



WWF

NEWSLETTER

HoB

2018



International Climate Initiative Green Economy in the Heart of Borneo Project

The International Climate Initiative (IKI) of the Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety of the German Government aims to integrate greenhouse gas reduction, biodiversity conservation, environmentally friendly economic development with improving the welfare of local communities and indigenous people.

BORGE

Borneo Green Economy Newsletter

ISSUE 02 | 2018

BorGE

Borneo Green Economy Newsletter

COVER:

Photo : ©WWF-Malaysia/Amanda Nayra

An Iban maiden from Gunung Lesung performing a traditional dance, *ngajat piring*, to welcome cross visit delegates to the longhouse.

CONTENTS:

INTRODUCING PANDA CLICK!
TO SARAWAK'S RURAL
COMMUNITIES 02

PANDA CLICK! AIMS FOR KSK
AGROPOLITAN KAPUAS HULU 03

FRUITFUL SHARING SESSION
WITH COMMUNITIES IN SONG
DISTRICT 04

GREEN ECONOMY CAMPAIGN
THROUGH COMMUNITY
RADIO 05

RIVER AND INDIGENOUS
FISH EXPERTS OF SG. KAIN,
BALEH, SARAWAK 06

EXCHANGE STORIES ON
SUSTAINABLE NATURAL
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT 07

LOOKING AT GAHARU
FROM A TRANSBOUNDARY
CONSERVATION PERSPECTIVE 08



for a living planet®



PANDA SYMBOL

©1986 WWF-World Wide Fund for Nature (Formerly World Wildlife Fund)
®WWF Registered trademark owner

Welcoming dance during IKI Cross Visit to Empangau, Kapuas Hulu

EDITORIAL TEAM:

Head of Production:

Amanda Jengging | Jimmy Syahirsyah

Layout & Design:

Ageng Mulyono

Editors:

Andi Fachrizal | Albertus Tjiu |
Cynthia Chin | Hermas Rintik Maring |
Jason Hon | Putra Agung

Contributors:

Andi Fachrizal | Belinda Lip |
Fiona Maurice | Lia Syafitri | Zora Chan

Photographers:

Amanda Jengging | Daniel Michael | Fiona Maurice | Victor Fidelis Sentosa | Zora Chan



EDITOR'S NOTES

Cynthia Chin

In today's world, a healthy living landscape is one that comprises a balance between the sustainability of nature, economic benefits and the well-being of people. From the start, this is the vision and mission embraced by this project. As we strive to move ever closer towards this goal, we see an increasing number of engagements on the ground, from local community planting *gaharu* for tea to save orangutan habitat as well as gaining benefits for themselves to empowering communities in sharing their perceptions of the value of nature through Panda CLICK!.

On this side of the Malaysian border, we continue to gain traction with government and local community partners alike. A very important achievement for us this year is the completion of the natural capital valuation work across the project site, specifically in Song-Katibas and Baleh districts. This work lays ground to the crux and spirit of this project - a manifestation and celebration of partnerships, diversity and the strive towards a sustainable future in a landscape where humans and nature thrive. So we continue to walk towards the beat of this.

Jimmy Syahirsyah

The idea of managing natural resource and improving sustainable livelihoods in Indonesia received strong support from the local government, private sector and the community. We were able to host a series of project socialisation, data collection and mapped out strategies to implement green economy projects through the Agropolitan KSK.

The next stage is to accommodate bilateral discussion channels on green economic practices that have been carried out in IKI transboundary conservation area. We have initiated discussion with regional leaders, private sectors and community through workshops and cross visits to and from Indonesia and Malaysia. We hope that through this effort, we will be able to enhance a sense of ownership, cooperation and motivation for all components to implement green economy practices in the region.

Pristine water flowing from one of Baleh's tributaries.

INTRODUCING PANDA CLICK! TO SARAWAK'S RURAL COMMUNITIES



Participants eagerly learning how to use digital cameras.



WWF-Indonesia Technical Support Unit Head and Panda CLICK! trainer, Jimmy Syahirsyah teaching participants how to use digital cameras.

The word 'panda' is synonymous with World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) which uses a panda as its logo while CLICK! is the acronym for 'Communication Learning towards Innovative Change and Knowledge'. Panda CLICK! uses visual communication to document events related to communities and their surrounding environment, and it has been used widely in Indonesia to advocate for positive changes among rural communities including conservation.

