

WORKSHOP FOR PREPARATION OF RAMSAR CEPA MATRIX (ACTION PLAN OF RAMSAR CEPA)

Background of the workshop:

Under BBEC II, the Lower Kinabatangan-Segama Wetlands (LKSJ) in Sabah was officially designated as Sabah’s first and Malaysia’s largest Ramsar site at Ramsar COP10 in October 2008.

On 11 August 2008, when chances of Ramsar designation became high, Science and Technology Unit (UST) organized a workshop to discuss how to publish the designation of the Ramsar site. As a result, they drafted a plan to disseminate the information of the Ramsar site.

As a part of information dissemination of the designation, UST and Sabah Forestry Department (SFD) published posters explaining LKSJ as a Ramsar site then displayed and distributed them at Ramsar COP10.

Upon the Ramsar designation, UST organized a ceremony and a press conference to issue press release about the Ramsar designation. In November 2008, the BBEC Journalists Taskforce, SaBC and SFD jointly organized a press tour to the Ramsar site. As a result, many newspaper articles on the Ramsar site were published, and also some TV news programmes on the tour were broadcasted.

From 9 to 11 February 2009, SaBC organized a workshop for management plan of LKSJ. In the workshop, the participants discussed and identified conservation targets to be addressed and actions to be taken to achieve the targets. CEPA was one of the four main issues discussed by subgroups in the workshop.



Fig 1. Lower Kinabatangan-Segama Wetlands Ramsar COP10 Poster

Since May 2009, UST has called meetings on Ramsar CEPA, which was subsequently called as “Ramsar CEPA Subcommittee” meetings and organized as a part of formulation of the Ramsar management plan. The subcommittee directed production of some videos for Ramsar CEPA, supervising a video producing contractor (Scubazoo) employed by JICA.

One Ramsar introductory video was completed, distributed to the BBEC II members and showed in ASEAN Biodiversity Conference in October 2009. The introductory video which is 7:42 minute in length can be a good platform to disseminate the information on the largest Ramsar Wetland in Malaysia and the first Ramsar site in Sabah state in north Borneo island and also give emphasis on the importance of the Lower Kinabatangan-Segama Wetlands Ramsar site as home for endangered wildlife.

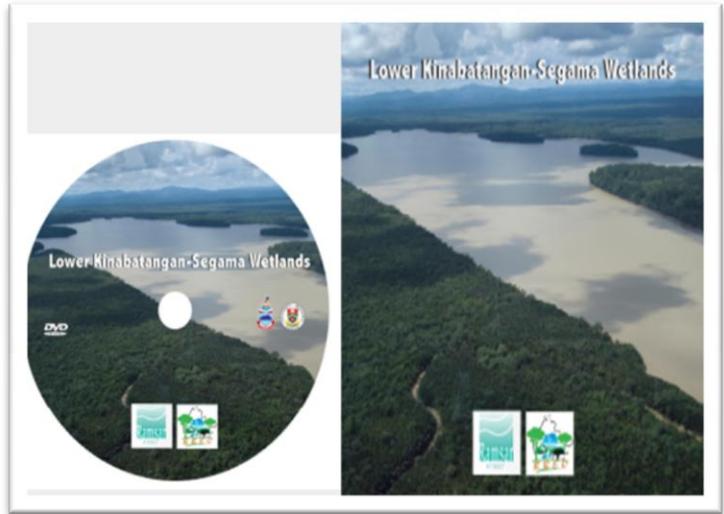


Fig 2. Lower Kinabatangan Segama Wetlands introductory video

Under the current CEPA Programme of the Ramsar Convention, Resolution X.8, all Parties are urged to develop a CEPA Action Plan at some level – national, sub-national, catchment or local level – in order to identify priority activities that address recognised needs in the field of CEPA to support the wise use of wetlands.

