LANDSCAPE STRATEGY FOR BUILDING SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, AND ECOLOGICAL RESILIENCE

MIDDLE AND UPPER BARAM, SARAWAK

SGP MALAYSIA

Summary:

The Middle and Upper Baram in Sarawak were chosen as the targeted landscapes. Sarawak is a state located on the island of Borneo in Southeast Asia known for rich biodiversity and unique ecosystems. The landscapes hold significant cultural values for the indigenous communities residing within these areas, such as Penan, Kenyah, and Kayan tribes.

The objective of this project is to foster collaboration among regional community organisations in Middle and Upper Baram, Sarawak. This collaboration aims to promote socio-ecological resilience, benefitting the global environment and facilitating sustainable development. In addition, the project tackles matters including forest conservation within the targeted landscapes, community's livelihood, landscapes undergoing improved practices, policy reforms for the community, and sustainable land management throughout the landscape areas.

Reaching an estimated 3,150 direct beneficiaries, 50% of whom are women, the project will facilitate community-driven interventions that generate global environmental benefits, including bringing an estimated 8,000 ha of landscapes under improved practices, 3,000 ha of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems, restoring 200 ha degraded agricultural lands and 100 ha forest lands, as well as achieving 8,000 ha of landscapes that meets national or international third-party certification, from all the projects executed under the SGP within the Baram landscape.

The landscape strategy aims to address the threats and barriers in the Middle and Upper Baram and it is crucial in developing effective strategies which involve the local communities within the landscape and build their capacity to manage the overall landscape conditions and relationships with stakeholders.

1.1 Priority Area

1.1.1 Considerations in Selecting the Location

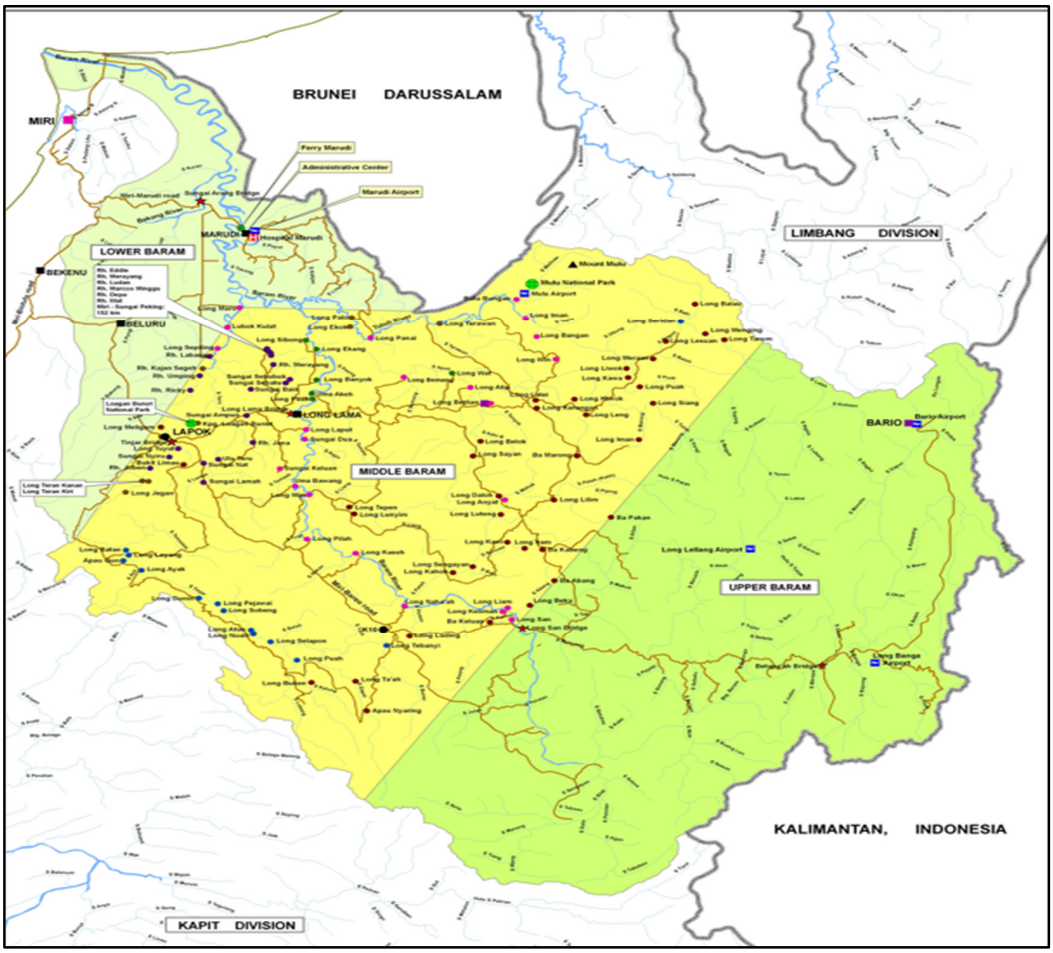
The project is located in Middle and Upper Baram, Sarawak. It is defined by the district of Telang Usan, situated in the Miri Administrative Division in the northeast part of the state of Sarawak, in the interior of Upper Baram River basin.

The Middle and Upper Baram is home to a unique landscape that is under threat due to the combined impact of climate change and land cover change. Despite the presence of parks, wildlife reserves, and protected areas, they are still under several potential environmental threats. Yet, the forests in this area support a range of diverse species that are physiologically adapted to this landscape. This, in turn, can lead to the degradation of fragile ecosystems, biodiversity loss and the restriction of opportunities for local communities to sustain their nature-based livelihoods.

Accessing the villages in the Baram landscape often requires off-road transportation, with a journey of at least a few hours from the city of Miri. Limited flight options are available for reaching these areas, restricted to specific locations only. Some villages are accessible only through rivers, and several community members reside on the logging campsite nearby as they work with the logging company; mainly Samling. The challenging infrastructure conditions, particularly the off-road situation, in the Baram landscape, make it a significant factor to consider when choosing to work in this area. The local communities in this region are particularly vulnerable, especially in terms of their economic activities and their ability to access markets. The selection of specific villages will also primarily consider factors such as community interest, capacity and commitment, environmental conditions, current threats, and available opportunities.

Additionally, another recent initiative in Baram on conservation works is Upper Baram Forest Area (UBFA) which is of importance for the Penan, Kenyah, Kelabit and the Saban communities. The UBFA advocates on environmental protection, economic prospects and indigenous rights. Potential synergies could be formed with this initiative in order to achieve the ultimate goals of a multi stakeholder platform in conserving these areas.

1.1.2 Geographical Conditions and Characteristics of Middle and Upper Baram



The Middle and Upper Baram represent one of the most pristine rainforest landscapes in Southeast Asia. The river basin boasts a range of unique and important features that contribute to its biodiversity value. It encompassess various ecosystems, including tropical rainforests and freshwater habitats. Each ecosystem supports a distinct set of plant and animal species, forming a complex web of life. As for the species richness, the Baram River Basin is home to a vast array of plant and animal species, many of which are endemic or rare. The rainforests within the basin provide habitat for iconic species such as great apes (orangutans), proboscis monkeys, gibbons, clouded leopards, porcupines (*landak*), pangolins (*tenggiling*), wild boars (*babi hutan*), hornbills (*kenyalang*), eagles (*helang*), *Tor Labeobarbus* (ikan semah), *mahseer* (*Ikan Empurau*), kissing gourami (ikan bawan), owls (*burung hantu*), and several others. The flora diversity includes *Breynia vitis-idaea* (Sekimang/Getimang), *Shorea* (meranti), *Agarwood* (gaharu), *Camphor tree* (kapur), *Koompassia excelsa* (tualang), *rattan* (rotan), *Eurycoma longifolia* (*Tongkat Ali*) and more.

Both the Middle and Upper Baram regions are predominantly rural, with scattered settlements and villages along the riverbanks and within the interior areas. The landscapes

hold significant cultural value for the indigenous communities residing within these areas, such as Penan, Kenyah, and Kayan tribes. These communities have a certain spiritual and cultural connection towards the lands in these landscapes and also rely on its resources for their livelihoods. Preserving the biodiversity of the Baram River basin is essential for the security of their cultural heritage.

1.1.3 Location of The Studies Villages

The Middle and Upper Baram covers an expansive area of 982,900 ha, with limited resources and time constraint, only limited villages that the project team managed to reach out for baseline information collection and community engagement and consultation. The location of the studied villages in this project included Long Moh, Long Siut, Long Meraan, Long Selulung, Sungai Peking, Long Anap, Long Lamai, Long Banga, Long Tungan, Long Pilah, Selungo cluster, Long San, Long Lamam, Long Ajeng, Ba Murung, Long Nibong, Long Latei, Lio Mato, Long Jekitan, Long Silat and Long Semiyang. More information about other villages will be updated from time to time through NGOs partners and community consultation during the project period.

1.2 Situation Analysis (threats and opportunities)

1.2.1 Baseline Assessment

The baseline assessment processes were conducted from February to July 2023, involving on-ground visits and community consultation sessions (both individual and/or group), covering areas in the Middle Baram (Sg. Peking, Long Meraan, Long Selulung, Long Puak) and Upper Baram (Long Anap, Long Siut/Tungan, Long Moh, Long Lamai, Long Semiyang, Long Banga). There were focus group discussions (FGDs) conducted respectively at the aforementioned villages with at least 90 communities involved in total. The respondents involved were the indigenous communities, community leaders, active NGOs, farmers and women groups. The team conducted on-ground assessment by entering the villages within the selected communities, sometimes together with the local active NGOs. The local active NGOs play vital roles in project consultation to provide helpful guidance in particular during the baseline assessment process. The processes involved an introductory briefing session (introduction on the project overview, assessment's purposes, methods, guidelines and scoring), FGDs (with the men group and women group), Socio-Ecological Production Landscapes (SEPL) assessment, observations by the executors, individual survey (eg: walk from house-to-house), visit the nearby farm sites, potential reforestation sites and/or community areas. The outcomes are then compiled into the baseline assessment reports and minutes of meeting as attached (Baseline Assessment Reports & Minute of Meeting PDF).

