

Project Update: December 2016

Soon to be 1 year into Langur Project Penang (LPP) funded by The Rufford Foundation in February 2015, LPP has achieved several milestones on research, nature education and conservation so far.

For the research on the ecology and behaviour of dusky leaf monkeys (*Trachypithecus obscurus*) in undisturbed areas alongside with anthropogenically-influenced areas, I am now preparing the first manuscript for publication on the activity patterns, habitat use and diet of *T. obscurus* in Teluk Bahang. The troop spent 61% in the forested area, 27% in Tropical Spice Garden (park) and 12% along the coastal line (beach). Individuals spent most of their time positioning (46%), moving (23%) and feeding (22%). The troop consumed a high proportion of leaves (63%), followed by a balance proportion of fruits (17%) and flowers (16%). The research in Penang Botanical Gardens is ongoing and we recently expanded our research to Penang Hill to gain more understanding on the langurs in the virgin rainforest.

The nature education aspect of LPP is now “Dusky Outreach Programme (DOP)”, where we started to approach public and schools for primate educational talks. I was invited as keynote speaker for the 9th INTI International College Penang (INTI)’s Student Based Conference on 15th October 2016, and as a guest lecture for American University Program’s first year science student in INTI. DOP soon to be conducting more educational programmes for audiences of various ages and backgrounds.

LPP hopes to engage more people in wildlife conservation. Also supported by the Department of Wildlife and National Park (PERHILITAN), LPP is now being known to Penangites as the key contact for any related primate road kills/ illegal pet trade/ injury so that LPP is able to coordinate with PERHILITAN regarding these matters. Besides, LPP voiced out environmental concerns during a paired road project forum, highlighted the importance of protecting Penang's green lungs to achieve sustainability in development. Since the forum, various journalists interviewed LPP on our project details and articles have been published in local newspaper articles such as China Press, The Sun Daily, Kwang Hua Yit Poh Press and MalaysiaKini.

Furthermore LPP collaborates with Penang Passion, a publishing company in Penang for the “Think BIG” Initiative- a set of 8 langur postcards as LPP merchandises to raise fund for our conservation project efforts. Lastly, one of LPP's new videos, “Some Facts about the Dusky Leaf Monkeys” by one of our volunteers, Andrew Han, won the 1st runner up award for the Penang Green Council’s Penang Green Video Competition.

Langur Project Penang (LPP) Facebook Page:
<https://www.facebook.com/LangurProjectPenang/>

New LPP video- “Some Facts about the Dusky Leaf Monkeys”:
<https://www.facebook.com/LangurProjectPenang/videos/1833985350222006/>

Media Coverage on Langur Project Penang:

https://www.facebook.com/pg/LangurProjectPenang/photos/?tab=album&album_id=1837775929842948



