

3.0 Linkages and Collaboration

AKUATROP has actively locked up collaboration and develop linkages with government agencies and private sector since its establishment. The aims of the partnership are to assist and sharing technologies and knowledge transfer to empower Research, Development and Commercialization. The partnership is also meant to provide training, consultancy and extension services. Some of the collaborators also funded a specific project under the MoU signed. The list of collaborators is as follow:

3.1 HP Aquaculture Sdn. Bhd. (HPASB)

Under this MOA, AKUATROP and Hp Aquaculture have successfully secured a Techno Fund Project on breeding of tiger grouper (*Epinephelus fuscoguttatus*) amounting to RM 75,000. The project included several milestones:

- ✓ Milestone 1 : Establishment of facilities
- ✓ Milestone 2 : Broodstock management and development
- ✓ Milestone 3 : Sex reversal techniques establishment
- ✓ Milestone 4 : Breeding and nursing production establishment

3.2 Lembaga Kemajuan Tanah Sarawak (SLDB) and Fisheries Unit, Jabatan Pertanian Sarawak

Commonly known as the Sarawak Land Development Board (SLDB), it aims to promote and assist in the investigation, formulation and carrying out projects for the development and settlement of land in Sarawak. SLDB is collaborating with Fisheries Unit from Department of Agriculture Sarawak to establish a crab farm in mangrove area at Sematan District. These agencies are very active in carrying out development plans and strategic programmes to help local community to be involved in mud crab culture. Besides giving physical support such as infrastructure and subsidy, these agencies also conducting short courses to the selected farmers. For the second time, on 15th – 16th November 2008, Dr. Mhd Ikhwanuddin accompanied by Mr. Haniff has been invited to give a speech during the workshop. Dr. Ikhwanuddin delivered a lecture on the biology of mud crab, mud crab handling in the cage culture and handling and management of soft-shell mud crab. As a result of this lecture, SLDB is interested to hire AKUATROP as consultant for crab farming project.



Dr. Mhd Ikhwanuddin during his lecture on mud crab.



Among the participants involved in this project.

3.3 Heritage Farms

AKUATROP had established a joint collaboration with Heritage Farms in researches of design and development of giant freshwater prawn (*Macrobrachium rosenbergii*) grow-out system. The project focused on developing a new closed system for giant freshwater prawns (udang galah) farming. Heritage Farms are seeking a strategic collaboration with AKUATROP for usage of consultants, researchers, lab and equipment facilities, laboratory test and data interpretation. Researchers from AKUATROP will be highly sought for their technical and scientific advice on the following critical aspects of prawn culturing:-

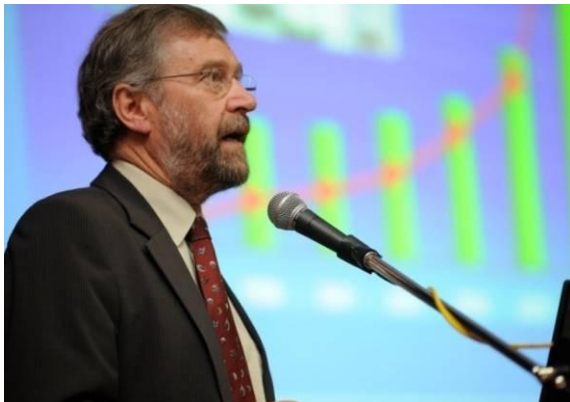


Giant freshwater prawn (*Macrobrachium rosenbergii*)

3.4 Linkages with International Universities and Agencies.

In 2008, numerous activities have been held by AKUATROP which involved several invited speakers from many international agencies and universities. These activities have indirectly initiated collaboration and linkages with those institutes and universities. Below is the list of the speakers that was invited:-

Scientists	Institutions
1. Dr. Anil Charttergi	National Institute of Oceanography, Goa, INDIA
2. Prof. Amu Therwath	University of Paris, France
3. Dr. Peter Mather	Queensland University of Technology, Australia
4. Prof. Jane Hughes	Griffith University, Australia
5. Dr. Yoon Duk Joo	KORDI (Korea Oceanography Research and Development Institute)
6. Dr. Agus Kurnia	Universitas Haluoleo, Sulawesi Tenggara Indonesia.
7. Mr. Ung Eng Huan	Global Satria sdn. Bhd. Tawau, Sabah.
8. Prof. Patrick Sorgeloos	Gent University, Belgium
9. Prof. Dr. Glenn Bristow	University of Bergen, Norway



Prof. Patrick Sorgeloos from Gent University, Belgium



Prof. Amu Therwath from University of Paris, France



Prof. Dr. Glenn Bristow from University of Bergen, Norway



Dr. Agus Kurnia from Universitas Haluoleo, Sulawesi Tenggara Indonesia.



Dr. Anil Charterji from National Institute of Oceanography, Goa, INDIA



Dr. Peter Mather from Queensland University of Technology and Prof. Jane Hughes from Griffith University, Australia