The Relevant Survey Form Template/Sample:

BENGKEL PENILAIAN SLIDES.pdf
BORANG SOAL SELIDIK INDIVIDU.pdf
BORANG SOAL SELIDIK GROUP Sample.pdf

Community Profile from Baseline Assessment Conducted

Middle Baram: Sungai Peking

Background	The overall area of Sungai Peking is around 4,000 hectares with some pristine forest in the surrounding areas. Adjacent to the village is planted with oil palm and with traditional longhouses situated on the flat ground of Sungai Peking. The community originated from Tanjung Ipar and were later relocated to their current location. They separated in 1974 and 1976 due to the major floods and also order from the British government during the British occupation in Sarawak. It was started with 8 doors and now the village has expanded into 264 doors. Sungai Peking is connected to the Tinjar area whereby all the 9 longhouses are found in this settlement area. There are i) Rh. Ludan ii)Rh. Chaing, iii)Rh. Edi; iv) Rh. Marcos Minggu; v) Rh.Wat; vi) Rh. Tedung; vii) Rh. Diana; viii) Rh. Jampang and ix) Rh. Enggak.
Location	Rh. Ludan (3°54'49.4"N 114°21'30.8"E)

Accessibility	Taking Rh Ludan as focal area, the village is reachable by four-wheel drive vehicle and took 2.5 hours travel from Miri City to Pejabat Daerah Telang Usan at Long Lama and another 0.5 hours to reach Rh Ludan.
Population	400 – 500 people 264 doors consist of 9 longhouses: Rh. Ludan, Rh. Chaing, Rh. Edi, Rh. Marcos Minggu, Rh.Wat, Rh. Tedung, Rh. Diana, Rh. Jampang and Rh. Enggak.
Ethnic Group	Iban (also called as Sea Dayak)
Socio-economic and Source of Income	1. Community practises small-scale farming and hunting for self-subsistence. 2. Handicraft using bemban (*Donax Canniformis*) for making mats. Bemban is a type of freshwater swamp vegetation. Women made the mats from this plant based on ordering from customers, no active production. 3. Selling smoked fish (*Ikan Salai Bawan and Ikan Salai Baong)*. This is mainly prepared by women and the products sell at nearby towns such as Long Lama and Long Lapok. 4. Operate their own oil palm plantation, community interested in planting oil palm even if there is no support or subsidies from the government. 5. General worker at Samling logging concessionaire. 6. Small farming and hunting for self-subsistence.
Environment Condition	Sungai Peking village is surrounded by a river and the settlement area is limited and the communities' longhouses approximately 200 m distance between each other. As the community has always been practising farming for self-sustenance the natural resources are well-maintained and not depleted. However, the active logging activities upstream has caused the community to lose their source of clean water for consumption. They rely solely on rainwater harvested and stored for consumption. The water tanks were either bought by the community or some were given by the government. In the case of a long drought, the community has to purchase bottled water for consumption. Natural resources such as bemban will be harvested or used for handicraft making only when there is demand/order.
Renewable Energy	Community in Sungai Peking has no access to solar energy, except the primary school (the government is still in the process of setting up solar energy for the school). Somehow, the villagers still prefer to use an electric generator set for their electricity use as they worry about the maintenance cost of the solar system.

Internet Connection	Community has access to the private run internet connection services called “ConnectMe. It is a prepaid WiFi service which is powered by the satellite. There will be an agent providing services for the community to purchase a prepaid voucher and the community will have access to internet connection. The bandwidth is limited and not sufficient for web browsing and video streaming. However, it enables the community to connect with people outside their village.
Community Interest and Aspiration	1. Community has expressed their concern on the flood issue and lack of water source for agriculture irrigation. Agroforestry practices may be a suitable agriculture practice for the community as it could be designed to meet the community demand on short term crops for self-subsistence such as vegetable garden and plant long term plants such as timber, fruit trees, coffee etc for economic purposes. 2. Restoration of degraded area and water catchment are important and are of interest to the community in protecting their customary land.

Middle Baram: Long Meraan and Long Selulung

Background	Long Meraan and Long Selulung, situated in the Middle Baram region of Sarawak and are inhabited by indigenous communities, Penan people. The Penan are a nomadic indigenous group of people who live in the rainforests of Sarawak, Malaysia. They are traditionally hunter-gatherers and are known for their unique nomadic culture and way of living. A group of Penan moved out from nomadic and resettled in 1970+ on a flat land which is now known as Long Meraan. The village has about 40 households and 100 residents. Baram. For the Penan of Long Selulung, they eventually resettled in the recent year 2010 on a flat land as well only for about 13 years approximately. Most of them still practise their traditional ways of living which are centred around the forest. Long Selulung roughly has 15 households staying in the village area and there are another 10 households in a nearby campsite, whose members work for Samling and return to their village weekly, engaging in sago farming and hunting. The total land area of Long Selulung, encompassing forest, graveyard, and houses, is about 6,000 hectares, as reported by community leaders.
Location	● Long Meraan (3°53'59.7``N 115°00'34.8"E) ● Long Selulung (3°49'32.3"N 115°01'33.9"E)
Accessibility	Accessible by off-road routes from Miri, both villagers are around 7 hours’ drive away. Due to a collapsed bridge near Long Kawa during our visit, it disrupted the direct route, leading to a 5-minute boat ride across a river

	and then switching to another 4-wheeler car for the remainder of the journey.
Population	● Long Meraan ○ 40 household with 100 residents ○ Consists of about 70% Adults and 30% kids/teenagers ● Long Selulung ○ 25 households with 78 villagers ○ Majority male population with 60% and female 40% ○ Approximately 70% were adults and 30% kids/teenagers
Ethnic Group	Penan
Socio-economic and source of income	● Long Meraan, ○ Transporters act as transportation services to nearby villages, or towns while some run a convenience store (kedai runcit) which sells basic necessities to the local community. ○ The villagers actively participate in farming activities with the goal of attaining self-sufficiency as well as extra income generation (plantation, poultry and fish). Occasionally, they vend their produce directly to local markets such as dried terung asa*m* (Borneo Sour Eggplant) are retailed through door-to-door sales. The community members also self breed the freshwater fish such as, Tilapia and Sultan (Hoven's carp) for their own consumption due to supply demand cease issues. ○ Women's communities also generate income through traditional varieties and handicraft. ● Long Selulung ○ Majority of its residents still depend on the forest for their livelihood as they recently established resettlement from a nomadic lifestyle and some community work with Samling at the campsite. ○ New flat land was suggested for their replantation purposes for self-consumption. From sightings, the abundance of grass straws highly potential to be processed and commercialised product for their income. ○ Some communities sold Ikan Semah specially at Sg. Puak and only apply exclusively to fish weighing 500g and above per fish.

Environment Condition	● Long Meraan ○ Behind the villages lies the gazetted Mulu National Park (extension) which boasts remarkable landscapes and rich biodiversity specially its karst features and sandstone pinnacle that reaching 2,376 metres height ● Long Selulung ○ Surrounded by the forest reserve that emphasises the pristine environment of the area ● Reforestation may have the potential significantly to environmental benefits as well as the both communities. However, it is necessary to ensure that the project properly aligns with the communities' needs and priorities.
Renewable Energy	Both Long Meraan and Long Selulung are covered by the implementation of Sarawak Alternative Rural Electrification Scheme (SARES). Hence, the community can reap the benefit of free electricity for daily usage such as, television, refrigerator and washing machine. 3000Kw are contributed to each household per day and will be recharged on the next day. Therefore, the community can utilise the electricity until the allocated quota is fully consumed.
Internet Connection	Both villagers are reaping the advantages of the JENDELA initiative within their respective communities. The connection in both areas are improved with the build towers and coverage expansion using satellite technology. Although these facilities are established to facilitate communication within the community, the task of maintaining them presents challenges. For instance, during a recent visit to Long Meraan, it was noted that one of the two towers was non-operational. As a result, community members opted for the use of walkie-talkie for more convenient and immediate communication among villagers.
Community Interest and Aspiration	1. As claimed by the Long Meraan's communities, the transportation and sale of fresh produce pose significant challenges primarily due to long travel distance. Hence, during the meeting with the Long Meraan particularly women community, it was indicated that they are keen on acquiring new skill sets especially in food processing, such as dried *Terung Asam,* ginger etc. to effectively promote their current produce. 2. While Long Selulung's priorities lie in self-subsistence through agroforestry.

Upper Baram: Long Anap

Background	Known as a longhouse settlement area within Telang Usan found in Upper Baram. The village of Long Anap shares its border with Long Julan and Long Palai along the Baram River. This area is inhabited by the Kenyah Lepo'Sawak or Dayak Borneo community. Back in the 1940s, the Kenyah residents of this community collectively made the decision to relocate to Long Anap. Their primary motivations were to ensure their safety and address issues stemming from floods, in addition to capitalising on the fertile land for bountiful crop cultivation. Another significant impetus for embracing a settled lifestyle in the longhouse was the gradual expansion of the community's size over time.
Location	Long Anap (3°03'45.9"N 114°49'14.1"E)
Accessibility	The journey takes around 6 hours drive using 4WD from Miri to reach the destination
Population	Approximately 400-500 villagers consist of 76 doors. About 50% are elderly individuals while 20% are adults in their middle age. Teenagers and children make up around 10-15% of the population, while the remaining residents engaged in occupation outside the village.
Ethnic Group	Kenyah Lepo'Sawak or Dayak Borneo
Socio-economic and source of income	● The community generates income by farming and raising livestock to sustain their daily life such as oil palm plantation, paddy, vegetables,coffee and rubber plantation. ● They hunt in the surrounding forests for animals such as monkeys, squirrels, birds, *payau* (Lesser Mousedeer) for their own consumption and sometimes due to the animals disturbing their agricultural crops. ● The rest of the community gain their income by working outside the village. Examples, in the logging areas (Samling), plantation areas, and offshore.
Environment Condition	The Long Anap area is characterised by a landscape dominated by mountains, hills and rivers. The village is situated between Long Palai (upstream) and Long Julan (downstream) along the Baram River. The environmental characteristics of this locale are significantly shaped by its positioning within the Baram district. This district is marked by the presence of tropical rainforests, frequent heavy rainfall, and high levels of humidity. However, the logging and oil palm plantation at Long Anap's landscape affects the area of the river habitat that compromises the

	condition of the fishes in the river stream. The area where the tresspasses occurs is in dire conditions due to the logging and plantation which stems from the transportations that are heavy such as logging trucks and tractors that goes in and out of the area.
Renewable Energy	One of the recipients for the implementation of SARES in 2020.
Internet Connection	The community has access to ConnectMe.
Community Interest and Aspiration	● The community are keen to the idea of agroforestry and social enterprise. Specifically, the biodiversity of the forest surrounding the community development brings out the idea of preserving yet sustaining the farming activities within the forest. ● Community members actively engage in the promotion of sustainable farming practices as a means to prevent additional land degradation and to ensure the preservation of fresh produce. ● This endeavour also aims to deter monkeys from being drawn to their critical resources, such as crops like paddy and vegetables. Furthermore, the community aspires to obtain fertilisers and high-quality seeds to support their farming efforts, as indicated by their input. ● Notably, some community members express interest in cultivating crops like coffee, cocoa, peanuts, and peppers.

