

ANNUAL MENGO WORKSHOP (2005) REPORT

22 July 2005, The Saujana Resort, Subang



Prepared by

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Report on
Annual MENGO Workshop
July 22, 2005, The Saujana

1.0 INTRODUCTION

As MENGOs embark into the second year of Phase 2 project, it is time to take stock of their roles and corresponding efforts that need to be put in place in order to be more effective. This will further enhance the implementation of the second part of this phase. With this in mind, MENGO held its annual workshop on July 22, 2005 at The Saujana in Subang. It was attended by representatives from the 18 MENGOs (*see ANNEX 1 for the list of participants*).

2.0 WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the workshop are:

1. To evaluate the first year of implementation of Phase 2 of the project (achievements and problems)
2. To brainstorm and strategise for the second year of Phase 2 of the project particularly MENGO-government relationship, MENGO's commitment, new collaborations and project sustainability.
3. To plan for project activities (PSC meetings, government dialogues, capacity building training and National Conference and Exhibition on Sustainability, Malaysia 2007 - SM2007)

3.0 WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

The programme for the day is attached in ANNEX 2.

4.0 WORKSHOP SUMMARY

4.1 Welcome Address

The Chair of the MENGO Cooperating Committee (MCC), Dr Sundari Ramakrishna warmly welcomed all those present and initiated a round of introduction, and commended the representatives for sacrificing their day to be present. Dr Sundari then briefly summarised the day's programme.

4.2 Session 1: Project Review (facilitated by Dr Sundari)

Ms Adelaine gave a short presentation on the project progress to date, highlighting the past year's activities and achievements (*see ANNEX 3 for presentation notes*). This was followed with discussion among the MENGOs on the following areas :

4.2.1 Item 1.2.1 : Analysis of DANIDA-Malaysian Environmental Cooperation PSC Meeting

Dr. Sundari explained that the MENGO has been attending the Danida-Malaysian Environmental Cooperation PSC meeting since 2002. The meeting which comprises of representatives from the Malaysian and Danish government, met twice a year to review the progress of all the Danida-supported projects in Malaysia. She further informed that the MCC had met and came to conclusion that MENGO will do an analysis to establish how to be more effective in our position in PSC to flag off issues to the government. In the past meetings, the MENGO have taken on more observer role, but the PSC meeting provide opportunity for MENGO to play an advocacy role. This will be done diplomatically with a strategy in place. For the next PSC meeting due in December 2005, it was agreed that the MCC would draft the presentation contents and circulate it to the MENGO members for their endorsement prior to the meeting.

4.2.2 Item 1.2.2 : MENGO's Representation in Malaysian-Danish Component Steering Committees

Dr. Sundari pointed out that one of the project outputs is for MENGO represented in the Danida-funded Component Steering Committees. Although a compilation on MENGO interest in the 5 component studies has been carried out last year, it was decided that the same exercise be carried out to allow for changes. MENGOs will be provided with the synopsis and project document for the two on-going components (Energy and Environmental Hazardous Substances) to be reviewed and reconsidered by the respective organisations. MENGOs are to revert to MSU by Aug 5, 2005 on this.

4.2.3 Item 1.2.3 ; SM2005 Conference – Post Mortem & Input into RM9

Ms Linda presented a review of the SM2005 conference highlighting salient points from the analysis of the participant feedback, alongside with overall observations from the organising committee. Also, she highlighted some of the post-event efforts that are taking place following the conference (see ANNEX 4 for presentation notes).

Ms Linda added that since EPU has requested input from SM2005 for the 9th Malaysian Plan (RM9), MCC had collectively compiled the salient issues and constructive suggestions highlighted at the various sessions in the conference – into a table format for easy and clear presentation. The MENGOs were requested to browse through the summary and gave their comments to MSU.

4.2.4 Item 1.2.4 : New MENGO's member

4.2.4.1 Malaysian Society of Marine Sciences (MSMS)

Dr. Sundari announced the admission of MSMS as a new MENGO member and she went on to welcome them on behalf of MENGOs. Mr. Murugadas, who represented MSMS at the workshop, then provided a brief intro on the background and activities of MSMS. MSMS is a society established by a group of academicians. To date, it has a membership of 200 over and the society is currently headed by Prof Phang Siew Moi, and council members from across the country comprising academicians, marine enthusiasts and corporate

organisations with interest in marine sciences. MSMS has been involved in the organising of annual conferences such as Marine Science National Conference.