In August 2009, UST drafted an action plan of Ramsar CEPA, compiling the above mentioned draft plan to disseminate the information of the Ramsar site (in August 2008) and the output of the workshop for management plan of LKSW (in Feb. 2009).

To make planning and implementation of Ramsar CEPA activities more strategic, participatory and effective, review of the past and current activities and elaboration of the action plan is needed.

Therefore, on 2nd February 2010 held at Kota Kinabalu Wetlands Centre, a Workshop on preparation of the Ramsar CEPA matrix (Action Plan) was organised by the Sabah State Focal Point for Ramsar Convention, Sabah Biodiversity Centre. The one-day workshop was composed of several presentations and group discussions on the Ramsar CEPA. There were about 40 participants from government agencies, non-government agencies, institute and organizations in Malaysia participated in the workshop.

Tasks of the workshop were to review the activities implemented and the materials prepared under the Ramsar CEPA, to revise an action plan of Ramsar CEPA (Ramsar CEPA Matrix) which clearly identify and prioritize problems to be addressed, target groups, expected changes of the target groups and media to promote the changes, and prepare detailed plans to produce particular EE materials including the two video programmes following the action plan.

Schedule of the Workshop

Session	Speaker
Opening Remarks	Dr. Abdul Fatah Amir (Director of Sabah Biodiversity Centre)
Presentation: Formulation of the Ramsar Management Plan and findings through it	Dr. Abdul Fatah Amir (Director of Sabah Biodiversity Centre)
Presentation: The current action plan of the Ramsar CEPA and its implementation	Mrs. Ken Kartina Khamis (Science and Technology Unit)
Presentation: Importance of CEPA in Ramsar Convention	Ms. Rebecca D'cruz (Vice-Chairperson, the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP), Ramsar's scientific subsidiary body/ member of Ramsar's CEPA Oversight Panel)
Experience of Ramsar Centre Japan on Ramsar CEPA in Asia	Ms. Reiko Nakamura- Ramsar Centre Japan (JICA short-term expert for CEPA)
Effectiveness of audiovisual aids in CEPA	Mr. Tamotsu Kameyama (JICA short-term expert for Environmental Education Materials)
Closing Remarks	Mr. Motohiro Hasegawa (JICA Chief Advisor)



- Opening remarks and explanation on the background and the task of the workshop by Dr. Abdul Fatah Amir -



-The Workshop participants-



- Group discussion and formulation of Ramsar CEPA action plan-

As a result of the workshop, a detailed action plan of Ramsar CEPA (Ramsar CEPA Matrix) and an action plan for Ramsar Video production were prepared.

[Ramsar CEPA Matrix (Action Plan)]

2010

Problems/Issues	Desired Outcomes through CEPA	Target Group	Priority	Key Message	Tools/Medium/Action	
Water Quality						
Total suspended solids (causing poor biodiversity in Kinabatangan river)						
Oil Palm Non-point sources (caused by lack of Awareness of plantation owners, etc.)	Change of current practice	Oil palm plantation in-site managers & workers	1	- Apply RSPO Principle and Criteria - Understand value of Ramsar site and participation	- RSPO - MPOB, MPOA - Development of a manual case studies on best management practice in palm plantation - Field demonstration of the best management practice - Formation of Friend's of Kinabatangan * Coordination with the study on pollution of Kinabatangan river by DOE and the study of Sagama river by DOE	
		Oil palm owners	1			
		Policy makers/politician	1	- Impact of water pollution to Ramsar site - Economic value of wetlands		- Video - Panel discussion
		Government Enforcement Agencies EPD/DID/DOE/District Office/DOA	1	- Enforcing Law - Rules and regulations are needed		- Familiarization trip to the site
		Consumers (Foreign buyers) *Main buyers are Japan, China and India.	2	- Buy sustainable palm oil - Ethical consumerism		- Awareness through traditional (newspapers/TV) & social media (fact bank)
		Forestry (Logging)	- Keep current policies regarding forestry such as Reduced Impact Logging (RIL)	Policy makers		1
Licensees & Contractors	2			Restoring degraded forest		

