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**Project Update and Progress Monitoring of Community Projects
in Kubaan-Puak Pilot Project Area
Date: 20th - 23rd January 2017**

**Prepared by: Emmy Goh
Revised by: Samantha Liew, Jason Hon**

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**Project Update Sharing and Progress Monitoring of Community Projects
in Kubaan-Puak Corridor Pilot Project Area**

Dates: 20th – 23rd January 2017

The Project team visited the Kubaan-Puak Corridor Pilot Project area on 20-23 January 2017. The main objectives of the visit were:

1. To share on the results from the previous workshop with locals from Ba Selulong.
2. To check on the progress of activities carried out in Ba Selulong and Long Si'ang.
3. To inform locals on the camera trapping activities plan to be carried out in February 2017.

Attendees

Table 1: Name and organization of attendees

No.	Name	Organization	Role
1.	Uyo' Jau	Forest Department Miri	Observer
2.	Mahmod bin Saadi	Forest Department Miri	Observer
3.	Jacqueline Fong	Tanoti Sdn Bhd	Facilitator (Handicraft)
4.	Alfred Keleman	WWF	Facilitator
5.	Emmy Goh	WWF	Facilitator

A meeting was carried out with the headman of Ba Selulong, Mr Jepery and other key representatives of the village (i.e. Selapan Malin, Lilin Lawai, Arau Abit, Kiya Nyagung and Rosely Nyalung) from Ba Selulong. The outcome from the previous workshop carried out in Kuching was shared, especially on the formation of liaison committee. Locals were asked about the progress of farming activities carried out in Ba Selulong area, on the growth of vegetable seeds and fruit seedlings distributed to them. Locals commented that some of the plants survived, such as the leafy green vegetables and fruit trees, whereas others did not survive due to unsuitability of the soil. Locals are learning from this and will find another planting location. When asked about the fruiting season for rattan, locals commented that they did not know when the fruiting season is and normally rattan fruits will be eaten by the animals. At the end of the meeting, locals were told to collect rattan seeds or seedlings and plant it nearby their village when they find them. Locals were also informed on the camera trapping activity in February 2017.

On the next day of the visit, a meeting was carried out with the headman of Long Si'ang, Mr Asai Berat. Other local present was Wong Berat. Similarly, outcome from the previous workshop carried out in Kuching; especially in the formation of liaison committee was shared. In asking on the conditions of vegetable seeds and fruit tree seedlings distributed, locals informed that they have moved the initial planting plot to other places because of the

unsuitable condition of the soil. According to them, old roots that were not removed made cultivation of plants difficult.

Besides meeting with locals, a trial coffee planting plot nearby Long Si'ang was visited. The coffee research plot located at N03° 48'43", E115° 00'00.9" (and N03° 48'43.4", E115°00'59.9" - at the logging road) showed 3 seedlings have died. Each seedling, protected with black netting but was overgrown with grass and bushes (Appendix 1). No one was taking care of it since the last time it was planted. Banana and rubber trees were growing in between the coffee seedlings. Mr Asai and Mr Jepery were not aware if anyone was taking care of the seedlings, and they had not asked anyone to do so.

In addition to the meeting with the locals on farming and rattan activities, Mr Asai also mentioned about choosing a headman or chief (locally known as Penghulu) for the Kubaan-Puak project area, where a meeting with the nearby villages was held at Long Kawa few weeks ago. Mr Ting Gadung, headman from Long Kawa, has spoken for himself that he would like to become the Penghulu, his reasoning is that Kubaan-Puak area is too big. If there are issues, villagers do not need to travel long distance to consult Penghulu from other area; in terms of decision making, it will be easier if there is a Penghulu available at Kubaan-Puak area.

According to locals, "the Community Representative Committee (CRC) is seen as the community representative for all the communities but it is only recognized by WWF only, while Penghulu is recognized by the government". Regarding this, WWF will forward the message to the State Administrative Officer (SAO), Mr Ezra Uda. The role and function of CRC will be shared with locals in March 2017.

From Tanoti, Ms Jacqueline Fong observed on the handicraft collection in Kubaan-Puak area. Several handicrafts were collected in this trip. The meeting discovered that there were disputes between local artisans in Long Kawa and Long Mera'an. To solve the issue in handicraft collection, it was decided to choose another coordinator to help collect handicrafts from Long Mera'an and its immediate surrounding villages, namely Long Ludin, Long Lesuan and Long Balau.

Appendix 1



Figure 1: Coffee seedling covered with black netting (left). Dead coffee seedling showing one single stem with no leaves (right).



Figure 2: Coffee seedlings infested with insects showed signs of leaves being eaten and brownish color leaves.