



**PRESS RELEASE**  
(FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE)

**CONSERVATION INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME FOR FOREST MANAGEMENT  
CERTIFICATION BATCH 2018**

Drawing on the positive feedbacks received from graduates of the recently concluded Conservation Internship Programme (CIP) for Forest Management Certification (FMC) in 2017 and the supporting timber industry, SARAWAK FORESTRY Corporation (SFC), with funding from Sarawak Timber Association (STA) are organizing second batch of CIP for FMC.

CIP for FMC was first developed in 2016 under the Research for Intensified Management of Bio-Rich Areas of Sarawak (RIMBA Sarawak) to, among many others, address shortage of expertise in flora and fauna conservation practices in Sarawak. The nine (9) months intensive programme includes classroom theory, practical/field exposure and attachment with Forest Management Units (FMUs).

To date, a group of fourteen (14) interns have graduated from the first CIP for FMC in a Certificate Presentation Ceremony held on 17 January 2018. 13 conservationists are currently employed by the timber companies in the State to assist them in achieving FMC, in line with the State Government's Policy for all long term timber licences to be certified by the year 2022.

The second batch of CIP for FMC involving fifteen (15) shortlisted interns will commence in April 2018 and will continue to be assisted by several parties, i.e. timber industry in providing industrial attachment as well as international and local educational institutions and conservation NGOs in imparting knowledge and skills using revised training modules which include additional knowledge on conservation in other areas, i.e. planted forests and oil palm plantation. Graduates from this latest CIP for FMC will also be appointed as Honorary Wildlife Ranger (HWR).

A simple opening ceremony was held on 16 April 2018 at SFC's Corporate Office, attended by the interns as well as representatives from SFC and STA, including Hj. Zolkipli Aton, Acting Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of SFC and Ms Annie Ting, Senior Manager of STA.



Hj Zolkipli Aton, Acting CEO of SFC (second from right) handing a t-shirt designed for the Conservation Internship Programme to Ms Annie Ting, Senior Manager of STA (third from right) as a sign of appreciation for the Association's support and funding towards the CIP for FMC.



Interns of the Second Batch of CIP for FMC in a group photo with representatives from STA and SFC.