Biotechnologies towards Sustainable Development in Malaysia

Zarina Zainuddin

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Chapter 2

Malaysia's Sea Cucumber (Echinodermata: Holothuroidea) Database

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Introduction

The Sea Cucumber (Echinodermata: Holothuroidea) Database, Kulliyyah of Science (KOS), International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM) is part of the outcomes of a national project entitled "Systematics of Sea Cucumbers of the Genus *Holothuria* (Aspidochirotida: Holothuriidae) and Phylogeography in *H. leucospilota*" (the duration of project: January 2007 – December 2008) supported by the Fundamental Research Grant Scheme (FRGS) Category A for cycle 01/2006 (FRGS0106-25) through the sponsorship of the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE), Malaysia. This database has been launched and maintained by the Sea Cucumber (Echinodermata: Holothuroidea) Research Group which was formed under the Institute of Oceanography and Maritime Studies (INOCEM), KOS, IIUM. This easy-to-access and on-line reference has enabled a lot of people around the world including business owners, academics and researchers to refer to and be up-to-date with available research and information on Malaysia's sea cucumbers.

Development history

The Sea Cucumber (Echinodermata: Holothuroidea) Database was launched on-line on two separate dates. The first launching was on 1st of January 2009 at