Contents

Contributors

Dr. Oekan S. Abdoellah, Director of the Institute of Ecology and Lecturer in the Department of Anthropology, Padjadjaran University, Bandung, Indonesia.

Dr. Andres Tomas Dans, Head Curator, Dr. Dioscoro S. Rabor Wildlife Collection, Museum of Natural History, University of the Philippines at Los Baños.

Dr. Amity A. Doolittle, Program Director, Tropical Resources Institute, and Lecturer, Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, Yale University.

Dr. Michael R. Dove, Margaret K. Musser Professor of Social Ecology and Professor of Anthropology, Yale University.

Dr. Herminia A. Francisco, Associate Professor of Economics, College of Economics and Management, University of the Philippines at Los Baños, Laguna, Philippines, and Deputy Director of the Economy and Environment Program for Southeast Asia (eepsea), administered by the International Development Research Center (irdc).

Dr. David Frossard, an independent anthropologist. He has taught for Semester at Sea; the Colorado School of Mines, Golden; the University of California, Irvine; and the International College of China Agricultural University.

Dr. Juan Carlos T. Gonzalez, Assistant Professor of Zoology, Institute of Biological Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, and Curator for Birds at the Museum of Natural History, University of the Philippines at Los Baños, Laguna, Philippines.

Mr. Budhi Gunawan, Lecturer, Department of Anthropology and Researcher, Institute of Ecology, Padjadjaran University, Bandung, Indonesia.

Dr. William Sm. Gruezo, Professor of Botany, Plant Division, Institute of Biological Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, University of the Philippines at Los Baños, Laguna, Philippines.

Dr. Lye Tuck-Po, 2003–04 Quillian Visiting International Professor at Randolph-Macon Woman's College in Lynchburg, Virginia. Prior to that, she was attached to the Center for Environment, Technology, and Development, Malaysia.

Mr. Pampang Parikesit, Lecturer at the Department of Biology and Researcher at the Institute of Ecology, Padjadjaran University, Bandung, Indonesia.

Dr. Rajindra K. Puri, Lecturer in Social Anthropology and the convenor of the Masters Programme in Environmental Anthropology, University of Kent at Canterbury.

Dr. Percy E. Sajise, Professor, School of Environmental Science and Management, University of the Philippines at Los Baños, Philippines, and Regional Director, International Plant Genetic Resources Institute, Serdang, Malaysia.

Ms. Mariliza V. Ticsay, Biodiversity Specialist, Biodiversity Research Programme for Development, seameo searca College, Laguna, Philippines.

Dr. Cleofe S. Torres, Associate Professor of Development Communication, Department of Development Communication, College of Agriculture, University of the Philippines Los Baños, Laguna, Philippines

Mr. Vernon Velasco, Information Systems Analyst, Institute of Computer Science, College of Arts and Sciences, University of the Philippines at Los Baños, Laguna, Philippines.

Mr. Dante K. Vergara, currently doing graduate work at Michigan State University and is University Research Associate, School of Environmental Science and Management, University of the Philippines at Los Baños, Laguna, Philippines.

Preface

In spite of a generation of heavily funded global efforts, there has been limited success in halting global environmental degradation and biodiversity loss. Recent reviews of the field attribute this to pervasive and fundamental failures in the focus of management and conservation programs (Whitten, Holmes, and McKinnon 2001; Clark 2002). We believe that one of the factors underlying these failures is systematic differences between the northern industrialized countries and the southern less industrialized countries in the way in which environmental problems are perceived and approached. Whereas there is great diversity within the North and the South, there also are systematic differences between the two in the way in which the major threats to the environment, and the best means of mitigating these threats, are framed. This also applies to the even more fundamental differences between North and South regarding the analytic frameworks or paradigms within which environmental threats are investigated. Scholars working in industrialized northern nations tend to naturalize their own scholarly norms and implicitly assume that they prevail, or at least should prevail, throughout the world. In fact, the scholarly conventions according to which the causes of and solutions to environmental degradation are framed, studied, and then reported, may vary profoundly between northern and southern nations.

This volume represents an effort to come to grips with this variation with respect to one region of the world, Southeast Asia. It represents the fruits of a four-year project funded by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. The project was explicitly designed to be interdisciplinary and collaborative. Percy E. Sajise and

Michael R. Dove were coprincipal investigators on the grant. Dr. Sajise is a Cornell-trained biologist and Dr. Dove is a Stanford-trained anthropologist. Dr. Amity Doolittle, a Yale-trained social ecologist, joined the project at a later date to assist in analysis and publication of the project's findings. The project was formally coordinated by two institutions with wide experience in multinational research in the region: the Southeast Asian Ministers' Educational Organization Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEAMEO-SEARCA, then headed by Dr. Sajise), the primary agricultural research and educational institution for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN); and the East-West Center (where Dr. Dove was then based), a federally funded U.S. organization that has carried out programs of education and research in the Asia-Pacific region since 1960. Much of the project's field research was carried out in partnership with two national centers: the Institute for Environmental Science and Management at the University of the Philippines at Los Baños (IESAM); and the Institute of Ecology (IOE) at Padjadjaran University in Bandung, Indonesia. These are two of the foremost institutions in the region carrying out research on the interface between society and environment.

Faculty and students at both IESAM and IOE, hailing from both the natural and social sciences, participated in the multiyear research program, as did a number of doctoral and postdoctoral students at the East-West Center and the University of Hawaii. (Altogether, the project's research findings served as the basis for one dozen undergraduate and graduate theses.) To foster a dialogue among all of the project participants, workshops were held once or twice a year throughout the life of the project, alternating in location between Los Baños and Bandung. A culminating writing workshop was held at the East-West Center, where project participants were brought together to write up the results of their work. Considerable project resources were devoted to translating and editing the writings of the contributors, making this for some their first international, English-language publication.

Throughout the project there was an emphasis on eliding the conventional concepts that contribute to the failure of so many conservation efforts. These include such things as the community

bias: the persisting tendency of conservation projects to problematize local communities, in contravention to which the project supported research designed to identify both the ways in which local communities support conservation and the ways in which supracommunity forces undermine it. More notably, this refers to the unproblematized paradigms that govern not only the ways in which the environment and society are conceived, but also norms of scholarly research and representation, the nature of the scholarly voice, and the critical role of the scholar in society. Our project and this volume have endeavored to make paradigmatic differences explicit and to construct ways to talk across them but not erase them.

In this volume there is, as a result, a challenging mixture of views and voices. The volume reflects in this respect the reality of the diversity, contradiction, and even conflict within the global conservation community. We believe as editors that it is better to try to represent this diversity than to try to resolve it. For it seems likely that only approaches to conservation that recognize this human, social, and academic diversity as the reality, and indeed as a source of strength versus weakness, can have any hope of success.