4.2.4.2 Water Watch Penang (WWP)

Ms Adelaine also announced that Water Watch Penang has expressed interest and duly submitted its application to be a member of MENGO. While there are no major objections to WWP's admission into MENGO, the MCC expressed concern over WWP's ability to commit to active participation upon admission due to its small headcount on membership. It was agreed that MENGO's incoming Chair and MCC will need to communicate clearly to WWP what involvement in MENGO entails particularly in terms of capacity building and close cooperation. And, thereafter, MCC will revisit their application.

4.2.5 Item 1.2.5 : MENGO's position statements on issues

Datin McCoy expressed the need for MENGO as an entity to be proactive not reactive towards environment issues and suggested the possibility of hiring a policy officer. However, Ms Lily highlighted that this is not possible since MENGOs already have two full-time staffs currently. Mr Shok Mee suggested that perhaps a think tank or sub-committee comprising of MENGOs be developed.

Mr Bishan suggested that MENGOs need to be work creatively within the loose structure that will be able to use as point of reference to address policy matters without weakening the partner, and Dr Sundari concurred on this adding that in each of these, MENGO requires the full support and participation from all individual MENGO organisations and not merely from MCC. Ms Jenny suggested that each MENGO would decide which component/issue to take lead on based on their relevant expertise.

Dr Sundari pointed out that MENGO has agreed to be a virtual set-up and each MENGO attends the meeting as an individual representation and not MENGO. Thus, Ms Lily suggested that the MENGO facilitator (Ms Adelaine) should accompany the MENGO member that attends the meetings. Ms Yoke Ling clarified that by and large this has been the existing practice.

After a discussion, facilitated by Mr Bishan Singh, the MENGOs collectively drew up a proposed mechanism for the tackling this problem, while address other related situations (see ANNEX 5).

4.2.6 Item 1.2.6 : Project sustainability

Ms. Adelaine informed the MENGOs that through consultancy services, for eg. in the preparation of the National Implementation Plan for POPs (Persistent Organic Pollutants) the MSU has earned some funds through administrative fee imposed on a project basis. Other sources on income come from rental of equipment, SM2005 conference. The total amount collected todate is around RM30K. However, the sum earned thus far is not adequate to sustain the Secretariat after the phasing out of the DANIDA funds. Due to lack of time, the MENGO decided to revisit the issues in another meeting; possibly in a 1-day brainstorming session or together with the government during the dialogue.

4.3 Annual Election

Following election proper, the following persons were elected into the MENGO Cooperating Committee.

Chair: Ms Chee Yoke Ling (TWN)
Vice-Chair (tie): Dr Loh Chi Leong (MNS)
Ms Jenny Tan (CETEC)
Members: Dr Sundari Ramakrishna (Wetlands Int.)
Mr Bishan Singh (SUSDEN)
Ms Haini Jafurah (PACOS)
Raymond Abin (BRIMAS)

However, due to her busy schedule, Chee Yoke Ling declined the position of Chair and suggested that either Jenny Tan or Dr Loh take up the post. However, both of them also declined the offer. After much deliberation, the meeting unanimously agreed that the existing MCC Chair and Vice-Chair be retained as interim chair and vice-chair for the next 6 months, pending another election that will follow suit where new, young candidates will be fielded. To encourage the active participation of younger blood in MCC, the MENGOs elected two coop members. Thus, bringing the number of MCC members to 9. The members of the MCC for the term 2005/2006 are as follows :-

Chair: Dr Sundari Ramakrishna (Wetlands Int.)
Vice-chair: Dr Calvin Loh Chi Leong (MNS)
Members: Ms Chee Yoke Ling (TWN)
Ms Jenny Tan (CETEC)
Mr Bishan Singh (SUSDEN)
Ms Haini Jafurah (PACOS)
Mr Raymond Abin (BRIMAS)
Co-opted members: Ms Mageswari Sangaralingam (CAP)
Cik Noorainie Awang Anak (TRAFFIC)

4.4 Session 2: Funding Opportunity

EU Malaysia's Cooperation programme manager, Ms Cristiana Famea held an hour-long briefing on the Asia Pro Eco Programme and Tropical Forest Programme, which serves as funding opportunities for MENGO and its individual to embark on (see ANNEX 6 for presentation notes).