WWF-Malaysia and WWF-Indonesia jointly held the first Panda CLICK! photography training workshop for this project on 21 to 23 June, for about 20 villagers from Rumah Peter, Song; Rumah Engsong, Nanga Kain; and Long Singut, Ulu Baleh, Sarawak, Malaysia.

Kapit Resident, Joseph Belayong who officiated at the workshop said, "This programme is a good platform for people living in Kapit to document their traditions before they lose them in this ever changing era."

"It can also help communities to document changes that might happen to their socio-economy and environment in Song and Baleh, especially when roads to these areas are completed."

Among those present were Bukit Mabong District Officer, Douglas Pungga and Song District Officer, Jackline August.

Besides imparting basic photography skills to participants of different ages, they also learned how to write simple stories based on photos taken.

Over a six-month period, WWF-Malaysia lent pocket digital cameras to participants to capture how they view their surrounding areas. Images and stories from this project will be published into a book, followed by a photo exhibition to showcase their daily lives in Sarawak.

It is also done with the hope that participants can change their perception of the environment and as a way to empower the

community as nature's stewards through photography.

Through this programme, villagers can document the attractions they have in their respective villages as well as the difficulties they face in relations to the environment, biodiversity landscape, socio-economy and traditions.

A subsequent training was held on 31 July to 1 August to villagers from Rumah Dagum, Song, Sarawak, Malaysia.



Resident Kapit, Joseph Belayong (second right) handing out a camera to a Panda CLICK! workshop participant.

PANDA CLICK! AIMS FOR KSK AGROPOLITAN KAPUAS HULU



Head of Hulu Gurung Sub-district, Drs. H. Baharudin, commented that Panda CLICK! is a golden opportunity for the sub-district.

WWF-Indonesia launched Panda CLICK! at KSK Kapuas Hulu (Agropolitan District Strategic Area) last February. This community empowerment programme through photography took place at Nanga Tepuai, Hulu Gurung sub-district.

A total of 26 people from Desa Kelakar, Desa Mentawit and Desa Lubok Antuk which are within the boundary of Hulu Gurung sub-district volunteered to participate in this programme. A neighbouring

village in Empanang sub-district, Laja Sandang, sent five participants for this programme. All of these villages are within the Kapuas Hulu Agropolitan KSK.

Hulu Gurung Sub-District Head, Drs. H. Baharudin, who officiated at the Panda CLICK! IKI Workshop and Photography Training said, “There is a lot of interesting things around us but sometimes we took them for granted as they are normal to us. However, these maybe interesting to an outsider.”



“This is the first time such an event is held in our sub-district. You are lucky to participate in this programme. I am sure there is a lot of people who would want to join this programme if it is opened to the public. I hope that you will utilise this opportunity well,” he added.

Panda CLICK! coordinator, Jimmy Syahirsyah said Panda CLICK! implementation is to give photography training to community and document important events in their daily lives. Participants can document their villages’ current environment situation and social culture. Through this programme, participants can record changes, advantages, difficulties and hopes for the future.

“Panda CLICK! invites the community to see, protect and control their environment, social norms, nature, culture, development and other important events in their own area through visual records,” Jimmy added.

This method is also used as a tool to collect information visually and narratively, apart from enhancing knowledge and local values for development plans, nature and culture conservation. It is hoped that it can add more value to the existing information which decision makers have, especially related to the district development.

Panda CLICK! encourages participation from women as they can raise up issues involving women and children development in the community.

FRUITFUL SHARING SESSION WITH COMMUNITIES IN SONG DISTRICT

WWF-Malaysia held a workshop for Song District Office and selected longhouses in Song-Katibas to share social impact assessment (SIA) findings on 2 August 2018 in Kapit town.

WWF-Malaysia commissioned, Envisar Sdn Bhd, to conduct the SIA to see local perception and possible reactions towards the implementation of green economy concepts at areas (about 2,500km square), which are mainly affected by logging and oil palm operations within Song-Katibas.