[Ramsar CEPA Matrix (Action Plan)]

2010

Problems/Issues		Desired Outcomes through CEPA	Target Group	Priority	Key Message	Tools/Medium/Action
		Application				
	Human/boating impact from Tourism	Reduce speed of tourist boats	Tour operators	3	- Reduce speed of tourist boats - Apply BMP for tourism	- Work with KITA (Kinabatangan Tourist Assc. - Get direct feedback from tour operators on what they think
High BOD (Low DO)						
Oil mills	Oil palm mills process palm oil in sustainable manner	Mill on-site manager	1	- Apply RSPO Principle and Criteria - Understand value of Ramsar site and participation	- Establishment of rating/certificate of oil palm mills - RSPO - MPOB, MPOA - Development of a manual case studies on best management practice in palm plantation - Field demonstration of the best management practice - Formation of Friend's of Kinabatangan * Coordination with the study on pollution of Kinabatangan river by DOE and the study of Sagama river by DOE	
		Oil palm mill owner	1			
		Policy makers	1	- Impact of water pollution to Ramsar site - Economic value of wetlands		- Video - Panel discussion
		DOE, EPD, District Offices	1	- Enforcing Law - Rules and regulations are needed		- Familiarization trip to the site
		Consumer (Foreign buyers)	2	- Buy sustainable palm oil - Ethical consumerism		- Awareness through traditional (newspapers/TV) & social media (fact bank)
Lodges & resorts (non-point sources)	Appropriate sewage treatment	Tourist, Tour operators, Lodge Managers	3	- Reduce speed of tourist boats - Apply BMP for tourism	- Work with KITA (Kinabatangan Tourist Assc. - Get direct feedback from tour operators on what they think	

[Ramsar CEPA Matrix (Action Plan)]

2010

Problems/Issues		Desired Outcomes through CEPA	Target Group	Priority	Key Message	Tools/Medium/Action
	Human settlement	Appropriate sewage treatment	Infrastructure Provider -District Office -Ministry of Rural Development	1	Better local plan (Rancangan Tempatan Desa)	Stakeholder workshops
		Less rubbish in the river	Community	2	Health issues/impact	- Radio (RTM) - TV (RTM)
- Encroachment into the riparian reserve - Development in alienated land within Ramsar site	Clear land boundaries	Lands & Surveys Department as important stakeholder	1	Lands and Surveys Department has to enforce the law on riparian reserve	Dialogue, meeting	
		Landowners	1	- Respect boundaries - No encroachment	- Map of Ramsar site - Publicity: posters, videos, CDs	
Invasive aquatic weeds in ox-bow lakes * The ox-bow lakes are refuge for aquatic biodiversity.	The invasive weeds were removed from some targeted lakes	Community	3	- Kill the weeds! - Protect our Ox-Bow lakes for aquatic biodiversity!	- Local NGOs e.g. KOPEL	
Forest fire in Kulamba by fishermen	Reduce fire on the beach	Fisherman setting fire	1	Don't use fire on the beach	- Signboard at beach - Build proper fire place for fisherman	
Communities do not participate in wise-use of the LKSW	The community understands environmental conditions of the river and Ramsar site	Communities in the river basins (180,000 people in Kinabatangan basin only)	1	- Protect our wetlands - Wetlands and people – vital link - Wetlands are not wasteland - Everything that happens in the catchment affects the Ramsar site	- Articles in the media - Identify somebody who is influential (wetland champion) - Dialogues - Campaign - Video	
Lack of Awareness/knowledge by local communities	- People will understand the importance of wetland conservation - The communities participate in the wise-use of LKSW	Communities in the vicinity of the Ramsar site (1,300 in 1 KM Radius)	1		- Website - CEPA Activities in the area - Radio - Poster - SERASI Programme - Exhibition - Exchange Programme (Upstream & Downstream)	
Lack of understanding by	People will	Sabah citizens (3 millions)	1			