Upper Baram: Long Moh

Background	The village was originally established when tribe people of the Lepo'Tau subgroup moved to the area from the Silat River, and the people of Long Selaan gave an area of land to them. This village is located in the Ulu Baram area on the Baram River between Long Selaan in the upstream and Long Bela'ong in the downstream. Hence, this location is categorised in the Upper Baram. The village is surrounded by a rich natural ecosystem. However, in recent years the village has been facing a significant challenge of deforestation.
Location	Long Moh (3°03'27"N 115°04'35"E)
Accessibility	Visitors often take a longboat from Marudi, the closest town with a road, up the Baram River to Long Moh. Travellers should be ready for choppy and unexpected river conditions, especially during the rainy season when the water levels can rise quickly. The trip can take up to 10 to 12 hours of

	driving with a four wheeler vehicle through bumpy and potholed roads.
Population	There are about 2,000 villagers in the Long Moh with three main sub-ethnic; ● Lepo Tau: 51 households ● Lepo Ngkau: 31 households ● Lepo Jengan: 18 households
Ethnic Group	Kenyah with three main sub-ethnic; Lepo Tau, Lepo Ngkau, and Lepo Jengan
Socio-economic and source of income	● Historically, the villagers relied on subsistence agriculture, hunting, and fishing for their livelihoods. However in the present day, they have shifted towards cash-crop agriculture, particularly in the cultivation of oil palm and rubber. ● The timber industry remains one of the local economic sources. ● The scarcity of viable economic options has further spurred the migration of young individuals to urban locales in pursuit of improved employment opportunities. ● Craftsmen who produce intricate carvings and weavings. ● Locals explore potential in ecotourism/edutourism.
Environment Condition	Long Moh is located in the Upper Baram where there is still untouched forest in the area. The virgin forest of Nawan, one of the oldest and least-explored tropical rainforest regions, is home to numerous endangered natural jewels. There are several species of hardwood found in the tropical forests surrounding Long Moh which are meranti, kapur, tualang/ketapang etc. There are existing herbs found in the forest consisting of the Tongkat Ali (*Eurycoma longifolia*), Sekimang or Getimang (*Breynia vitis-idaea*) and etc. The available resources which can be identified are the freshwater fishes such as Empurau, Semah, Jelawat, Lampam jawa, Sayan etc. The community is renowned for its rich indigenous culture, traditional longhouse construction, proximity to the rainforest, and chances for hiking and wildlife viewing. Hence, Long Moh has become a popular holiday spot for travellers looking for a genuine cultural experience and an opportunity to discover the area's natural beauty, despite the difficult travel circumstances. However, the village has been facing a significant challenge of deforestation in recent years.
Renewable Energy	One of the recipients for the implementation of SARES in 2020.

Internet Connection	The *Jendela* installation has been established within the community. This initiative aims to enhance internet connectivity in the villages, potentially bringing about significant improvements in digital access and communication for the residents.
Community Interest and Aspiration	The Nawan Nature Discovery Centre holds significant importance in the advancement of the Lepo Tau community from Long Moh, facilitated through their own Native Land Bureau. This initiative marks the initiation of a forest reserve aimed at conserving and countering the depletion of species indigenous to the forests surrounding Long Moh, which have been impacted by unauthorised and intensive logging activities. Moreover, the establishment of this discovery centre not only bolsters the preservation efforts but also fosters the growth of educational tourism, presenting an opportunity for both enhancement and promotion in this regard.

Upper Baram: Long Lamai

Background	The name of the village adopted from the name of river Kuala Lamai. Lamai carried out the meaning of safe in Penan language, which is symbolic to the villagers safely returning and settling down at the current site. Long Lamai is distinguished as a more developed village among the other Penan villages as this village was settled down in the 1940s as a response to the government initiative for the Penan community to stay permanently in one area instead of roaming around in the forest and practising nomadic lifestyle previously. Also, the community grappled with malaria, prompting a relocation from Ba Akap to Kuala Lamai. Subsequently, they constructed their inaugural longhouse in 1945. Interestingly, this original longhouse remains standing and inhabited to this day, situated at the heart of the village. During World War II, the community continued to reside in remote areas, and it wasn't until the 1940s that they began the process of settling down. In the year 1945, a considerable number of villagers made the transition from the forest to establish permanent settlements due to a malaria outbreak.
Location	Long Lamai (3°10'27.2"N 115°23'09.0"E)
Accessibility	● Required 8 hours logging road from Miri City (time can differ based on the weather and road condition) ● Another option is using a twin otter to fly from Miri Airport to Long Banga for 40 mins and then travel from Long Banga to Long Lamai about a 1 hour walking journey or use a boat from Ba Balong for 45 minutes.

Population	According to the headman, the village currently comprises 515 villagers and 127 houses; ● Approximately 70% are male and 30% are female ● The demographic breakdown shows that around 10% of the villagers are elderly individuals, 60% are young adults, and the remaining 30% are children
Ethnic Group	Penan
Socio-economic and source of income	● Subsistence agriculture, fishing, and hunting are the main sources of livelihood for the villagers but mainly for self consumption. ● Their main revenue streams come from providing boat rides, selling handicrafts, and operating businesses within local shops. ● Handicraft production is a vibrant activity, with a majority of it being carried out by women in the community. However, marketing these crafts poses challenges as they are mainly sold to tourists visiting the village.
Environment Condition	● The environment around the Long Lamai area is still in pristine forest because this area has never been a logging area. However, according to the villagers, the presence of animals especially wild boar became very less especially during flu season. ● Forest resources are only harvested for personal purposes, including constructing houses, crafting boats, and fashioning handicrafts from rattan. Occasionally, the forest is cleared for cultivation of rice or fruit trees and only small areas are needed that are enough for its own essentials. ● The village has become a focal point for numerous researchers from around the world who are interested in studying and documenting forest biodiversity ● In 2010, the primary forest experienced a natural wildfire, prompting nearby villagers to make efforts to suppress the blaze. The community has chosen not to utilise this area for any purpose, with the hope that the original forest will eventually restore itself to its former state as quickly as possible.
Renewable Energy	One of the recipient for the implement SARES in 2020 and had reduce the burden of the community which before this rely on generator set. Although the villagers received mini hydroelectricity, it only can accommodate 50% of the population. The installation of the SARES played a significant role to ease the daily activity to the school and teachers since the kindergarten and primary school was located in the villages.

Internet Connection	The installation of *Jendela* was established in December 2020 implemented by MCMC. This installation is very helpful toward the community areas especially in terms of the education during the pandemic season. The telecommunications service also plays a crucial role in supporting ongoing community projects and research, particularly in organising transportation for accessing the village, given that the village is only accessible by the river, this service helps in coordinating logistics and ensuring the smooth functioning of various initiatives.
Community Interest and Aspiration	● The community has shown a significant interest in activities related to forest restoration and farming for commercial purposes especially cultivation and marketing of their musang king durian and sources of its seedling. ● Shared interest in growing leafy vegetables for personal consumption within the vicinity of their home. ● As mentioned by the headman, providing adequate support and opportunities to the community is crucial for the sustainability of the project. Generating income is a fundamental necessity for their livelihood as projects progressively go advance.

Upper Baram: Long Siut

Background	This community came from Long Tungan (about 30-40 minutes distance from Long Siut) and moved into Long Siut in 2006 as there are constant flooding issues in the previous area. Long Siut's current location boasts close proximity to road access and features expansive land along the Sungai Selungo, which can offer various opportunities and advantages for the community and potential project. Long Siut is the entrance point to the Selungo cluster composed of about several Penan villages that are only accessible through Selungo River.
Location	Long Siut (3.20769140687309, 115.18409594880733)
Accessibility	The journey from Miri to Long Siut takes around 7 hours by 4WD vehicle.
Population	● 19 doors of households from Long Tungan ● Current population, it's grew to 60 doors after move to Long Siut and consists of about 320 villagers
Ethnic Group	Kenyah

Socio-economic and source of income	● The main sources of livelihood for the villagers are subsistence agriculture, fishing, and hunting, which are mainly for self consumption. ● Actively generating income through fresh produce and undergoing trials and efforts in food processing skills such as producing sugar from sugarcane, selling fruits like lemon and pineapple, tuak, jackfruit etc. ● There are also existing project collaborations of the communities in Long Siut with other NGOs on coffee planting, where the selling price is about RM15-18/kg. ● The handicrafts are priced between RM30-RM50 per basket that are made from rattan
Environment Condition	Surrounded by a vast rainforest ecosystem which is home to a diverse range of flora and fauna. The conditions are influenced by the traditional way of life of the indigenous Kenyah, also including the external factors such as logging or deforestation. Peculiarly, elderly have a deep spiritual and cultural connection with the natural world,relying on the forest for daily needs, such as foods, medicine, and building materials.
Renewable Energy	One of the recipients for the implementation of SARES in 2020.
Internet Connection	The community has access to Jendela.
Community Interest and Aspiration	● Agroforestry and social enterprise have become the focus point for the community development ● The development of combination agriculture and forestry is to create productive and sustainable land use practices including replantation of trees in the landscape forests

1.2.2 Methodologies

One of the selected tools used during the assessments is the SEPL Indicators Scorecard and Capture Tool, is a tool used to assess the state of the social and environment in the target communities area. It includes a set of resilience indicators that are utilised to measure the status of the environment and its impact on the communities living in the landscape area. The SEPL sheet is modified from the standardised tools developed by Satoyama Initiative and later translated into Bahasa Melayu for the convenience of the local communities as they were able to comprehend and communicate with one another. The scorecard is used to rate the indicators on a scale of 1-5, with 1 indicating poor conditions and 5 indicating excellent

conditions. The tool also includes a capture tool that is used to collect data on the different indicators. Hence, a radar diagram generates the result from the scoring of indicators through individual surveys and also group discussions scoring, whenever applicable. The trends are tallied from each scoring allowing it to be shown onto the radar diagram. The tool is divided into five sections that cover 20 indicators in total, as follows:

Table 1.1: Categories and Indicators in the community resilience questionnaire

No.	Category	Indicators
1	Landscape Diversity And Ecosystem Protection	There are four indicators; 1. Landscape diversity: Assess whether the landscape is composed of a diversity/mosaic of natural ecosystems (terrestrial) and land uses 2. Ecosystem protection: Assess whether the areas within the landscape and streams are protected for their ecological and/or cultural importance. 3. The ecological relationship among various component within the diverse landscape 4. The capacity of the landscape or streams areas to rebound and rejuvenate following environmental disturbances and pressures
2	Biodiversity (Including Agricultural Diversity)	There are two indicators; 1. Variety within the local food systems of biodiversity 2. Sustaining and employing indigenous crop types and animal breeds
3	Knowledge And Innovation	There are seven indicators; 1. Novel approaches in agriculture and forestry are formulated, embraced, and refined while existing traditional methods are rejuvenated 2. Access and sharing of agriculture diversity 3. Passing down the traditional wisdom from older generation to the next generations in the community about landscape and streams biodiversity 4. Documented the knowledge linked to biodiversity 5. Women's understanding or wisdom of landscape biodiversity and its practise application 6. The numbers of generation engaging with the landscape 7. Utilisation of native language or indigenous terminology
4	Governance And Social Equity	There are three indicator; 1. Entitlements concerning land, water and the management of others natural resources 2. Community-based governance; The landscape or streams possesses competent, responsible and transparent local organisation to ensure the efficient management of its resources and native biodiversity 3. Social resources collaborate; People within and among communities are linked and organised through networks that oversee resources management and facilitate the exchange

		materials, skill and knowledge
5	Livelihoods And Well-Being	There are four indicators; 1. The socio-economic infrastructure is sufficient to meet the needs of the community 2. The overall condition of human health within the community is satisfactory, and taking into account the existing environment condition 3. Income diversity; community in the landscape of stream engage in diverse and sustainable income-generation endeavours 4. Biodiversity based; Enhancements in livelihood within the landscape or streams revolve around innovative utilisation of indigenous biodiversity

