

# **Suggested 4 week itinerary for sociology and anthropology expeditions**



Operation Wallacea works in some very remote locations throughout the world and at many of these places we heavily interact with the local communities. In Indonesia Operation Wallacea has been working with local communities for over 10 years and has developed an integrated research program that allows the students to experience the life and culture of the people in these communities.

## **Indonesia - The Lambusango Forest and Wakatobi Marine National Park**

### ***Itinerary***

***Week 1 - IN001 Jungle training and tropical forest ecology***

***Week 2 - IL003 Indonesia culture and language***

***Week 3 - IK008 Wakatobi culture, community and environment***

***Week 4 - IK114 Fisheries monitoring***

This course will allow the student to sample many elements of Indonesian society in forest and marine communities. They will experience Indonesian life and customs, learn some of the language and be part of the daily life of the people in these communities. In the marine villages they will also work with the fisheries research project helping to monitor the fishery in order to help with the ongoing conservation efforts in the area. The student should finish the course with a good understanding of how such communities work, the lifestyles of the people and many of the issues they face such as sustaining their culture and making a livelihood.

The first two weeks of the course are spent in the forests of the Lambusango Reserve. For the first of these the student will join the jungle training course which is a requirement of all students working in the forest. During this week the student will be taught general forest ecology, including some of the main species in the area and their ecology. The course also highlights the specific requirements for working in the forest environment including safety considerations and conservation needs of the area.

After the jungle training the student will join an Indonesian family for the week and live within their home. The course allows the student to sample many daily practices including farming rice, fishing and cooking Indonesian food as well as having lectures on customs, language and elements of social research such as questionnaire design and analysis of social data.

The student will then be transferred to the marine site within the Wakatobi National Park for the second half of their expedition. During the first week they will join the Wakatobi culture, community and environment course. This will offer similar experiences to their second week in the forest but the student will see the contrast between the communities and the very different way of life for a fishing based community to one based in the forest. Again the student will observe the issues that face the daily life of the community while also some of the larger issues such as development of new industries and conservation of their environment.

The final week is again spent living in the local communities, this time working on the fisheries and usually staying in the homes of the local people. During the week the students will interact with the fishermen in the village and monitor the fisheries catch, providing valuable data on the volume and species of fish being caught within the National Park and develop an understanding of traditional fishing practices and the effects this has on the local reefs.