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SABAH BIOCULTURAL COMMUNITY PROTOCOL

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Project overview

The Sabah Biodiversity Centre (SaBC) in Sabah, Malaysia, is in the process of finalizing Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) Regulations to augment the Biodiversity Enactment 2000. SaBC is exploring ways to implement the forthcoming ABS Regulations in the context of genetic resources and traditional knowledge owned by local communities in ways that also support local governance of biodiversity and the customary sustainable uses of natural resources, as per its mandate. This document sets out a project implementation plan for the Sabah Biocultural Community Protocol Project, the aim of which is to support awareness raising and build capacity among Dusun communities living around Mount Kinabalu about ABS, customary sustainable uses of biodiversity, and the protection of traditional knowledge.



Access &
Benefit
Sharing (ABS
)



Sabah
Biodiversity
Enactment
(2000)



**Convention
on
Biological
Diversity**

Community
Protocol



National
ABS policy



PROJECT LOCATION





The project focuses on the cluster of communities at Melangkap.

Melangkap consists of five kampungs namely Melangkap Baru, Melangkap Kapa, Melangkap Nariou, Melangkap Tiong and Melangkap Tomis, each with a distinct customary and administrative unit.





JAWATANKUASA BIO-BUDAYA MELANGKAP



PROJECT PARTNERS

Melangkap Community



Natural Justice

Funded by:



**BIO-
CULTURAL
COMMUNITY
PROTOCOL
IN
MELANGKAP**

**RAISE AWARENESS AND
BUILD CAPACITY**

*(ABS, FPIC
Traditional Knowledge
customary sustainable uses of
biodiversity,
the protection of traditional
knowledge)*


**USE COMMUNITY
PROTOCOLS AS A TOOL**

RAISE AWARENESS AND BUILD CAPACITY


Awareness
on ACCESS &
BENEFIT
SHARING

Awareness
On FREE, PRIOR
& INFORMED
CONSENT

*FPIC is a process of engagement, not an event




The project supports capacity building and raise awareness about ABS and customary sustainable uses of biodiversity, the project explored the following overarching themes:




How does communities' traditional knowledge support customary sustainable uses of biodiversity, and vice versa?




How do communities share their knowledge, innovations and practices?




What are the local dynamics, resources, and/or legal and policy frameworks that support or affect communities' traditional knowledge?



Exploring these issues will better enable communities living around
Mount
Kinabalu to define:



To government agencies, how
they can engage with and
support the
communities to continue
their customary sustainable uses
of biodiversity and
protect their traditional
knowledge;



To commercial and non-commercial
users, the conditions and values that
govern the sharing of their traditional
knowledge and biodiversity.



PROJECT ACTIVITIES

A . Activities Relating to Communities and ABS

- Promote continued customary use and exchange of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge within and amongst indigenous peoples and local communities in accordance with the objectives of the Convention;
- Take into consideration indigenous peoples' and local communities' customary laws and community protocols and procedures, as applicable, with respect to traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources;

Melangkap
Cluster
Community
Researchers



Whilley Rensiki



Roslen Marupin



Dumin Sinit




Ronimin Kamin



Friska Ellcy & Melessa Danil



- 
- Ensure that the prior informed consent of indigenous peoples and local communities is obtained for access to genetic resources where they have the established right to grant access to such resources;
 - Ensure that traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources that is held by indigenous peoples and local communities is accessed with their prior and informed consent and that mutually agreed terms have been established;
 - Work with indigenous peoples and local communities to establish mechanisms to inform potential users of traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources about the users' obligations;




Stakeholders consultation before the commencement of project



Documentation of Traditional Knowledge and Medicinal Plants




Documentation of Traditional Knowledge



B . Activities Relating to Traditional Knowledge, Customary Sustainable Uses of Biodiversity, and Community Conserved Areas

- Promote synergies in the (sub-)national implementation of the CBD's various programmes of work;
- Protect and encourage customary sustainable use of biodiversity by indigenous peoples and local communities through (sub-)national biodiversity strategies, policies, and action plans, and with the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities;

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- Recognize the role of indigenous peoples' and local communities' traditional knowledge and customary sustainable use and conservation practices, including within farmlands, agro- ecosystems, and secondary forests;
 - Support the *in situ* maintenance, conservation, and/or revitalization of plants, indigenous crop varieties, and associated traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, in order to ensure sustainable livelihoods and traditional lifestyles, food security and nutrition, and health care;
 - Recognize the role of indigenous peoples' and local community conserved areas in biodiversity conservation, in collaborative management and diversification of governance types, and in strengthening ecosystem connectivity, landscape resilience and maintenance of ecosystem services;



Capacity building for community researchers



Focus Group Discussions



Community Mapping





PROJECT OUTCOME

Local Communities

- Greater and/or more explicit awareness among young people in the communities of the ways in which their older members hold and share knowledge and about the customary sustainable uses of biodiversity that support that knowledge, and vice versa.
- Greater awareness of how traditional knowledge can be accessed and used by outsiders, how communities can retain control over the process, and considerations such as ownership of knowledge and sharing of benefits arising from its utilization.



PROJECT OUTCOME

Local Communities

- Capacity to provide greater clarity to external stakeholders about their core values, challenges, priorities, and plans relating to the conservation and customary sustainable uses of biodiversity and the protection and promotion of their traditional knowledge.
- Capacity of community researchers and a local coordinator to conduct trainings, facilitate workshops and community meetings, employ documentation and reporting techniques, and engage collaboratively with a range of stakeholders.



PROJECT OUTCOME

Civil Society and Non-Governmental Organizations

Further development of concepts and methodologies for supporting communities to engage with government agencies and (non-)commercial researchers according to communities' terms and conditions. One such methodology may include, as appropriate, community protocols.

Researchers

Capacity of community researchers and a local coordinator to conduct trainings, facilitate workshops and community meetings, employ documentation and reporting techniques, and engage collaboratively with a range of stakeholders.



SaBC and other State and National Level Bodies

- Greater awareness within SaBC of the local opportunities and challenges that communities face when engaging with legal and policy frameworks concerning traditional knowledge, innovations and practices and the customary sustainable use of biodiversity, including access and benefit sharing.
- Community experiences and lessons learned informing law- and policy-making processes relating to the protection of traditional knowledge, customary sustainable uses of biodiversity, and biodiversity conservation.

International and Regional Meetings

- Contribute to the ongoing development of good practices relating to the use of participatory tools such as community mapping, community protocols, and multi-stakeholder dialogues.

Melangkap Document and Community Protocol



Presentation of the signed community protocol (protocol induk) to Ketua Kampung and JKKK to each Melangkap witnessed by community members that attended the gathering



**COMMUNITY PROTOCOL AS A
TOOL:**



READINESS TO ENTER INTO
DIALOGUE WITH
STAKEHOLDERS

WHAT IMPACTS CAN A PROTOCOL HAVE?

The **process** of documenting and leading to developing a protocol is just as important as the outcome.



Can help **clarify** rights and responsibilities.

Can help **strengthen** collaborative decision-making processes and create common goals.

Can **support** continuity of customary laws, values, and traditional practices.

Can help **protect** against negative practices or industries



THANK YOU