

# **INDIGENOUS INVOLVEMENT IN DOCUMENTING TRADITIONAL MEDICINAL & AROMATIC PLANTS**

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# The Presenter

Name: Norya Abas

Position: Batin (headman) of Gau-Pelawan Village

Indigenous sub-ethnic group: Semelai

Location: Bera Lake area, a Ramsar wetland site in Pahang

# Reasons for Involvement in TK Project

- As indigenous leader, I understand the issues related to Convention on Biological Diversity
- To protect intellectual property of TK
- Loss & erosion of TK over the years
  - (a) Easy availability of modern medicine
  - (b) Young generation not keen to learn & practise traditional medication
- © Reluctance of TK holders to pass down knowledge
- FRIM's approach is practical & beneficial to community
- Good relationship with FRIM researchers, including 1 indigenous people



# Malaysia



## Location of Semelai Community

**PENINSULAR MALAYSIA**

**SABAH**

**SARAWAK**



# Why TK Project Is Special?

- In the past: intellectual property piracy
- This project:
  1. Respect local community
  2. Obtain Prior Informed Consent
  3. Involve in decision making (National Technical Working Committee)
  4. Potential for local business enterprise
  5. Benefit sharing with community

# Our Wish List

1. TK Project to be given permanent status: TK Centre to be established under Malaysia's ABS law
2. Indigenous community to have own herbal product factory and marketing (TK + modern technology)
3. Benefit sharing for community
  - (a) Semelai community development fund
  - (b) income generation for locals

Thank You for Your Attention.