The SEPL Indicators Scorecard and Capture Tool:

ENG 05. i. Annex 2. SEPL Indicators Scorecard & Data Capture Tool 2017.xlsx - Google Sheets.pdf

BM 05. i. Annex 2. SEPL Indicators Scorecard & Data Capture Tool 2017.xlsx - Google Sheets.pdf

In overall, category 1 (Landscape Diversity And Ecosystem Protection) and 2 (Biodiversity Including Agricultural Diversity) are mostly high in scores, except Sg Peking (as this area is surrounded by oil palm plantation). Generally, the Baram landscapes are composed of diverse natural ecosystems and most of the communities rely on the forest for natural resources and are aware of the ecological interaction. The indigenous communities are particularly adept at coexisting with the diverse array of natural resources. They express concerns about activities like deforestation that limits their access to these essential resources. This links to the priority

of the restoration and conservation of the forest land in the Baram landscape. This objective holds significance not only for the environment but also for the sustenance of community livelihoods.

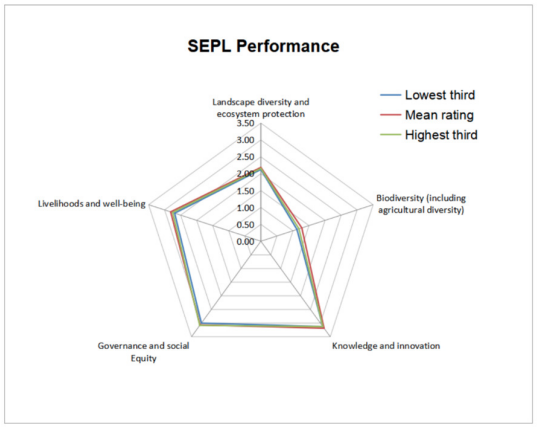
While category 3 (Knowledge And Innovation) and 5 (Livelihoods And Well-Being) mostly low in scores. The specific assessment questions in category 3 and 5 that always have the low scores were discussed in Table 1.2.

Table 1.2: Categories and Indicators in the community resilience questionnaire

Indicator's number	**Aspect**	**Current conditions with the lowest scores (mostly aligned with the trend with the lowest scores)**
Category 3 (10)	10. Documentation of biodiversity-associated knowledge The biodiversity in the landscape, including agricultural biodiversity, and knowledge associated with it is documented, stored and made available to community members. Examples: Traditional knowledge registers; Resource classification systems; Community biodiversity registers; Farmers' field schools; Animal breeding groups; Pasture co-management groups; Seed exchange networks (animal and seed fairs); Seasonal calendars.	Local communities are not familiar with documentation works Some did documentation of biodiversity-associated knowledge in own language and/or with the support from the other NGOs Mostly through verbal/traditional knowledge transmission There is a limited presence of younger generations willing to remain in the village.
Category 5 (19, 20)	19. Income diversity Are households in the community involved in a variety of sustainable, income-generating activities?	Most of the communities rated the lowest score for this question. The work opportunities to gain stable income are not sufficiently found in this area as the location is still considered as remote and is difficult for the community members to have enough income for themselves. This also contributes to the situation that the population living in the villages are mostly old generation as the youngsters are mainly working in Miri city.
	20. Biodiversity-based livelihoods Livelihood improvements in the landscape are concerned with innovative use of local biodiversity.	Communities are conscious of the potential in biodiversity-based livelihoods. However, they face obstacles arising from diminishing natural resources like rattan, lack of marketing opportunities due to the remoteness and long distance

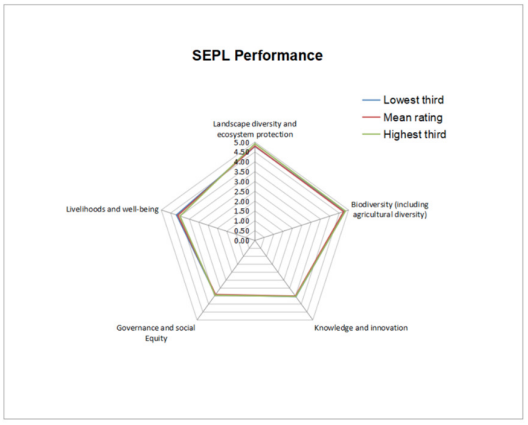
	Are livelihoods being improved by innovative use of local biodiversity? Examples: Handicrafts using local materials, e.g. wood carving, basketry, painting, weaving etc.; Eco-tourism; Processing of local foods, bee-keeping etc.	transportation as well as necessary skill transfers are needed.

Figure 1.1: Diagram of score of questionnaire results in the Middle and Upper Baram landscapes



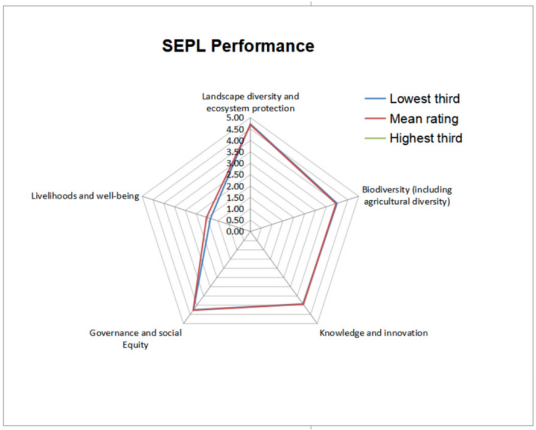
	Landscape diversity and ecosystem protection	Biodiversity (including agricultural diversity)	Knowledge and innovation	Governance and social Equity	Livelihoods and well-being
Lowest third	2.13	1.13	3.13	3.00	2.69
Mean rating	2.19	1.28	3.19	3.07	2.81
Highest third	2.16	1.19	3.13	3.08	2.75
Standard dev.	0.47208453	0.769056154	0.483696294	0.20468911	0.505723817

Sg Peking



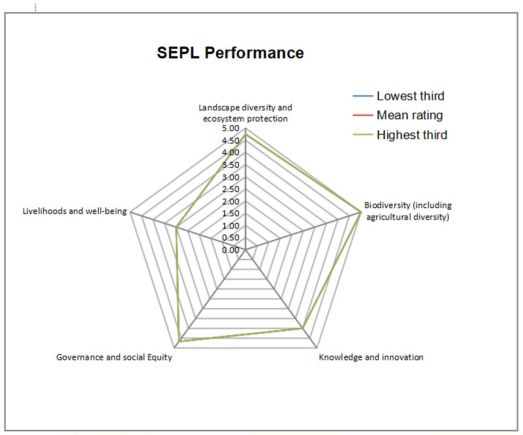
	Landscape diversity and ecosystem protection	Biodiversity (including agricultural diversity)	Knowledge and innovation	Governance and social Equity	Livelihoods and well-being
Lowest third	4.78	4.81	3.54	3.42	4.19
Mean rating	4.80	4.73	3.49	3.40	4.12
Highest third	4.92	4.83	3.52	3.44	4.00
Standard dev.	0.235280987	0.416904694	0.199315495	0.338641544	0.281365717

Long Lamai



	Landscape diversity and ecosystem protection	Biodiversity (including agricultural diversity)	Knowledge and innovation	Governance and social Equity	Livelihoods and well-being
Lowest third	4.72	4.00	3.93	4.25	1.84
Mean rating	4.68	3.95	3.95	4.27	2.02
Highest third	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
Standard dev.	0.388762606	0.522232968	0.545104394	0.360196916	0.552884995

Long Anap



	Landscape diversity and ecosystem protection	Biodiversity (including agricultural diversity)	Knowledge and innovation	Governance and social Equity	Livelihoods and well-being
Lowest third	4.75	5.00	4.00	4.67	3.00
Mean rating	4.75	5.00	4.00	4.67	3.00
Highest third	4.75	5.00	4.00	4.67	3.00

Long Siut, Meraan and Selulung

In reference to the data analysis of the aforementioned SEPL Indicators Scorecard Capture Tool, it was discovered that the in-depth interviews and on-ground surveys largely align with

the findings of the analysis. The outcomes derived from the interviews and surveys of relevant literature and the insights from the team are delineated in the subsequent sections:

1.2.3 Problems and Threats in Middle and Upper Baram River Basin of Sarawak

In Middle and Upper Baram, Sarawak, the combined effect of temperature changes and land cover changes in rainforests is reported to have had a detrimental effect on species that are physiologically unique to the landscape. Hence, the identified threats consist of deterioration of delicate ecosystems due to various factors, such as river pollution stemming from deforestation activities. Additionally, the region faces limited chances for the local communities to maintain livelihoods reliant on the natural resources, as well as the opportunities and rights among women and young women who are frequently disregarded.

The key obstacles to constructing socio-ecological resilience in the Baram landscapes are lack of long-term strategies, capacity and resources for integrated landscape management, lack of coordination and collaboration among all the stakeholders as well as lack of systematic analysis and dissemination of success. Furthermore, common social conflict and cohesion issues including disagreements and political challenges, arise in rural settings hindering the development of effective solutions. The issues related to Native Customary Right (NCR) land and Provisional Lease (PL) further compound the challenges faced by the communities. Moreover, the pressing issue of traditional extinction and its failure to be transmitted to the new generation of youth added to the complex web of concerns.

From the communities' perspective, their opinions on the main problems and threats that matter to them includes difficult to defend their native lands, deforestation that has significantly depleted the natural resources, challenges posed by periodical flooding issues in certain areas, uncontrolled or illegal hunting that disrupts local wildlife, bad trespassing by oil palm and logging industries as well as inconvenience in access to education, healthcare services, and off-road challenges as well as lack of economic opportunities (including marketing). Perpetuates these problems and makes it even harder for the communities to address their pressing needs. Additionally, the absence of recycling practice and sustainable waste management exacerbates the environmental degradation while the limited availability of reliable power sources contributes to the region's energy challenges. Some basic infrastructure, like the solar power systems that can only be used for several hours where it is insufficient to meet the full day's power consumption needs.

