

Headline	Sarawak to host ISEND WEFT 2012		
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Journalist	N/A	AdValue	RM 4,242
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# Sarawak to host *ISEND-WEFT 2012*

**T**HE International Symposium and Exhibition on Natural Dyes (ISEND) and the World Eco-Fiber and Textile (WEFT) Forum 2012 will be hosted here in Kuching from Sept 27 to Oct 1. This was disclosed recently by Nancy Shukri, Chairperson of the Organising Committee at a meeting held at Rumah Masra, Headquarters of Society Atelier Sarawak.

She said that the two events were held back-to-back so that international delegates who travelled from far away could maximise their travel here.

"ISEND-WEFT 2012 will provide a platform for discussing the crucial issues facing the cultural and economic revival of natural dyes and colourants, and to present the success stories of practitioners and the continuing efforts many are making to convert, recycle, re-use waste plant material to usable dyes, crafts, textiles and fashion", added Nancy in her explanation of the theme "Waste to Wealth".

The two events will last for five days, featuring lectures, posters, films, dyeing demonstrations, an expo and market of natural dyes and pigments, and textile and craft products using them. There will also be specially curated exhibitions and the highly acclaimed Gala International Fashion Show.

There will also be organised post forum tours to weaving and craft centres including a special tour to the Iban weaving long-house of Rumah Garie to witness the traditional "Ngar" mordanting ceremony.

Nancy added that the ISEND-WEFT2012 had been endorsed by UNESCO, World Crafts Council,

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World Crafts Council Asia-Pacific, ASEAN Handicraft Promotion and Development Association etc with support from both Federal and State Governments, Sarawak Convention Bureau, Sarawak Tourism Board and Tourism Malaysia.

At the meeting, Edric Ong, President of Society Atelier Sarawak briefed the members about the details of the ISEND-WEFT 2012. He said that over 40 paper abstracts had been received from USA, Britain, Russia, Poland, France, Sweden, Greece, Turkey, India, Japan, Korea, Bangladesh, Thailand, Indonesia, Philippines, Cambodia, Australia, New Zealand, Taiwan, Argentina, Chile and Malaysia.

The paper presentations will be in the mornings, whilst natural dye, weaving and craft demonstrations will be conducted in the afternoons.

Edric also disclosed that this would be the 7th Biennial WEFT Forum which has been held since 1999; and recorded again Society Atelier Sarawak's appreciation to their Patron, the late Datuk Amar Laila Taib and to all the sponsors and supporters in the past.

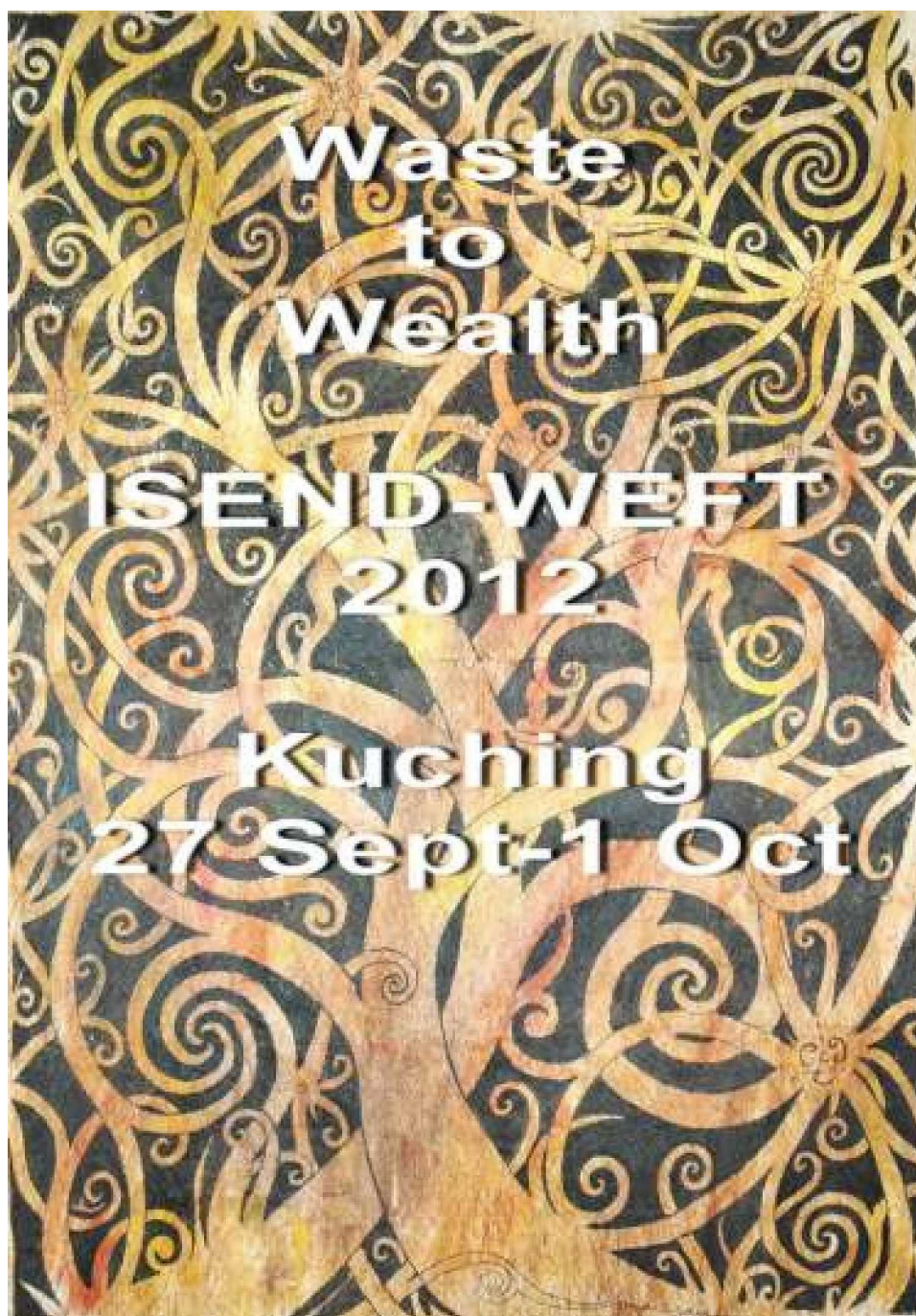
The highlight evening event is the Gala Diner and International Fashion show.

Edric said that at the WEFT Forum 2010, there were 25 designers who took part in the show, of which half were internationals.

The Organising Committee comprises of members from Society Atelier Sarawak, Kraftangan Malaysia, Sarawak Museum, Sarawak Biodiversity Center, Sarawak Crafts Council, Tun Jugah Foundation, UNIMAS, Borneo Adventure, Sarawak Cultural Village, Crafts Council of Malaysia, Forest Research Institute Malaysia and Yayasan Budi Penyayang Malaysia.

The official website is [www.isend-weft2012.com](http://www.isend-weft2012.com)

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THE ISEND-WEFT 2012 poster featuring bark cloth 'Tree of Life' painting by Mathew Ngau Jau.



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**NANCY** (centre) showing the ISEND-WEFT 2012 poster together with Edric (to her right) and members of the Organising Committee.