About 50 people attended the sharing session. This session provided WWF-Malaysia an opportunity to get communities' feedback on consultant's findings and explained about IKI Project. WWF's team in Sarawak also introduced themselves and talked on activities that would be carried out in Song such as orangutan nest counting, Panda CLICK!, sustainable forest management and developing sustainable socio-economic activities that aim to improve the environment and rural livelihoods.

The SIA study focused on selected Iban longhouse communities within the Katibas River basin, particularly those in the vicinity of logging operations and oil palm plantations.

Initially, all the 92 longhouses from six clusters of the Katibas River catchment were surveyed and then 18 longhouses were shortlisted for a more detailed study.



WWF-Malaysia Project Manager, Cynthia Chin explaining the objectives of the workshop.

From the study, the consultants proposed pilot community projects to be carried out in five longhouses, namely Rumah Sebastian Tambi, Rumah Dagum, Rumah Dominic Runggom, Rumah Peter and Rumah Sa. There are located within four clusters of Katibas River. Activities identified are planting of pepper, rubber and fishery management in sections of river under *tagang* system. Factors to be considered are interested participants, required

capacity buildings, site suitability and agronomy requirements, input resources and institutional supports and infrastructure development projects.

Moving forward, WWF-Malaysia will be carrying out more discussions in the coming months with selected longhouses and government agencies on the proposed pilot projects and measures to implement green economy concepts in the area.



Group photo with local communities from Song-Katibas SIA study area.

GREEN ECONOMY CAMPAIGN THROUGH COMMUNITY RADIO



Women in Bunut Hilir enjoying community radio programme, *Sura Suta* while preparing food found in their surrounding areas.

WWF-Indonesia is currently spreading their green economy campaign in one of Heart of Borneo (HoB) areas, Kapuas Hulu. One of the ways is by using community radio in the area to convey messages on environment and sustainability.

The on-air “attack” began through Bunut Hilir community radio, *Sura Suta* in February 2018. Prior to the broadcast, a series of discussion, socialisation and coaching on IKI programme was carried out with the local community and community radio manager. Additional materials were then given to the community radio manager to broadcast green economy messages regularly.

Environmental Services Coordinator WWF-Indonesia, West Kalimantan Programme/IKI Project Field Coordinator Hermas Rintik Maring explained that the

green economy programme is focusing in Kapuas Hulu and will be implemented in the Agropolitan KSK through IKI Project.

“We promote this programme through *Sura Suta* to socialise IKI project to the public, especially those who lives within IKI project areas,” Hermas said when addressing sub-district government and village government representatives, the public and community radio administrator at Bunut Hilir on 2 February 2018.

According to Hermas, the Green Economy programme implementation in Radio *Sura Suta* is needed. “Local production that promotes green economy initiatives such as honey and rubber production can be encouraged through jingles, talk shows, public service announcements and features,” he explained.

Discussion was also done with Bunut Hilir sub-district government, local village representatives and public.

During the discussion, WWF-Indonesia Communication and Outreach Officer Ismu Widjaya together with freelance writer Arbroorza Ahmad Yusra, and radio trainer Jusrianto, came to a conclusion that there is a need for quality on-air materials.

Other stakeholders also requested to maintain and take into account that radio’s functions as a source for information, news and education on conservation should be enriched and augmented. The community radio programme will be engaging some locals to do on-air broadcast. This means community will have opportunities to become reporters or radio hosts through mobile phone without having to be present in the studio – which is similar to citizen journalism.



Radio once again becomes a trend in Bunut Hilir with the presence of radio community programme, *Sura Suta*. This programme is initiated by WWF-Indonesia.

RIVER AND INDIGENOUS FISH EXPERTS OF SG. KAIN, BALEH, SARAWAK

The freshwater team from WWF-Malaysia conducted a joint fish assessment exercise jointly with the Inland Fisheries Division team from the Department of Agriculture Sarawak in Sungai Kain in May 2018. Sungai Kain is within the Baleh watershed and is a focus area for WWF-Malaysia to improve watershed management for the benefit of the rivers and its beneficiaries.



Tor. douronensis species found in Sungai Kain.

The river was selected as a potential high conservation value river to be further assessed due to its relatively pristine condition and the presence of *Tor* fish species, locally known as "Semah" and "Empurau". River pollution and land use changes are threatening the survival of the *Tor* and other aquatic species. This makes conservation in the area more crucial than before.