4.5 Session 3 : Project Planning

4.5.1 Item 3.1 : 3rd Government-MENGO Dialogue (facilitated by Ms Chee Yoke Ling)

Ms Yoke Ling suggested that a mechanism be drawn up for follow-up with the dialogue outcomes submitted to the government. Mr Bishan added that from previous experiences, government dialogues serve as a good platform for gathering information, feedback for MENGO for their work and to build their confidence in MENGO. Ms Yoke Ling also pointed out that at the 2nd dialogue, MENGO had made substantial impact. Based on the discussion, the strategy for the next Government-MENGO dialogue is as follows (see ANNEX 7) :-

The proposed themes for this dialogue include:

- 1) Implementation of National Physical Plan –(NPP) - targeting state governments and local authorities
- 2) Review of draft Ninth Malaysia Plan (RM9)
- 3) Review of National Budget for 2006 (allocations for environment-based efforts)

Suggestion: A two-step dialogue : (1) focus group on special issues and (2) RM9.

After much deliberation, the MNGOs agreed to keep the topics for the annual dialogue broad as part of the tradition and to organise a smaller dialogue for NPP beforehand which will provide input into Annual dialogue. Ms. Sara of WWF informed the meeting that WWF has been undertaking a project on NPP to carry out a series of local level workshop, commencing in the end of 2005. Dr. Loh also mentioned that MNS is currently conducting a public participatory training programme to educate the public on Structure and Local Plans . As part of the public awareness programme, it was suggested that information/factsheet on NPP. This is proposed to be undertaken by MNS & WWF. It was agreed that other funding (possibly from JPBD) will be sourced.

4.5.2 Item 3.2 : MNGO Capacity-Building Programme (facilitated by Ms Adelaine Tan)

Following a discussion on the sharing of knowledge and expertise among the MNGOs, a series of training programme to be conducted by respective MNGOs was drawn out (see ANNEX 8).

4.5.3 Item 3.3 : SM2007 (facilitated by Dr Loh Chi Leong)

The MNGOs brainstormed on the concept and ideas for the next national conference which will be held in 2005; temporarily named SM2007 (after the SM2005 Conference). For details on the outcome of the discussion on SM2007, kindly refer to ANNEX 9.

Timing

It was agreed that the next SM2007 will be made coincide with mid-term review of the RM9, and at the same time avoid coinciding it with:

- World Environment Day - *as there will be too many activities in that duration*
- University and College semester breaks/exams

Sustainability

Another one-day session will be held to brainstorm on the feasibility of SM2007 to be used as a platform to ensure funding sustainability of MNGO Support Unit. A suggestion was made also to include this discussion as part of the government dialogue to seek their aid in funding.

4.5.4 Item 3.4 : IWRM Training for MNGOs (facilitated by Dr Sundari)

Dr. Sundari briefed the MNGOs on the background of the IWRM training. According to her, MyWP (Malaysian Water Partnership) is initiating a series of IWRM training targeted for Government, Education and NGO sectors on water issues, and as such has requested for Wetlands International, Malaysia to come up with a few proposed

modules, tapping some existing ones. As such, Dr Sundari has drafted a proposal to be submitted to MyWP (see *ANNEX 10*) and invites input from MNGOs on which areas/issues need to be focussed on. The MCC will deliberate further on this matter. Ms Lily Hor also recommended that MNGO look at DANIDA's IWRM project, honing in on NGOs portion to see how it can be integrated and at the same time bridge the gap.

