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**“Resource Management:
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**TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE OF SUNGGAU SYSTEM, HONEY COLLECTING OF
THE GIANT HONEY BEE (*APIS DORSATA*) ON BELITUNG ISLAND; SOCIO-ECONOMIC
OPPORTUNITY IN THE FUTURE**

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Abstract

Apis dorsata (Hymenoptera : Apidae), called giant honeybees, are important for energy consumption and supplemental income of rural communities in Indonesia. Certain technique is used On Belitung island, named *sunggau* as an artificial branch.

When its research was under taken in August to November of 1998 on Belitung Island, it was found a better understanding about sunggau management for honey production, nutritional recourses, and a migration of dorsata population. Some visits after the research have showed (year of 1999, 2000, 2001) that visitors got the good impression of it. They said that it was very interesting attraction in the new prespective of the knowledge. In the congress of the Asian Apicultural Association (year of 2000), Attendants called the lost information from the wisdom of the local people.

From the view of economic building based on the natural resource, some wonder come up from the people that enlarging of oil plantation area, tin mining, caolin exploration, sand exploration reduced the site and forest trees as an habitat and forages. If it is a small contribution from its heritage to the economic aspect, it will be disappeared as soon. It will affect through the live chain, the bee colonies are scarce, the pollination is reduced, plants diversity declines, related animal diversity and their populations will be reduced. It means unbalance ecosystem. Some problems will be attended soon.

We can introduce this local knowledge through the world in the ecotourism perspective than people can get the generate income from its activity. Thus it can be promoted to protect the degradation of the environment and the wisdom heritage. It can be promoted also to the scientists to explore its knowledge and will be followed by their colleagues visit.