First, fish samples were collected from the river. Samples collected had to be sorted, identified, weighed, measured and recorded to analyse the diversity and composition of fishes in the river for its high conservation value.

The sorting of fishes took place in the longhouse of Rumah Engsong. The locals who also served as our boatmen and fishermen sat around us observing what the team was doing. They happily give information when they observed that we started with first identifying and then sorting the fishes according to their respective species. They greatly assisted with the identification and sorting using their local names for the fishes.

This process continued on and we were amazed that they had the patience and interest to sit with us throughout the process of identifying, sorting, weighing and measuring every single fish we got. More amazing was their immediate identification of the fishes with local names, without any hesitation. When asked how they come about knowing how to identify the fishes, they mentioned that it was knowledge that had been passed down to them since they were young. As we compared their identification with the more technical and scientific approach our biologists use, there were similarities in how the identification was done. Perhaps the additional benefit provided by the scientific taxonomical approach was that the scientific names helped to further classify fishes with common names such as "Adong".

In this sense, the locals themselves serve as local fish taxonomists and it would be a great interest and value to systematically document out this local identification and names to preserve the knowledge. They may not be trained biologists

but these local communities have valuable knowledge of the rivers, fishes and their habitats nevertheless – information which could be more than what we can find on published papers and research. This is because freshwater species research in Sarawak is still rather limited and is often written from an academic and scientific focus.

We believe the locals and their knowledge can contribute much to practical on the ground management and conservation of rivers, the freshwater ecosystems and their species for the benefit of nature and people.



Villagers eagerly participated in fish identification activity.

EXCHANGE STORIES ON SUSTAINABLE NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



Exchanging knowledge on sustainable management between two Iban communities from Indonesia and Malaysia.

A workshop on Sustainable Natural Resources Management was held to explain what is green economy and how it works to a number of notable cultural representatives and local communities from six Iban areas in Kapuas Hulu.

The six Iban areas cover Dusun Meliau in Desa Melemba, Batang Lupar Sub-District; and Desa Empangau in Bunut Hilir Sub-District.

The workshop took place at Lanjak Sport Building, Kecamatan Batang Lupar, Kapuas Hulu on 29 November 2017. Community representatives from Sarawak, Malaysia and Forest Department Sarawak also attended this event.

Speakers for the workshop comprised academicians and WWF-Indonesia such as Desa Melemba representatives Sodik Asmoro and Jemmi Christian; Octavius representing Desa Labian and Nurul Hasanah from Desa Empangau.

They shared their success stories on managing their natural resources in their villages. Some of the success stories included rubber Internal Control System (ICS), salted fish ICS, ecotourism, village customs, planting of *gaharu* and *tagang* system. These success stories are results from conservation projects run under WWF-Indonesia's programme.

In Professor Syamsuni Arman's presentation of University Tanjungpura, he said green economy is meant to improve people's livelihoods as well the environment. In this concept, there is equality in socio-economic and balance between development and environmental conservation. "This is important so that everyone can achieve prosperity."

He added that government should have active involvement in making sure that community are able to benefit from their surroundings. "Government should always aim

for the best. Reward those who did not harm the environment and penalised those who did," he requested.

Batang Lupar Sub-District Head Rusdi Hartono, welcomed this activity and hoped that this activity will be continued on. "We live in the Heart of Borneo. We are the ones responsible to manage our natural resources," he said.

Meanwhile, WWF-Indonesia West Kalimantan Programme Manager, Albertus Tjiu said WWF has been working in Kapuas Hulu in Betung Kerihun National Park since 1995. WWF will continue to promote sustainable natural resource management in the border areas especially areas adjacent to two national parks which are Betung Kerihun National Park and Batang Ai National Park. "We hope that we will be able to produce output that can be shared with Malaysia," he explained.

LOOKING AT *GAHARU* FROM A TRANSBOUNDARY CONSERVATION PERSPECTIVE



Participants were invited to walk to Rumah Manggat through *gaharu* plantation at Menyang Taih.



Cynthia Chin, IKI Programme Project Manager, WWF-Malaysia explaining *gaharu* plantation initiatives to one of the journalists.