4.5.5 Item 3.5 : Other matters arising

4.5.5.1 ASEAN Civil Society Forum

Yoke Ling announced that in conjunction with the ASEAN Summit which is hosted by Wisma Putra in December in Malaysia, an ASEAN Civil Society Forum will be held from the 7-8 Dec 2005. The forum will be addressing four main themes; among which are on human rights and environment. It's an independent forum with no government funding. About 100 people are expected to attend the forum, 15 from each country for each theme. The outcome from this forum is a civil society statement that will be submitted to the ASEAN Summit.

Four working groups have been set up for this purpose and MNGO has been invited to work on the environment theme. The draft programme has been prepared by Malaysian Secretariat and will be sent to all MNGOs.

4.5.5.2 Liberalisation of Environmental Services

Ms. Chee Yoke Ling gave a short briefing on the ASEAN's policy on liberalisation of environmental services which was the topic of discussion in the recent meeting called by MoNRE. She said that it is important that the MNGO is aware of the policy as it may affect them.

4.5.5.3 Mid-term review

Ms. Lily suggested to the MNGOs to carry out a mid-term review of the project order to monitor the success rate of the implementation of the project. The MNGOs agreed that it would be an effective evaluation of the project. In order for it to be budgeted into Annual Review which is due in the PSC meeting on Dec 1, the final Terms of Reference needs to be completed by Oct 2005. As such MSU is requested to submit a draft TOR to Danida KL by end of Aug 2005.

Participants List - Annual MENGO Workshop, 22 July 2005, Saujana Resort

	Name	Organisation
1	Dr. Sundari Ramakrishna	Wetlands Int.
2	Dr. Calvin Loh	MNS
3	Ms. Chee Yoke Ling	TWN
4	Mr. Bishan Singh	SUSDEN
5	Mr. Lee Shok Mee	SERI
6	Ms. Haini Jafurah Tainsong	PACOS
7	Mr. Raymond Abin	BRIMAS
8	Ms. Mageswari Sangaralingam	CAP
9	En. Nizam Mahshar	SAM
10	Ms Saradambal Srinivasan	WWF
11	Datin Susheila McCoy	EPSM
12	Cik Khairulnisha Abu Bakar	GEC
13	Cik Noorainie Awang Anak	TRAFFIC
14	Ms. Jenny Tan	CETEC/ENSEARCH
15	Mr. Murugadas Loganathan	MSMS
16	Ms. Lily Hor	DANIDA
17	Adelaine Tan	MSU
18	Linda Archibald	MSU

ANNUAL MENGO WORKSHOP 2005 PROGRAMME

0900 – 0930	Welcome & Introduction (by Dr. Sundari Ramakrishna)
0930 – 1200	<p>Session 1 – Project Review (facilitated by Dr. Sundari)</p> <p>1.1 Presentation on Past Project Activities and Achievements (by Adelaine Tan)</p> <p>1.2 Discussion :</p> <p>1.2.1. Analysis of DANIDA-Malaysian Environmental Cooperation PSC Meeting</p> <p>1.2.2. MENGO's Representation in Malaysian-Danish Component Steering Committees</p> <p>1.2.3. SM2005 Conference – Post Mortem & Input/Budget into RM9</p> <p>1.2.4. New MENGO's member</p> <p>1.2.5. MENGO's position statements on issues</p> <p>1.2.6. Project sustainability</p>
1200 – 1230	Annual Election of MCC
1230 – 1400	Lunch
1400 – 1500	<p>Session 2 – Funding Opportunity</p> <p>Briefing on EU's Funding - ASIA Pro Eco Programme and Tropical Forest Programme by Ms. Cristiana Famea, Programme Manager, EU-Malaysia Cooperation</p>
1500 – 1800	<p>Session 3 - Project Planning</p> <p>3.1 3rd Government-MENGO dialogue (facilitated by Yoke Ling)</p> <p>3.2 MENGO Capacity building programme (facilitated by Adelaine)</p> <p>3.3 SM2007 Conference (facilitated by Dr. Loh)</p> <p>3.4 IWRM Training for MENGO members (facilitated by Dr. Sundari)</p> <p>3.5 Other Arising Matters</p>
1930 – 2300	SM2005 THANK-YOU DINNER – Poolside BBQ

