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Dr. Shawn Lum is a tropical rainforest ecologist. He was born in Hawaii and was educated at Harvard University and obtained his PhD from the University of California, Berkeley in 1993. Dr Lum joined the Natural Sciences and Science Education faculty at the National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University before moving to the Asian School of the Environment at NTU in 2015. Dr Lum is the current President of the Nature Society (Singapore) and also volunteers with the Jane Goodall Institute (Singapore). His main interests include rainforest ecology and the diversification of tree species. He also does work in conservation biology and environmental education, and interacts with a wide range of people, from fellow researchers to naturalists, primary school pupils, and educators.