WWF-Indonesia West Kalimantan Programme brought a delegation of IKI Project stakeholders to learn how green economy is being implemented to restore and conserve orangutan landscape in neighbouring Sarawak, Malaysia on 20 – 26 August 2018.

Participants of the cross visit comprised representatives from Regency Strategic Area (KSK) Kapuas Hulu Technical Team, Agropolitan Regional Development Planning Agency (Bappeda), Head of Hulu Gurung Sub-District, headmen, village chiefs and community.

They were attracted to the *gaharu* farm in Menyang Taih, an initiative by Forest Department Sarawak and longhouse communities of Rumah Manggat and supported by WWF-Malaysia.

This project resulted from an intention to protect orangutan habitat with the help of a local community. In this pilot project, a total of 11,000 *gaharu* seedlings were planted over 14 hectares of degraded land buffering Sarawak's last remaining wild orangutan habitat. Planted by the community of Rumah Manggat, the *gaharu* trees will bring them income through the harvesting and sale of *gaharu* tea leaves while at the same time, protect orangutan habitat from further harm. In time to come, the intention is to replicate this project in other interested communities in the Ulu Menyang Conservation Area, a community co-managed initiative that covers 14,000ha.

Inspired by this initiative, Kelakar Village headman from Indonesia, Sahrani pledged to try applying

this initiative in his village. “This is a good initiative. I will communicate this to Kelakar’s residents. Who knows what is being done in Menyang Taih can be expanded to Kelakar,” he said.

Sahrani also shared on the initiatives done in his village. According to him, Desa Kelakar has started rubber plantation using the Internal Control System (ICS). Since early 2018, product socialisation and identification have been done.

Sahrani explained that currently they are heading towards group stabilisation. ICS work process is different from normal ways. Hygiene and marketing standards are two aspects of the process they need to adhere to. These standards affect the clean rubber processing materials quality.

Group stabilisation is the first step to implement ICS. ICS is an internal quality guarantee, where this system is a way to convince the market that all the products have been processed according to established standards operating procedures. Hence, ICS helps to produce quality product and at the same time improving farmers' livelihoods.

Miau Merah headman Hasanuddin Lasah shared that there is potential of planting oil palm in his village. Local smallholders in his village are currently managing 12,000 hectares of land.

“WWF approached Miau Merah Village to improve production through ICS, strengthen capacity building, help acquire Indonesian Sustainable Palm Oil (ISPO) and Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) certifications and market network,” he explained.

KSK Kapuas Hulu, Bappeda Technical Team, Budi Prasetyo saw a lot of similarities between Ibans in Menyang Taih and those in the northern side of Kapuas Hulu.

“Badau and Batang Ai are close to each other - only three hours

away by road. There are a lot of family ties between the Ibans here with the ones in the northern side of Kapuas Hulu. Because of that, whenever there is an event or Gawai, they will visit each other,” he said.



Gaharu tea packaging by Aquilaria Plantation. The company became one of WWF-Malaysia's partners to implement sustainable livelihood project.



Cross visit participants posed together at the *gaharu* plantation.

BorGE

Borneo Green Economy Newsletter

100%
RECYCLED



WEBSITE

wwf.org.my
wwf.id
globallandusechange.org

FACEBOOK

facebook.com/wwfmy
facebook.com/WWFIndonesia



TWITTER

twitter.com/wwfmy
twitter.com/wwf_id

Supported by:



Federal Ministry for the
Environment, Nature Conservation,
Building and Nuclear Safety

This project is part of the International Climate Initiative (IKI). The Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) supports this initiative on the basis of a decision adopted by the German Bundestag.



Why we are here

To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which human live in harmony with nature.

WWF-Indonesia (West Kalimantan Programme)
Pontianak Office. Jl. Karna Sosial Gg. Wonoyoso II, No 3
Pontianak, 78121 Kalimantan Barat, Indonesia
Email: lsyafitri@wwf.id

WWF-Malaysia (Sarawak Conservation Programme)
7th Floor, Bangunan Binamas, Jalan Padungan, 93100
Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia
Email: comms.asst@wwf.org.my

Published by WWF-Indonesia West Kalimantan Programme and WWF-Malaysia Sarawak Conservation Programme, in December 2018. Any reproduction in full or in part must mention the title and credit the above mentioned publisher as the copyright owner.