MENGO's proposed mechanism for its position and response

Areas of concern	Current practice	Proposed mechanism
1 Responding to emerging issues		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ look at common stand on particular issues and generate a general consensus even ahead of the issues being raised • 5 components (starting point) • 5 key events
2 Specific request from the government to review a guideline/policy or be a permanent member of a committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ MSU forwards to MENGOS i.e 9th Malaysian plan ➤ Facilitating role only but with no collective stand 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Scenario 1: One MENGO is invited and that MENGO feels there shld be larger representation ➤ Scenario 2: MSU gets invited to make a collective View ➤ Scenario 3: NGO rep at meeting and provides feedback to MENGO <p><i>Rationale: Working principle to encourage ministry, where necessary broader consultation of NGOs and stakeholders rather than limit to invitation to just one or two MENGOS, One institution is not NGO consultation</i></p>
3 Invitation to attend government meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ MSU forwards and only interested NGO responds to attend the meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Scenario 1: Only one NGO and invited also push for larger representation ➤ Scenario 2: If only one allowed, then collect a consensus/position statement ➤ Scenario 3: Controversial issues –include position of individual NGOs
4 Monitoring trends and current affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ MSU forwards and only interested NGO responds to attend the meeting 	List 5 current affairs/issues
5 Feedback from MENGOS	>	<i>Working principle for NGO rep sends brief report and Minutes of Meeting</i>

Item 3.1 : 3rd Government-MENGO Dialogue

- Strengths:
- Outcome vs output
 - Value gained from the discussions esp individual NGOs though not collectively

	1st Dialogue	2nd Dialogue	Next - 3rd Dialogue
<i>Date & Venue</i>	1 July 2003, The Legend Hotel	11 Oct 2004, The Legend Hotel	Sometime in October 2005
<i>Theme</i>	Environmental Planning	Enhancing Environmental Protection in Malaysia – Cooperation and Collaboration between Government and NGOs	
<i>Contents</i>	1. National Development Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Physical Plan • National Highland Development Policy 2. EIA Review Process	1. Land Development and rehabilitation 2. Conservation and Management of Protected Areas	
<i>Recommendation/ Follow-up Issues</i>	1. Government to set up an integrated information management system, which include research data. 2. It was recommended that a dialogue be held between the Federal Government, Sarawak State Government, and relevant NGOs to discuss the issue of compliance with National Environmental Policies.	<u>Land Development and rehabilitation</u> 1. MENGO to share their know-how experience with the Government 2. Access to government training centres for MENGOs 3. Institutional linkages for government consultation with MENGO and the public. <u>Conservation and Management of Protected Areas</u> 4 priority issues that were identified:	1. When the 9 th Malaysian Plan comes out (in Oct 2005), analyse how much of our input has been taken into account esp in terms of budget allocations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Engage in review session with EPU and/or relevant departments /ministries some 2 years ahead esp for the new budgets; and one year ahead for the existing budgets ➤ Highlight the input of RM9 for public knowledge – via the media 2. Follow-up on annual dialogue with MoNRE and other government

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Community participation 2. Management plans (development, formulation & implementation) 3. Streamline sectoral to multi-sectoral planning 4. Public education and awareness 	<p>agencies (sectoral or multi-sectoral) - federal and state levels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ starting with departments that we have made inroads with, deepening discussions ➤ “Difficult” ministries i.e MoAA, MITI, MoSTI – strategise our approach to be more effective. ➤ Greater transparency and openness within dialogue (even for govt to provide constructive criticisms on NGO effectiveness or lack of it) ➤ Engaging local authorities in next discussion/dialogue esp noting positive feedback from LAs reps at SM2005 ➤ Issues to address: Landuse, BioD, National Physical Plan ➤ Host an MENGO workshop in the run up to NPP or ride on WWF’s existing workshop (Dec 05-early 06). Awaiting for JPBD. ➤ MNS: Publishing of factsheets for public awareness – in three languages
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NB: SKI – initiating discussions on Aug 6 on local plans in Kuantan

