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Prof. Dr Indraneil Das

Please submit all materials for inclusion to the
Editor.

Enquiries:

Telephone: +6082-582932

Email: sywong@unimas.my

Website:

<http://www.ibec.unimas.my/research>

COASTAL AND MARINE BIODIVERSITY EXPERT GROUP CONSULTATION WORKSHOP

By
Cindy Peter

In collaboration with WWF-Malaysia and Universiti Malaya (UM), the Malaysian Society of Marine Sciences (MSMS) organized an expert group consultation workshop from 3rd to 5th of March 2020 at Universiti Malaya, Kuala Lumpur. The experts consisted of 28 lecturers and postgraduate students from various public and private universities as well as staff of WWF-Malaysia. Ms Cindy Peter (IBEC) and Dr Aazani Mujahid (FRST) were the invited representatives from UNIMAS as marine mammals and oceanography researchers.

The objectives of this workshop were: to collectively review existing literature and knowledge on Malaysia's coastal and marine biodiversity to determine the areas in need of protection and conservation for Malaysia's Maritime Waters; to identify Ecological and/or Biological Significant Marine Areas (EBSA) in Malaysia which ought to be prioritized for protection including identifying networks for Marine Protected Areas and; to develop recommendations for inclusion in the 12th Malaysia Plan and the 4th National Physical Plan on coastal and marine environment conservation and management. Nineteen proposed EBSA from Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah, and Sarawak were identified during the workshop. These proposed EBSA will be presented to the Federal Government for consideration as new Marine Protected Areas and to obtain funding for future research.



Lecturers and researchers from various Universities in Malaysia and staff members of WWF-Malaysia during the “Coastal And Marine Biodiversity Expert Group Consultation Workshop” which was held at Universiti Malaya from 3rd-5th March 2020. Dr Aazani Mujahid (FRST) and Ms Cindy Peter (IBEC) were representatives from Universiti Malaysia Sarawak