1.2.4 Socio-Economic Characteristic of Communities in Rural Baram

The sources of livelihood for the villagers include subsistence agriculture, fishing, hunting, handicraft pre-order sales, cash-crop agriculture, oil palm and rubber cultivation, raising livestocks, transporters (4WD/boat ride), canteen business, local groceries from home, eco-tourism, day paid job on land clearing, as well as others forms of labour work, contract

employment work and small scale construction work. Some community members also work outside the village in the logging areas, plantations areas, offshores, pipelines and other industries. In Upper Baram areas, some communities engage in labour work under the Highland Development Agency (HDA). However the work opportunities available to gain stable income are not sufficiently found in this area as the location is still considered as remote and making it difficult for the community members to earn enough income for themselves.

Infrastructure maintenance is lacking, although some settlements have access to renewable energy facilities through schemes like the Sarawak Alternative Rural Electrification Scheme (SARES). Internet connectivity through the Jendela and ConnectMe facilities are also available. Other basic communication tools in the region include walkie-talkie (with a range of 10km). Some areas with njoi (a satelite TV series), and Maxis (telecommunication company), enhancing communication and connectivity within the communities. Despite this, limited road access makes it difficult for communities to transport their products to cities and generate stable income. Health facilities are also distant, forcing community members to rely on the nearest clinics and posing challenges during emergencies. Some communities face difficulties attending schools due to identification issues and the distance to the nearest school, which often requires long hours of travel. Boarding schools are sometimes the only alternative for students from remote communities. Most of their water sources are from nearby rivers/water streams and some villages pose issues in accessing clean water sources which might be polluted by the logging activities as claimed by the communities.

1.2.5 Ethnic and Culture

The Middle and Upper Baram river basin in Sarawak is home to diverse communities, including indigenous groups like the Penan, Kenyah, Iban (only at lower Baram), Kayan, Lunbawang and more. Various ethnicities possess distinct cultures and languages, with some having sub-ethnic groups. The Penan community is among the ethnic groups that have transitioned from a nomadic lifestyle to permanent settlement relatively later compared to other indigenous groups like the Kenyah and Kayan. Some of the Penan still traditionally practised a semi-nomadic lifestyle centred around hunting, gathering, and forest-related activities. Most of the Baram communities are Christian. However, they still have strong connections to their ancestral lands and possess rich cultural traditions and customary practices. They have a long-standing tradition of crafts such as weaving, woodcarving, and basketry, which contribute to their cultural identity. Community-owned reserve forests are areas set aside by specific communities to preserve their cultural heritage, biodiversity, and traditional practices. Interestingly, the Kenyah ethnic community lacks documented records of their traditions and rituals, which could present difficulties in safeguarding their cultural legacy for succeeding generations. Some of these forests often have rules and regulations, including restrictions on hunting and other activities, to ensure the conservation of their

cultural and natural resources. Additionally, some plants in the forest are believed to have spiritual properties and are used as ghost repellents for example, using herbs like *Homalomena coerulescens* (kemayan) as a protective barrier against negative energies and spirits. These plants may be utilised in rituals, ceremonies, or placed strategically to create a protective barrier against ghosts or negative energies. Some plants can be used for rolling cigarettes/own-made tobacco and some give poison for blowpipe darts.

1.2.6 Gender

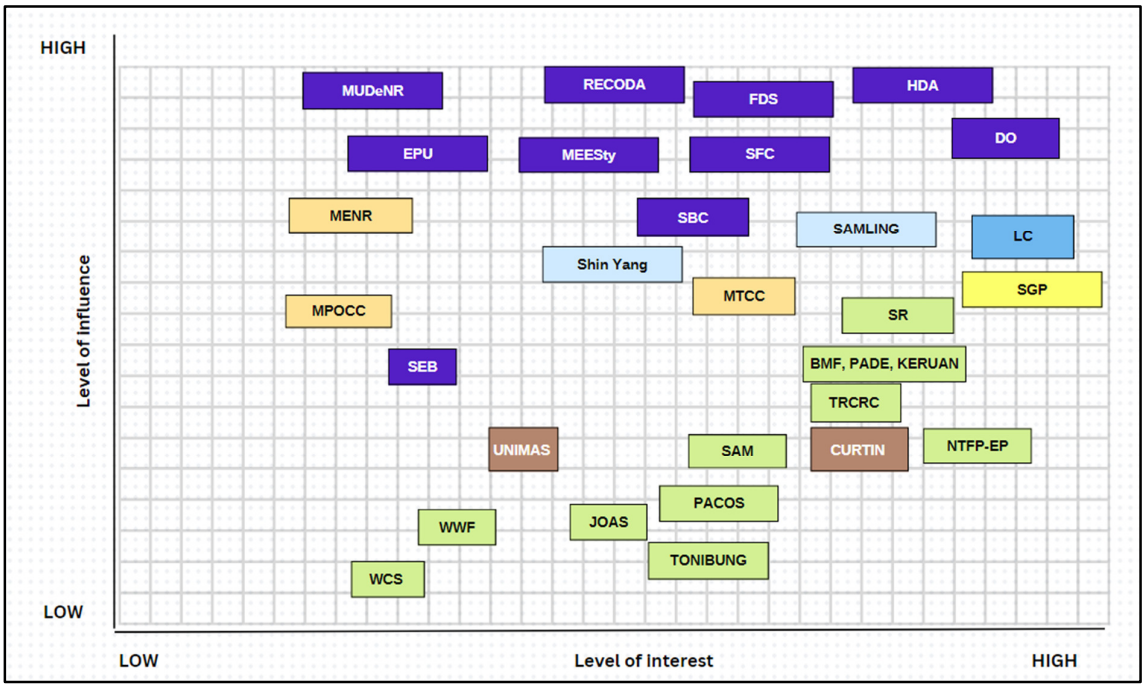
As this project as a whole is a gender equality project, involvement of women is essential to achieve gender mainstreaming. Inclusive and equitable participation of women in training sessions, workshops, role-playing scenarios and dialogues will increase their involvement and participation in the project planning process. It is crucial to emphasise that there are no land-related concerns hindering women's right to inherit land from their ancestors. As the collected information from the Kenyah community, the distribution of the land will be conducted equitably among all children. From the existing survey, there is on average 60-70% men and 30-40% women for a village population. Biro Wanita (women group) in the village will be prioritised during the project planning for consultation and exploring potential projects that are designed for women.

1.2.7 Ecological Linkages

The Baram River and its tributaries play a crucial role in connecting different habitats and species. These waterways facilitate the movement and dispersal of different organisms from one area to another. Animals, plants and other organisms can use these river systems to migrate, find new resources, or establish new populations. The connectivity provided by the Baram River and its tributaries is essential for the health ecosystems maintenance and promoting genetic diversity among species found throughout this landscape. Moreover, forest connectivity in the Middle and Upper Baram is essential for the movement of wildlife, allowing species to disperse, seek mates, and find new resources. Corridors of forested habitats facilitate gene flow, maintain genetic diversity, and reduce the risk of population isolation, enhancing the overall resilience of ecosystems. Preserving the ecological linkages in the Middle and Upper Baram region are essential for maintaining the integrity of the ecosystems, supporting biodiversity conservation, and ensuring the long-term sustainability of the region’s natural resources and cultural heritage.

1.2.8 Stakeholders Analysis

Key Stakeholders Analysis Influence-Interest Diagram



The key stakeholders involved in the project include:

State agencies:

DO: District Office (Telang Usan)

Miri Administrative Division

EPU: Economic Planning Unit Sarawak

FDS: Forest Department Sarawak

HDA: Highland Development Agency

MEEsty: Ministry of Energy and Environmental Sustainability Sarawak

MUDeNR: Ministry of Urban Development & Natural Resources

RECODA: Regional Corridor Development Authority

Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development

SBC: Sarawak Biodiversity Centre

SEB: Sarawak Energy Berhad

SFC: Sarawak Forestry Corporation

Federal agencies/national certification bodies

MENR: Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources

NGOs

BMF: Bruno Manser Foundation

JOAS: The Indigenous Peoples Network of Malaysia

KERUAN: Voices of the Penans

NTFP-EP: Non-Timber Forest Products Exchange Programme

PACOS: The Registered Trustees of PACOS Trust

PADE: People's Association for Development and Education of Penan Sarawak

SAM: Sahabat Alam Malaysia

SR: Save Rivers

Tonibung: Tobpinai Ningkokoton Koburuon Kampung

TRCRC: Tropical Rainforest Conservation and Research Centre

WCS: Wildlife Conservation Society Malaysia Program

WWF: World Wide Fund for Nature Malaysia

Local Community

MPOCC: Malaysian Palm Oil Certification Council

MTCC: Malaysian Timber Certification Council

Concession holding companies

Samling: Samling Group of Companies

Sin Yang: Shin Yang Group of Companies

Academia

UNIMAS: Universiti Malaysia Sarawak

CURTIN: Curtin University Sarawak

LC: Local Community (CCAs and CUZs)

Small Grants Programme

SGP: Small Grants Programme

1.3 Strategy GEF-SGP PHASE-7 in Middle and Upper Baram

1.3.1 Strategy of Intervention (Outcomes and Impact Indicators)

The intervention strategy for NGO and CBOs community-based projects involves several key components to ensure their effectiveness and sustainability. It begins with community consultation and baseline assessment, where local stakeholders are actively involved in identifying their needs, priorities, and potential interventions for the landscape. This participatory approach empowers the community and enhances their sense of ownership over the projects. The projects also adopt a multistakeholder approach, bringing together community members, CBOs, NGOs and relevant stakeholders to involve in community consultations in developing the landscape strategy.

To conclude the data collection and analysis of the baseline assessments, on-ground visits, observations from the executors, FGDs, community and stakeholder consultations, the Middle and Upper Baram Landscape Strategy will work toward achieving the following outcomes:

GEF-SGP Project Objective: To enable community organisations to take collective action for adaptive landscape management in building socio-ecological resilience in the Middle and Upper Baram, Sarawak for global environmental benefits and sustainable development.