[Ramsar CEPA Matrix (Action Plan)]

2010

Problems/Issues	Desired Outcomes through CEPA	Target Group	Priority	Key Message	Tools/Medium/Action
the people of Sabah	understand the importance of wetland conservation	e.g. Students e.g. Housewives			
Inadequate communication among relevant agencies/ organizations	- Establish State Ramsar Committee - Establish LKSW Management Committee	- Government agencies - State Cabinet	1	- Need more cooperation between sectors - Need more effective site management - Environmental action needs coordination	- Briefing by SaBC to Sabah Biodiversity Council - SaBC to chair the State Committee (lobby SaBC)
Hunting	Reduce/stop hunting	- Hunters (from urban areas) - Plantation workers - Sabah Wildlife Department - Police Field Force	1	- No poaching inside forest reserve - Poachers will be prosecuted	- Advocate SWD to increase enforcement - Villagers to monitor/report (Honorary Rangers) - Dialogue with plantation workers
Overfishing: - - Commercial Trawlers - Overfishing in certain areas (near villages)	- Sustainable fishing practices - Protection of fish breeding areas	- Villagers - Commercial fishermen (from Sandakan) - Fisheries Department	1	- It's illegal to trawl in rivers (and DoF is watching you). - Together, we protect fish stock for present and future generations. - Enforce against illegal fishing activities. - Report illegal fishing.	- Introduce (modified) Tagal system - Advocate DoF to do move to raise awareness and increase enforcement - Advocate for licensing to be revised - Dialogue with villagers/commercial fisherman
Future Development: - - Potential loss of forest upstream - 4 new mills will be constructed upstream - 2.4% annual population growth - Pig farm	The future development plan are re-examined from conservation point of view	- Government Departments e.g Lands & Surveys Dept. - Policy makers - Developers	1	- Follow EIA Process - Implement the recommendations of the water quality study	- SaBC to brief Sabah Biodiversity Council on this

Target Group	Key Messages	Desired outcomes through CEPA	Length of Video	Occasion / Venue	Users
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Sabah Citizens (3 Million peoples) E.g. students E.g. housewives Communities in the River Basin (180,000 peoples- Kinabatangan only) Communities in the vicinity of the Ramsar Site (1,300 peoples in 1 km radius) Community Landowners 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Everything that happen in the catchment affects the Ramsar Site Wetlands + People (Vital Link) Health Issues / Negative Impacts Respect Boundaries / No Encroachment Protect our wetlands Wetlands are not “Wasteland” 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> People will understand the importance of wetland conservation The communities participate in the wise use of LKSW Less rubbish in the river No encroachment The community understands the environmental conditions of the rivers and Ramsar site People will understand the importance of wetlands conservation 	30 minutes (too long)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> YouTube Facebook Airport (Departure hall) Bus terminal Seminar / Workshop organized by government department JKKK meeting Local Broadcasting TV e.g TV3/RTM/Astro Inflight Video (MASWINGS) School assembly Nature Centres e.g RDC, KKWC, etc 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> RSPO SEEN Members Teachers Sabah Tourism Board MPOA/MPOB Environment Educators NGOs + CBOs Yayasan Sabah
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Policy makers/ Politician Government agencies Kinabatangan District Office 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Impact of water pollution to Ramsar site Realising non-timber values of forest areas Economic value of wetlands Potential of carbon trading 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Change of current practices of oil palm plantation Keep current policies (regarding forestry) Reduced Impact Logging (RIL) application (current policy) 	5-10 minutes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Cabinet sitting Government staff promotion (PTK) SEEN meeting International Events (e.g COP, AWS, etc) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> TV Stations e.g TV3/RTM/Astro Information Department Sabah Biodiversity Centre INTAN Ministry of Tourism, Culture, and Environment Timber Association MPOA/MPOB INSAN

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