

Protecting the Future

Do you know what do white jasmine (Jasminum sambac), moon orchid (Phalaenopsis amabilis), and giant padma (Rafflesia arnoldii) have in common with the Komodo dragon, Arowana super red fish and Javanese eagle?

They are all Indonesia's national flowers and animals.

And today, is the country's dedicated day of love for each and every flower and animal exist. First established in 1993 through a presidential decree, *Hari Cinta Puspa dan Satwa Nasional* is a call to preserve and protect Indonesia's vast, unexplored territory and environment.

Living up to its megabiodiversity status, in October 2019, researchers from the Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI) discovered a new horned frog in Borneo, three species of *wayang* toads in Sumatera and a honey-drinking bird in the Alor island. The following month, two new species of orchid were found in West Papua and South Sulawesi.

To date, there are at least 8.000 plants species and 2.215 animals species identified. Including 515 mammals, 60 reptiles, 1.519 birds and 121 butterflies.

You can have a part in the preservation too. Contact local conservation agencies, wildlife organisations or check out wwf.id/donasi.

Yours trully, the community editor