- ***Mandatory Indicator, GEF-7 Core Indicator 3:*** Area of land restored (300 hectares)
- ***Mandatory Indicator, GEF-7 Core Indicator 4:*** Area of landscapes under improved practices (excluding protected areas) (19,000 hectares)
- ***Mandatory Indicator, GEF-7 Core Indicator 6:*** Greenhouse gas emission mitigated (335,000 tCO2e carbon sequestered or emissions avoided in the sector of Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use (AFOLU) and 6,500 CO2e avoided through Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy)
- ***Mandatory Indicator, GEF-7 Core Indicator 11:*** Number of direct project beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as a co-benefit of GEF investment (~3,150 individuals)

Table 1.3: Description of the estimated project target for GEF 7 Core Indicators

GEF 7 Core Indicators	Estimated Target
Core Indicator 3: Area of land restored (ha)	**Total Indicator 3:** 300 ha Total estimated area of restoration-rehabilitation project are broken down by; ● Sub-Indicator 3.1: Area of degraded agricultural land restored (200 ha) ● Sub-Indicator 3.2: Area of forest and forest land restored

	(100 ha)
Core Indicator 4: Area of landscapes under improved practices (ha, excluding protected areas)	**Total Indicator 4:** 19,000 ha Total estimated area of landscapes under improved practices is broken down by; ● Sub-Indicator 4.1: Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity (8,000 ha) ● Sub-Indicator 4.2: Area of landscape that meets national or international third-party certification and that incorporates biodiversity considerations (8,000 ha) ● Sub-Indicator 4.3: Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems (3,000 ha)
Core Indicator 6: Greenhouse gas emission mitigated (metric tons of CO2e)	● Sub-Indicator 6.1: GHG emission avoided through intervention in agriculture, forestry and other land use (AFOLU) estimated to around 75,000 tCO2e (lifetime direct) ● Sub-Indicator 6.2: Emission avoided outside AFOLU is estimated 1,625 tCO2e (lifetime direct)
Core Indicator 11: Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment	**Total Indicator 11:** 3,150 individuals (of whom 1,575 are female and 1,575 are male) ● The project's gender mainstreaming target for the proportion of direct female beneficiaries is 50%.

Component 1: Resilient landscapes for sustainable development and global environmental protection.

- **Outcome 1.1:** Resilient landscape for sustainable development and global environment protection
    - **Indicator 5:** Sustainable management of common resources, as indicated by the number of new partnerships between CBOs and enabling stakeholders (including with NGOs, protected area management entities, private sector enterprises, government departments, etc.) for participatory conservation and restoration initiatives, disaggregated by gender.
    - **Indicator 6:** Strengthening gender equality and women's empowerment in control of natural resources, as indicated by the number of projects that are contributing to equal access to and control of natural resources by women and men.

- **Indicator 7:** Documentation of traditional knowledge related to biodiversity, as indicated by the number of systems developed or strengthened where traditional biodiversity knowledge is documented, stored and made available to local people (e.g., traditional knowledge recordings, resource classification systems, etc.).

- **Outcome 1.2:** Increased adoption of renewable energy (RE) and energy efficient (EE) technologies and mitigation solutions at community level.
  - **Indicator 8:** Livelihood co-benefits, as indicated by the number of households benefiting from alternative livelihoods supported by clean energy solutions.
  - **Indicator 9:** Strengthened resilience and increased energy security, as indicated by the number of community level renewable energy solutions (e.g hydroelectric generators, off-grid solar PV systems) operationalized.

Component 2: Durable landscape resilience through participatory governance, partnership building and knowledge management.

- **Outcome 2.1:** Strengthened community institutions for participatory governance to enhance socio- ecological resilience.
  - **Indicator 10:** Participatory landscape management, as indicated by the number of landscape strategies developed or strengthened through participatory consultation and based on the socio-ecological resilience landscape baseline assessments endorsed by multi-stakeholder landscape platforms.
  - **Indicator 11:** Empowering women in natural resource governance, as indicated by the number of projects that improve the participation and decision-making of women in natural resource governance.
  - **Indicator 12:** Strengthening socioeconomic benefits for women, as indicated by the number of projects that target socioeconomic benefits and services for women.
  - **Indicator 13:** Landscape priority actions mainstreamed into local planning instruments, as indicated by the uptake priority actions outlined in the landscape strategies into local development plans.

- **Outcome 2.2:** Enabling environment for upscaling and replication strengthened through effective knowledge management of best practices and approaches.
  - **Indicator 14:** Mainstreaming gender equality and women's empowerment, number of women-led projects supported.
  - **Indicator 15:** Upscaling initiated, as indicated by the number of dialogues organised with government entities on upscaling best practices.
  - **Indicator 16:** Knowledge shared, as indicated by the number of project and portfolio experiences and lessons systematised and codified into case studies produced and disseminated, and cumulative number of views of the case studies from the SGP website, social media, or through direct dissemination.

Component 3: Monitoring and evaluation.

- **Outcome 3.1:** Sustainability of project results enhanced through participatory monitoring and evaluation.

1.3.2 Preparation and Supervision Strategy of Lead Organisation

The following strategies are in reference to the COMDEKS programme:

Continued community consultations serve as a reminder and reinforcement of the shared understanding, landscape vision, and social connections established during the initial community consultation and baseline assessment. This ongoing engagement helps community members maintain motivation and drive as they embark on the landscape work at the start of the strategy cycle. By sustaining these consultations throughout the cycle, community members can become powerful agents who continue the activities even after the cycle concludes. This continuous engagement serves as a reminder of their initial motivations and inspires the development of new plans within their landscape areas.

Maintaining enthusiasm for landscape work by implementing the participatory approach through frequent consultations and participatory rural appraisals in current priority areas and also potential priority areas. This allows the engaged community members throughout the project cycle to be empowered, especially women forming self-help groups, resulting in increased ownership and continued interest in the project. Hence, empowering the communities to bring about their self-help groups and women groups altogether to eventually enhance their leadership skills and self-sustenance skills simultaneously.

Establishing CBO And NGO networks is crucial to sustain landscape work and build the capacity of local organisations to plan, fund, execute, and communicate their landscape projects. The network formation of NGOs and CBOs could provide a platform for continued growth and communication among organisations involved in the projects. These networks facilitate continuity, solidarity, and momentum for landscape projects. Additionally, they serve as a convenient interface for local organisations to collaborate with government agencies, donors, and other support organisations, enabling ongoing progress in landscape conservation and development efforts.

Establishing new governance platforms towards environmental commitments is essential for ensuring the active involvement of local voices and empowering community groups to undertake landscape interventions effectively. These novel governance arrangements typically consist of multistakeholder groups comprising community representatives, CBOs, NGOs, government officials, and technical staff from government ministries. The inclusion of local voices in these platforms helps maintain community interest in collective landscape actions and facilitates collaborative decision-making, leading to more successful and

sustainable landscape interventions. This move opens doors to keep advocating towards the betterment of our landscape’s environmental conditions.

1.4 Potential Typology of Community-based projects and Criteria of Activities

The criterias for the project selection are suggested as follows which are important factors contributing to the success of community-based landscape management, and what interventions that may be possible.

(i) **Physical attributes of the area** according to inclusivity of the physical attributes of area both in physical and human geography consisting of its population numbers and demographic profiles, cultural diversity and presence of indigenous people.

(ii) Identifying the **predominant economic activities and natural resource-based livelihoods** which includes local agriculture and state of local food security; Allocate any projects which link income generation with conservation of the natural resources in the forests surrounding the priority areas within the landscape altogether.

(iii) The **observations and understanding of the current threats and opportunities**; Allocate any projects to address multiple threats or needs for the community and environmental aspects surrounding the priority areas respectively. Other than that, projects that address innovative areas, in particular involve the women empowerment aspects. Also, projects that may affect the entire site through the replication phase.

(iv) **Synergising multi stakeholder platform** for the landscape governance situation as a whole; Executing projects that can address policy reforms or concerns for the welfare of communities in the Middle and Upper Baram landscape. Strengthening the ties among stakeholders and the community based organisations founded in the priority areas throughout the landscape to grant changes aligning for the community's purposes of the landscape.

SGP Term of Reference: 2023_TOR for CBOs_NGOs_Baram_Eng.pdf

Potential Typology of Community-based projects

Proposed activities encompass a range of possibilities, including but not limited to those directly aligned with the desired outcomes, ensuring their relevance and effectiveness. The primary criterion for project selection revolves around the fulfilment of one or more outcomes outlined in this Strategy. The following are the suggested indicators and activities which are tentative and not all of them could or would be implemented by the CBOs/NGOs, depending on their relevance, feasibility and capability.

Mandatory Indicator, GEF-7 Core Indicator 3 **:** Area of lands restored (300 hectares)
Activities:

- Land restoration through agroforestry for sustainable agriculture practices (include planting of cash crops, coffee, coco, peanuts, peppers, other vegetables, fruits, poultry for self-subsistence and/or socio-economic activities; planting rattan for handicraft etc);
- Climate resilience agriculture practices;
- Seed collection/nursery for land restoration;
- Syntropic farming and/or other effective crop management and harvesting approaches that are practical for the communities, such as the 3T approach (tanam, tinggal, tuai) and/or TJT approach (tanam, jaga, tuai);
- Vegetation restoration and reforestation: Plant native trees, shrubs or grasses that are adapted and suitable to the microclimate and soil condition of the degraded site; invasive species management;
- Erosion control and soil stabilisation: Terracing, contour bunding, vegetation/cover crop; soil improvement;
- Physical intervention and enhancement: Create diverse habitats such as wildlife corridors, wildlife crossings; provide suitable breeding, nesting site and food source for both native and migratory wildlife;
- Water management and restoration: Restore natural hydrology to regulate water flow and improve water quality; control soil erosion and sedimentation;
- Restoring the forest ecosystem to re-establish wildlife habitat and conserve existing wildlife habitat;
- Enhance of food source and habitat establishment for wildlife in the degraded forest. The activities such as planting fig trees or plants that can provide food sources to the wildlife to increase their population and re-establish their habitats;
- Forest rehabilitation; and participatory restoration of degraded forest land;
- Potential Areas for Upper and Middle Baram
    i. Long Lamai, Sungai Peking, Long Siut, Long Meraa n, Long Selulung, Long Anap, Long Moh;
    ii. Long Tungan and Long Tap catchment area; and
    iii. Selungo areas (Long Spigen, Long Sait and Long Kerong).

