

## Notes:

### Discussion Room for Collaboration, FM Symposium, 11 Feb 2026

#### 1. Training, Capacity Building, and the Next Generation

- Development of **training toolkits** for botanical research in tropical Southeast Asia (field methods, taxonomy, ecology, data standards).
- **Grant-writing workshops** and training on identifying and accessing funding opportunities
- Support for the **next generation of botanists**, including students and early-career researchers.
- Increasing **botanical awareness** through links with art, media, and science communication.

#### 2. Field Infrastructure, Protocols, and Ecological Baselines

- Establishment of **research stations** that can support a wide range of scientists and students (local and international).
- Development of **standardized plots** and clear instructions for plot establishment and long-term monitoring.
- Creation of **checklists with images**, linked to platforms such as **iNaturalist**, to support accurate field identification.
- Identification and documentation of **indicator plant species** that reflect forest quality and ecological condition.

#### 3. Knowledge Products, Data Access, and Dissemination

- Production of **abstract booklets** and other synthesis outputs from the FM meeting to improve access to research results.
- Enhanced availability of **publications and reference materials**, with a focus on open and regionally accessible knowledge.
- Integration of **regional herbaria**, with improved digitization, data sharing, and interoperability of collections.

#### 4. Expertise, Networking, and Community Building

- Creation of an **aggregator platform** to improve visibility of specialists, taxonomic expertise, and ongoing research.
- Compilation and maintenance of **contacts of specialists** to facilitate collaboration and rapid consultation.

- Organization of **community gatherings** (workshops, symposia, informal meetings) to strengthen regional and international networks.
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## 5. Institutional, NGO, and Funding Integration

- Improved **integration with NGOs**, including guidance on how researchers can collaborate with NGOs and institutions such as botanic gardens and vice versa.
- Development of clear pathways for **finding and coordinating funding** across institutions and sectors.
- Exploration of **Flora Malesiana (FM) collaborations with NGOs**, including shared projects, data exchange, and outreach.

## 6. Outreach, Visibility, and Communication

- Use of **Flora Malesiana social media (e.g. Facebook)** as a more outward-facing platform, emphasizing images, stories, and field activities.
- Broader communication strategies to raise the profile of botanical research in Southeast Asia and its societal relevance.