



**Research Activity Report**  
**Supported by “Leading Graduate Program in Primatology and Wildlife Science”**  
 (Please be sure to submit this report after the trip that supported by PWS.)

	12 <sup>th</sup> August, 2016
<b>Affiliation/Position</b>	Primate Research Institute/ D3
<b>Name</b>	Hikaru Wakamori

<b>1. Country/location of visit</b>	Bangkok, Thailand
<b>2. Research project</b>	Participate an internship at IUCN Asia Regional Office
<b>3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> May, 2016 – 3 <sup>rd</sup> July, 2016 (51 days)
<b>4. Main host researcher and affiliation</b>	International Union for Conservation of Nature, Asia Regional Office (IUCN ARO)
<b>5. Progress and results of your research/activity</b> (You can attach extra pages if needed)	<p>Please insert one or more pictures (to be publicly released). Below each picture, please provide a brief description.</p> <p>It was a pleasure to have the chance to go to IUCN ARO for an internship. IUCN is one of the biggest International Organization in nature conservation, which I am interested in. The internship was planned for seven weeks working with four different groups/units; Natural Resources Group, Communication Unit, Mangroves for the Future and Membership.</p> <p>At Natural Resources Group I worked on two things. One was updating a database about Critically Endangered Partnership Foundation (CEPF) in Indo-Burma region, which is a unique grant to the local nongovernmental and private sector organizations for their biodiversity hotspots. Another was to seek the probability to launch Primate Watching in Viet Nam. Primate Watching is an idea similar to Bird Watching: which people go to travel even to far places to see a target species.</p> <p>In the Communication Unit, I helped to launch the new web site of IUCN which started in May 30<sup>th</sup>. I also had a chance to make rankings to logo designing companies for Asia Protected Area Partnership based on quotations. There, I learned how the presence of IUCN should be shown to other organizations or to people, such as keeping the brand image solid, present the works that IUCN is focusing, and make people involved in the conservational work.</p> <p>Mangroves for the Future is a costal management program. My work was to make a quick survey on primates’ distribution at the target place of mangrove planting among 11 countries/regions. After that I had a chance to go out for field survey in Samut Songkhram Province, Thailand, so I asked my Thai friend to come along with me as an interpreter. By the financial and transportation support from IUCN ARO, we could conduct observation of crab-eating macaques living in the mangrove forest and the interaction of tourist visiting there for mangrove planting and monkey feeding. We also made some interviews to the tourists and the boat drivers who take the tourists out to the cannels. This survey result will be presented from IUCN ARO on a later date.</p>
	 <p style="text-align: center;">Wild crab-eating macaque</p>
	 <p style="text-align: center;">With the boat drivers and my Thai translator after the interview.</p>

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The monkeys approach to the tourist boat immediately when they hear its sound, to get something to eat.

The work at Membership was to make a membership list of IUCN Asia for the coming World Conservation Congress 2016 at Hawaii. This was a chance to know the numbers of the organization in Asia, country by country.

The staffs of IUCN ARO are from various countries which are not limited to Asia, and this was quite a big surprise for me. I had a personal experience living in Thailand for field studies but working at IUCN ARO was a very different from doing fieldwork with Thai people. Working in English with people from various back grounds, focusing to multi-country issues made me feel like I was working at stateless environment, which might be what we call an “International Organization” experience.

These precious experiences made a great difference in my perspective of the world. Working for conservation works step by step, with many stake holders’ understanding. Working inside an International Organization is working with the each person, regardless of the person’s nationality.



The staffs kindly held a farewell party for me.

## 6. Others

I would like to express my deep appreciation to Ambassador Masahiko Horie and Dr. Tetsuro Matsuzawa for coordinating this internship, to IUCN ARO officials and staffs for hosting and being friendly colleagues, to my supervisor Dr. Yuzuru Hamada for understanding this need and to PWS program for various supports.