Mandatory Indicator, GEF-7 Core Indicator 4 **:** Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity (19,000 hectares; excluding protected areas)
Activities:

- Strengthened community forest management, rehabilitation, building capacities for establishment of Baram Eco-Community Forest;
- Building capacities for establishment of community forest/forest reserve/communal forest;

- Community forest areas patrol;
- Conserve virgin forest;
- Demarcation and Community Mapping: Data collection, geographic mapping, asset mapping etc for improved landscape management;
- Mapping conservation priority areas to protect customary lands from environmental degradation and pollution;
- Improved management of forest ecosystems to benefit biodiversity and promoting nature-based ecotourism options for local communities;
- Protecting and maintaining the riparian reserve adjacent to creeks/rivers by avoiding disturbances in the area;
- Undertaking baseline biodiversity surveys to identify rare, threatened or endangered plants and wildlife to advocate for protection of remaining forested area;
- Conservation of the existing mountainous areas, rivers (flora and fauna) and the salt lick locations in the forests (for animals);
- Increasing awareness for preservation and restoration among villagers, especially the youths, among others;
- Ecotourism/Edutourism: Forest reserve to preserve and combat the extinction of species found in the forests, biodiversity conservation, ecosystem services, promoting nature-based ecotourism options for local communities etc;
- To build basic facilities for ecotourism/edutourism activities such as trek, huts, toilet, with co-financing from the communities;
- Necessary marketing for the established ecotourism/edutourism to ensure the project sustainability;
- Developing community rules and protocols (eg: set restricted zones/community rules on hunting) for area management, preservation and development planning; as well as potential to be incorporated into the stakeholders' certification processes;
- Through partnership with logging concession holders under the certification processes of the Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC), enhance social and economic well-being of local communities;
- Dialogues with the relevant stakeholders especially the state government agencies and logging company on ideas that could generate long term benefits for community such as social forestry and involvement of community in forest co-management;
- Building a stronger platform from the existing network to foster synergies among on-going environmental protection initiatives and provide training and experience exchanges among platform members;
- Maintaining and re-establishing ecological connectivity;
- Agroforestry and agroecological practices, promoting some potential products for example rattan, durian as income generating activities;
- Capacity building for communities to practise sustainable and climate resilience agriculture practices;
- Empowering local community in developing sustainable agriculture and forest management for livelihoods and enhanced land management and participatory restoration of degraded agricultural and forest ecosystems;

- Promoting sustainable agriculture for enhanced protection and participatory restoration of water catchment areas and other environmental sensitive sites;
- Develop or encourage Tagang system as part of river fish species recovery and conservation, supporting plantation of forests by promoting the "prohibited system for harvesting of natural resources" during certain agreed periods, encouraging sustainable community-based riverine fisheries resource management, the Tagang system area could be an important site for ecotourism activities;
- Facilitating market access through training and infrastructure; implementing sustainable land use practices; and promoting non-perishable food products, among others.
- Potential areas for Upper and Middle Baramm
  i. Long Lamai, Sungai Peking, Long Siut, Long Meraan, Long Selulung, Long Anap, Long Moh;
  ii. Long Tungan and Long Tap catchment area; and
  iii. Selungo areas (Long Spigen, Long Sait and Long Kerong).

Mandatory Indicator, GEF-7 Core Indicator 6: Greenhouse gas emission mitigated (tCO2e carbon sequestered or emissions avoided in the sector of Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use (AFOLU) and CO2e avoided through Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy)

Activities:

- Community-conserved areas established on existing primary or secondary forest site;
- Enrichment of degraded land by tree planting on grasslands; Agroecology, agroforestry, permaculture, syntropic forestry, System of Rice Intensification (SRI), particularly methods that incorporate the use and generation of biochar, rehabilitation of degraded soils (improved management of peatlands);
- Crop cultivation through nature-based approaches;
- Promotion of cultivation of carbon-sequestering plants like bamboo;
- Community participation restoration of degraded agriculture ecosystems;
- Capacity building for community in agriculture and land restoration;
- Empowering community in Upper Baram Forest Area (UBFA) co-management;
- Avoid deforestation and land degradation through multi-stakeholders' negotiation and dialogues;
- Encourage planting trees that can be harvested in cycles for the use of communities such as Meranti and Belian;
- Energy-efficient building design and use of renewable energy (***Notes:*** *Renewable energy might not be the main priority in the Middle and Upper Baram landscapes, as most of the areas in the Middle and Upper Baram were covered by the SARES scheme as observed during the on-ground visits. However, it is foreseen that the small-scale installation of solar panels will be needed for some of the communities' usage when they set up huts for their forest restoration activities, whenever necessary. Other renewable energy options such as micro-hydro, biogas for cooking, and/or improved cooking stove such as a rocket stove for the community that still uses wood for cooking are subject to the community buy-in*).

Mandatory Indicator, GEF-7 Core Indicator 11 : Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment (3,150 individuals, of whom 1,575 are female and 1,575 are male)

Activities:

- Community effort in managing forest ecosystems and promoting nature-based ecotourism options;
- Upskilling community capacities in forest management expertise in ecotourism (such as tour guide etc);
- Alternative income generation from agroforestry and agroecology;
- Sustainable harvesting of natural resources and enhancement planting for community resource uses;
- Women empowerment in equal access and control of natural resources and participation in decision-making of natural resource governance;
- Strengthening women socioeconomic benefits and services through capacity building in skill building and marketing (such as processing of agriculture raw material, effective marketing);
- To enable the communities to benefit from the sustainable land management in production systems in complemented with the development of marketing strategies for the sales and marketing of the community products for income generation;
- Income generation equal opportunities for both men and women.

Component 1: Resilient landscapes for sustainable development and global environmental protection.

- **Outcome 1.1:** Strengthened conservation of biodiversity and protection of ecosystem services through community collaborative management and sustainable livelihood interventions.
    - ***Indicator 5:*** Sustainable management of common resources, as indicated by the number of new partnerships between CBOs and enabling stakeholders (including with NGOs, protected area management entities, private sector enterprises, government departments, etc.) for participatory conservation and restoration initiatives, disaggregated by gender.

      Activities:
        - Community level grant projects on strengthening participatory conservation, restoration and sustainable use of biodiversity resources and ecosystem services;
        - Identify CBOs that are interested in participatory conservation and restoration related projects and provide capacity building in developing project proposals;
        - Collaboration between CBOs and enabling stakeholders (examples exchange visits, training sessions, knowledge and experiences sharing etc).

- ***Indicator 6:*** Strengthening gender equality and women's empowerment in control of natural resources, as indicated by the number of projects that are contributing to equal access to and control of natural resources by women and men.

  Activities:

  - Capacity building for women understanding their role and participation in equal access to and control of natural resources, especially their participation in village committees and being able to hold positions in the committee for decision making related to access and control of natural resources.
  - Participation of women in restoration of degraded agricultural land and enhancement planting for handicraft material such as rattan and bemban (Baram).
  - Capacity building for women on organic farming, agroecology and syntropic approach in managing their farmland.
  - **Upper and Middle Baram:** consultations showed that women would be interested in projects that contribute to equal access to and control of natural resources of women and men at Long Meraan and Long Selulung, Sg Peking, Long Lamai and consist of supporting food processing and handicraft activities (Long Meraan), and that contribute to equal access on handicraft-related projects in addition to agroforestry and reforestation efforts (Long Selulung, Sg Peking and Long Lamai).

- ***Indicator 7:*** Documentation of traditional knowledge related to biodiversity, as indicated by the number of systems developed or strengthened where traditional biodiversity knowledge is documented, stored and made available to local people (e.g., traditional knowledge recordings, resource classification systems, etc.).

  Activities:

  - Documentation of traditional knowledge: Traditional knowledge recordings, resource classification systems etc;
  - Documentation of traditional use of trees, species name in local language, cultural and historical story about these species;
  - Community protocol in resource management, governance and uses;
  - Documentation of traditional land resources, inventory of flora and fauna species based on community knowledge;
  - Documentation of traditional medicine species, uses, properties and cultural belief;
  - Provide documentation training to the local communities for skills in collect, verify, share and be able to access and use the traditional knowledge among the local community;
  - Documentation of interesting stories and traditional beliefs related to biodiversity and natural resources that can be used as interpretation

presentations for development of ecotourism or edutourism in some targeted villages.

- **Upper and Middle Baram landscape:**
    - Long Moh has recently established an ecotourism centre with the potential to highlight traditional knowledge documentation such as on traditional medicine, techniques in using natural resources like bamboo, rattan, traditional forest knowledge etc., and;
    - Peoples Action for Development and Education of Penan Sarawak (PADE) has received a grant from the co-financed Global Support Initiative to territories and areas conserved by Indigenous Peoples and local communities (GSI-ICCA) to document the use of traditional medicinal plants across 3 villages (Long Sait, Long Spigen and Long Kerong) in the form of a booklet. PADE has agreed to share its experience and replicate this effort in Long Ajeng, Long Murang and Long Lamam.

- **Outcome 1.2:** Increased adoption of renewable energy and energy efficient technologies and mitigation solutions at community level.
    - ***Indicator 8***: Livelihood co-benefits, as indicated by the number of households benefiting from alternative livelihoods supported by clean energy solutions.
    - ***Indicator 9:*** Strengthened resilience and increased energy security, as indicated by the number of community level renewable energy solutions (e.g., hydroelectric generators, off-grid solar PV systems, biomass gasification generator systems) operationalized.

      Activities:
        - Fuel-efficient cook stoves.
        - Energy-efficient building.
        - Micro- and pico- hydroelectric generators for off-grid communities.
        - Solar PV for off-grid communities.
        - Biogas (at community level) for cooking.
        - Off-grid solar-powered combined cooling, heating and power (CCHP) systems.
        - Gasification system & turbine generator producing both power and biochar (for use in agriculture).
        - Advocating and policy reform for expanded and improved sustainable transportation options.
        - ***Notes:*** *Renewable energy might not be the main priority in the Middle and Upper Baram landscapes, as most of the areas in the Middle and Upper Baram were covered by the SARES scheme as observed during the on-ground visits. However, it is foreseen that the small-scale installation of solar panels will be needed for some of the communities' usage when they set up huts for their forest restoration activities, whenever necessary. Other renewable energy options such as micro-hydro, biogas for cooking, and/or improved cooking stove such as a*

rocket stove for the community that still uses wood for cooking are subject to the community buy-in.

Component 2: Durable landscape resilience through participatory governance, partnership building and knowledge management.

- **Outcome 2.1:** Strengthened community institutions for participatory governance to enhance socio-ecological resilience.
    - ***Indicator 10***: Participatory landscape management, as indicated by the number of landscape strategies developed or strengthened through participatory consultation and based on the socio-ecological resilience landscape baseline assessments endorsed by multi-stakeholder landscape platforms.
      Activities:
        - Carried out baseline assessments and drafted the strategy
        - Consultation of the draft strategy to with stakeholders
        - Formation of multi-stakeholder landscape platform
        - Stakeholder engagement plan
        - Knowledge management and communication plan
        - Capacity building plan
        - Advocacy and policy reform
        - Upscale Projects
        - Project Monitoring and Evaluation

    - ***Indicator 11***: Empowering women in natural resource governance, as indicated by the number of projects that improve the participation and decision-making of women in natural resource governance.
      Activities:
        - Awareness raising and capacity building for women's group in natural resource management and their participation in the village committee
        - Active participation and decision-making of women (capacity building, training sessions, meetings etc)
        - Engagement and consultation with women's group to understand their perspective on their participation on natural resource governance
        - Identify capacity needs of the women's group and tailor specific training for them.
        - Capacity building on resource management and sustainable utilisation of natural resources.
        - Identified possible livelihood activities related to handicraft, farming, collection of resources from the forest and food processing and this would improve participation and decision-making of women in natural resource governance.

