZ MATO: Inset: Giant golden orb weaver Nephila pilipes (Fabricius) resting in its net, Kapas Island, Malaysia.



December 2021

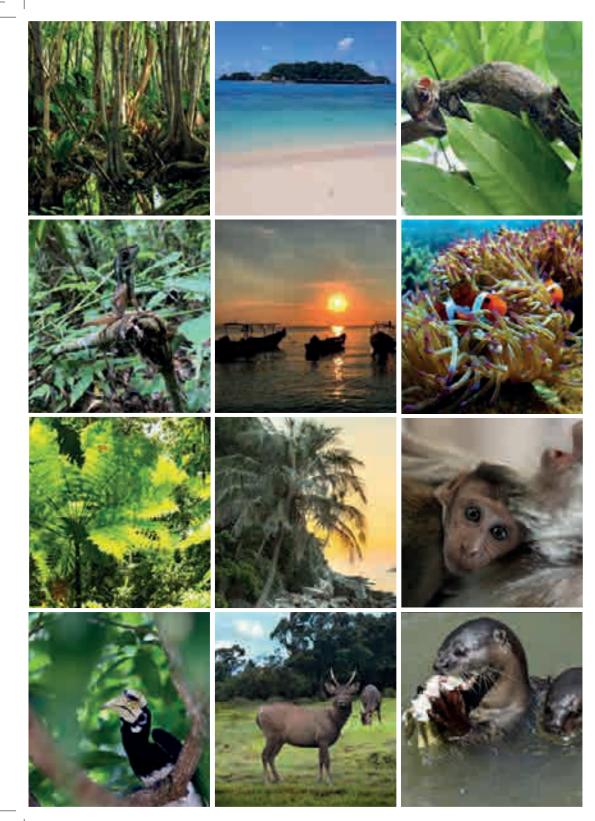




Rachel LEONG AI TING: Top: Asian small-clawed otter Aonyx cinereus (Illiger) Singapore celebrities - Of the 10 thriving otter families in Singapore, here is a pair from the Marina Bay family fighting over their catch. Otters are well-adapted to urban Singapore, and are social creatures that often live in pairs or family groups.

Monday	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	Thursday	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	Sunday
NOVEMBER M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30		1	2	3	4 Wildlife Conservation Day	5
Saint Nicolas	7	8 Immaculate Conception	9	10	N 11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Winter Solstice	22	23	24	25 Christmas	26 Santo Stefano
27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve		JANUARY M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Maria Juliana VANEGAS GONZALES: Inset top: Joruna funebris Kelaart, also known as sea rabbit or polka dot nudibranch. The body is covered with bristles, mostly white, giving them a fuzzy appearance. Also have tiny raised black bristles on the skin which make the characteristic black circular markings, Pulau Perhentian, Malaysia. Pol FERNANDEZ MATO: Bottom: Sunset at Kapas island. The fire was burning when a Tropimundo student and the clouds filled the frame, Malaysia.





Calendar 2021



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Concept: Sabrina Serrano Alvarez and Farid Dahdouh-Guebas

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