Item 3.2 : MENGO Capacity Building Programme

PHASE 1	PHASE 2	
	<u>1st Year – Past training workshops</u>	Trainer
1. LFA Training Workshop	EIA and Structure and Local Plan	MNS
2. Community Rights vs Environmental Conservation	Community Mobilisation and Participation in Local Governance for Sustainable Development	Bishan Singh (SUSDEN)
3. Selangor Agenda 21 for Sustainable Development (co-organised with EPSM)	Facilitation Skills	M. Manomaniam (EPSM)
4. LFA Part 2 – Project Implementation	<u>2nd & 3rd Year – Proposed trainings/workshops (Aug 2005-April 2007)</u>	
5. Public Participatory Method – Mobilization and Participation of Rural Communities in Sabah (co-organised with PACOS)	Methodology in Advocacy & Campaign activities i.e. community participation, public relations	SAM & TWN – Nizam and Yoke Ling MNS – Dr Loh
6. Workshop on Convention on Biological Diversity and Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (co-organised with TWN)	Fund-raising	Resource Alliance (ride on their presence effort with UTAR and Nanyang)
	Media Relations – Engaging long-term relationship with Media - link up with DANIDA funded project – USM's Prof Zain (Case studies)	MSU – Linda in association with AIDCOM
	Project Management Tools i.e. Project Cycle, LFA and Financial Management	WETLANDS- Dr Sundari WWF – Sara (joint)
	Resolving Conflicts	SUSDEN – Bishan
	Environmental Legislation	CAP – Mages CETEC/Ensearch – Jenny
	Trade and Environment	TWN – Yoke Ling TRAFFIC – Norainie

Item 3.3 : SM2007 Conference

Areas of concern	SM2005, 6-8 June 2005, PWTC	SM2007
Objectives/Focus:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tackle a broad range of issues relating to sustainability • Provide feedback into RM9 • Financial sustainability of MENGO and MSU 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid term review and report card on sustainability • SM2007 – self-financing • (Possibility of helping sustain MSU?)
Themes/Topics	<p>Theme 1: Human Needs & Development</p> <p>1a. Quality of Life Visions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and Living Habitat • Culture, Values and Education <p>1b. Physical Infrastructure for Living Habitat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing • Transport • Food Supply • Water Supply • Energy Supply • Waste Management <p>Theme 2 : Natural Resources and Environment Management</p> <p>2a. Natural Resources Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air and Atmosphere • Land-based Resources • Rivers • Wetlands • Forest • Coastal & Marine • Bio-diversity <p>b. Environmental Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Management Approaches • Environmental Technologies 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Write a proposal paper to be presented at government dialogue 2. Get ownership of those involved by engaging them in consultation 3. Decide whether it will broad-based vs focused
Format/Orientation:	Conference-oriented	1. Strike a balance in being conference oriented and workshop-based

		2. Early call for papers and abstracts
Target Groups:	Total: 204 Breakdown: Gov't: 50 ; NGOs: 42; Corporate: 33; Academia: 13; Speakers: 52; Moderators: 9; Others: 5	NGOs – break it down to include CBOs, Civil societies and RAs Special session for them to prepare them in advance and to get their input more extensively (pre-event or parallel) Govt: > Top rank in EPU, parliamentarians – poor turnout Strategy: Approach 1) Political parties 2) State environmental Excos and ADUNs Academia: to encourage student participation- 1) decrease cost/solicit sponsorship 2) KIV – the date not to clash with semester break/exams i.e. SM2005 3) Early call for research-based papers Corporate: FMM/SMIs/SMEs Professionals: Institutes/bodies/boards
Partnerships:	None	Buy in process needs to start now – subtly and informally pending the preparation of the working paper/proposal
Sponsors:	DANIDA, MoNRE, HSBC	KIV – DANIDA funding may not be available; start approaching Govt, MNCs, Foreign and trade missions
Exhibition: Theme: Objective:	Anything and everything sustainable Fundraising-turn-awareness	TBC KIV – but no longer a fundraiser but more as self-sustaining effort focused on product/consumer-based exhibition that will attract public interest and venue and timing very important
No. of booths:	15 booths only	TBC
Duration:	3 days	TBC
Local vs foreign:	14:1	TBC
Organising Committee	MCC	MENGO
Working Committees	Exhibition Technical (conference papers)	TBC

