

Center for Community-Based Resource Management (CBRM)

Natural Resources Institute, University of Manitoba

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Date:	2/17/12	Entry Number:	1187
Case Study Name:	Towards a sustainable marine aquarium trade: An Indonesian perspective		
Author:	Reksodihardjo-Lilley, G. & Lilley, R.		
Document Type:	Bulletin		
Year:	2007		
Language:	English		
Document Location:	http://www.spc.int/DigitalLibrary/Doc/FAME/InfoBull/LRF/17/LRF17_11_Reksodihardjo.pdf		
Full Citation:	Reksodihardjo-Lilley, G. & Lilley, R. (2007). Towards a sustainable marine aquarium trade: An Indonesian perspective. <i>SPC Live Reef Fish Information Bulletin</i> . 17, 11-19.		
Region:	Indo-Pacific		
Country:	Indonesia		
Ecosystem Type:	Coral Reef		
Social Characteristics:	Community bordering protected area		
Scale of Study:	Community		
Resource Type:	Fisheries		
Type of Initiative:	Development project, local NGO initiative		
Community Based Work:	Resource management; conservation		
Keywords:	None		

Summary:

With all the benefits and information that modern communications have to offer the end buyers of tropical marine ornamental organisms, it is disappointing to see just how little factual information is available to them concerning the sources of the organisms they buy, and the circumstances by which they are caught. This article seeks to provide a view of the aquarium trade from the perspective of one of the supply countries, Indonesia, and to identify the actions needed to bring about reform. One of the greatest stumbling blocks facing those who are trying to reform the trade is the acute lack of data from scientific surveys to support their arguments for change. A visit to collectors in this part of the world will illuminate far more than the written word can describe. For those not able to visit, constructive dialogue with those working in the supply countries will also help to enlighten them, and hopefully provide some solutions to the many problems experienced by the suppliers.