    - ***Indicator 12***: Strengthening socioeconomic benefits for women, as indicated by the number of projects that target socioeconomic benefits and services for women.
      Activities:

- Consultation with women and potential projects strengthening socio-economic benefits and services documented during the baseline assessment surveys
- Conduct assessment on the capacity of the women and their interest in socioeconomic related activities.
- Design specifies training that will increase women's capacity in socioeconomic benefits related activities.
- Project that will improve market access for the agriculture products or handicrafts for women's groups.
- Capacity building on financial literacy and strengthening of socioeconomic benefits of women are incorporated into all regular grants as well as strategic grants.
- Middle and Upper Baram landscape, potential projects: Long Meraan (food processing and handicrafts) as well as Long Selulung, Sg Peking, and Long Lamai (handicrafts, agroforestry and reforestation)

- ***Indicator 13***: Landscape priority actions mainstreamed into local planning instruments, as indicated by the update priority actions outlined in the landscape strategies into local development plans.
  Activities:
  - Engagement with local authority and seek opportunity to synergise the landscape project with local development plan.
  - Invitation of local authorities agencies as member of the multi-stakeholder platform

- **Outcome 2.2:** Enabling environment for upscaling and replication strengthened through effective knowledge management of best practices and approaches.
  - ***Indicator 14*****:** Mainstreaming gender equality and women's empowerment, number of women-led projects supported.
    Activities:
    - Provide capacity building in developing proposals and engagement of women in the project management and implementation;
    - Active consultation with women-led organisations such as Women's Bureau in target villages, Penan Helping Hand Organization and Sarawak Kayan Women Association. This allowed the project to identify women's interests in activities improving livelihoods, agroforestry, food processing, handicrafts and social enterprise (marketing).

  - ***Indicator 15*****:** Upscaling initiated, as indicated by the number of dialogues organised with government entities on upscaling best practices.
    Activities:
    - To facilitate CBOs/NGOs in identifying and fostering potential partnerships to upscale successful interventions.
    - By creating linkages with relevant stakeholders, including government agencies, research institutions, technical support organisations, foundations, and other NGOs, the aim is to promote collaboration and

knowledge-sharing to amplify the positive impact of community practices in the Baram landscapes.

- ***Indicator 16:*** Knowledge shared, as indicated by the number of project and portfolio experiences and lessons systematised and codified into case studies produced and disseminated, and cumulative number of views of the case studies from the SGP website, social media, or through direct dissemination.
  Activities:
  - Capacity building for CBOs on project documentation and effective dissemination.
  - Each project required to incorporate knowledge management budget to document project information, lesson learnt, case study, manual, techniques etc in the form of brochure, photo stories, fact sheet, poster, booklet, guidebook etc. that can be shared in the website, social media or as print out.

Component 3: Monitoring and evaluation

- **Outcome 3.1:** Sustainability of project results enhanced through participatory monitoring and evaluation.
  - Activities:
    - Delivering participatory and timely M&E feedback, consolidating inputs from the individual grantees and evaluating progress towards achievement of the overall project objective;
    - The CBO grantees to be involved in monitoring and evaluating the outcomes of their community-based projects. Through capacity-building initiatives, technical support, and regular engagement, the CBOs are responsible to track the progress and impact of their projects.

1.5 Multi-Stakeholder Platform/ Stakeholder Engagement Plans

There are multi-stakeholders who play a role in the utilisation and management of natural resources in building the socio-ecological resilience in the Middle and Upper Baram area. Engaging with key stakeholders is a main step in order to strengthen community institutions for participatory governance, and to enhance socio-ecological resilience toward the indigenous community in Middle and Upper Baram, Sarawak. Hence, formation of multi-stakeholder platform in the Baram is for the effective facilitation of the landscape platform for the project implementation, planning, and capacity building with at least one representative from local civil society organisation or community group. Correspondingly, advocate and explore the possibility to assist local government units in the integration of multi-stakeholder platforms into their local governance structure that carries toward the formation of more solid and localised policy that reflects local current practices.

Table 1.4: Stakeholder Engagement Plans

Stakeholder Engagement Plans	Measurable Indicators/ Outputs	Proposed Timeline
1. Engaging with key stakeholders in Middle and Upper Baram Landscape, agree upon the best approach for multi-stakeholder landscape governance platforms and prepare terms of reference for the platforms.	(a) A multi-stakeholder platform in the Baram landscapes is formed, with at least one representative from local civil society organizations or community groups (Save rivers, NTFP, Sahabat Alam, Keruan, PADE etc), state/district government departments (eg: Sarawak Forestry Corporation/ environmental board/District Office Telang Usan/Majlis Daerah Marudi), private sector enterprises (eg: timber companies/associations), academic institutes (Curtin/RCE/Unimas), women's groups, and others (b) One official communication approach (eg. Whatsapp/Telegram etc) is created for multi-stakeholder landscape governance platforms to cater communication purpose (c) One set of the terms of reference is prepared and disseminated to the platform	Jun-Aug 2023 (Month 3 to month 5)
2. Convene regular meetings of the multi-stakeholder landscape governance platforms, discussing landscape strategies, linking with complementary initiatives, facilitating capacity building, organising awareness campaigns strategically, etc.	(a) At least one meeting in every 2 months (bimonthly) within the first year and 2 meetings per annual/whenever necessary among the multi-stakeholder landscape governance platform	Jun 2023 - Apr 2024 -one meeting in every 2 months (bimonthly) May 2024 - Feb 2026 -2 meeting per annual/whenever necessary (Month 3 to month 36)

3. Sensitise and build capacity of stakeholders on gender mainstreaming and inclusion of indigenous peoples and other marginalised groups.	(a) At least 2 focus group discussion/talk are organized (eg: sharing from the GEF-SGP Malaysia National Steering Committee member, Dr Yuwana Podin and/or Penan Women Project and/or Sarawak Kayan Women Association on gender mainstreaming to the other stakeholders) (b) Term of reference of the landscape governance mechanisms focusing on gender mainstreaming and inclusion of indigenous peoples and other marginalized groups	Oct 2023 / Apr 2024 (Month 7 and Month 13) **or after the initiation of the CBOs' projects*
4. Advocate and explore the possibility to assist local government units in mainstreaming the multi-stakeholder platforms into local governance structures.	(a) At least 2 councilor meetings organized with the local authority or relevant government agency (eg: Marudi sub-district council) (b) Level of influence by the multi-stakeholder platforms into local governance structures (through comparison before and after)	Nov 2023 - Oct 2024 (Month 8 to Month 19)

Table 1.5: Progress on Stakeholder Engagement

Stakeholders	Progress (update in June 2023)	Roles
Samling: Head of Sustainability, Tzee Ling Tia	Introductory meeting done and more follow-ups in progress	Sustainable management and utilisation of forest resources; certification
Forestry Department Sarawak (FDS): Head of Social Forestry Division, Mr Suliman	Introductory meeting done and more follow-ups in progress	Reforestation and synergies on overall landscape strategies
Upper Baram Forest Area (UBFA): BMF Research and Agriculture Staff, Jessica Merriman	Further discussions on the potential synergies between UBFA with this project	Reforestation and synergies on overall landscape strategies
PADE: President & Staff, Mr Ezra & Franklin	To spare extra time for the active NGO to guide the CBOs on upcoming grant application	Active NGOs in guiding CBOs
Economic Planning Unit (EPU)	Responded, meeting rescheduled and pending for a new date	Delivering advocacy for policy reform
Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC): Regional Representative (East Malaysia), Mr. Abraham Ngu	Preliminary meet-up conducted, no feedback after the Invitation Letter was sent and waiting for follow-up for the introductory meeting.	Delivering advocacy for policy reform
Ministry of Energy and Environmental Sustainability Sarawak (MEEsty): Permanent Secretary, Mr. Abg Ahmad Abg Morni	Responded, meeting rescheduled and pending for a new date	Delivery advocacy for policy reform
Sarawak Energy Berhad (SEB): Sustainability Department, Nur Khairin Binti Bujang	Responded, meeting rescheduled and pending for a new date	Renewable energy expertise and implementation
Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC): Deputy CEO II (Programs), Melvin Gumal	No feedback after the Invitation Letter was sent and waiting for follow-up for the introductory meeting.	Reforestation and synergies on overall landscape strategies
NTFP: President & Staff, Dr Andrew & Dominic	Further follow-up on upcoming grant application	Active NGOs guiding CBOs
Sahabat Alam Malaysia (SAM): President, Mr Jok	There are active sites in Lower Baram visited as success story reference for this project	Community training consultation
Keruan, TRCRC & BMF: President (Mr Komeok), TRCRC Staff (Hani) & BMF (Sophie Schwer)	Further follow-up on upcoming grant application	Active NGOs guiding CBOs
Curtin University	Further follow-up on upcoming activities	Eco-marketing approaches

1.6 Capacity Building Plan

Capacity building plays a crucial role in empowering individuals by equipping them with skills and knowledge, particularly among indigenous people and other marginalised groups in Middle and Upper Baram, Sarawak. In accordance with the priority action in identifying the landscape strategies, one crucial aspect is to ensure that all CBOs allocate a specific amount in their proposed budgets (typically RM 2,000 – 4,000). This allocation is intended to cover logistical costs, such as transport, accommodation, and food during travel, incurred when participating in capacity-building programs conducted by organisations like WormingUp or SGP. Additionally, these funds can also be used to attend other relevant training sessions, such as agroecological courses offered by other grantees. This strategic budgeting approach ensures that CBOs have the necessary resources to access essential training and skill development opportunities, further strengthening their capacity for sustainable initiatives

Table 1.6: Capacity Building Plan

Capacity Building Plan	Measurable Indicators/ Outputs	Proposed Timeline
A. Provide assistance especially through preparation of grants to CBOs for developing concepts and proposals for community projects on participatory conservation, restoration, sustainable livelihood interventions, agroecological practices and social enterprise/marketing/supply chain.	(a) At least 8-10 CBOs trained/guided on the preparations (b) At least 6-8 complete grant applications received	Sept 2023 to Oct 2023 (Month 6 to month 7) **Or in batch form, follow the grant application timeline*
B. Facilitate learning-by-doing capacity building to local CBOs through linking up with experienced NGOs, protected area management entities, and other strategic partners, on participatory conservation and restoration techniques. For instance, vegetation management, restoring the forest ecosystem through building habitat/conserve wildlife habitat, domesticated animals to reduce hunting (whenever possible for the communities), rainforest discovery centre,	(a) At least 6-8 participatory conservation and restoration techniques systems (eg: through site visit/learning workshop) operationalized and facilitated (b) At least 3 new partnerships between CBOs and enabling stakeholders (e.g. NGOs, protected area entities etc.)	Dec 2023 to Nov 2025 (Month 9 to month 32)

reforestation, agroforestry (growing diverse crops/trees), seed collection/nursery, silviculture, establishment of protected areas, watershed conservation, riparian buffer conservation (if applicable) and more.		
C. Deliver capacity building on good agroecological practices and systems to CBOs, in partnership with local extension services, government departments, academic/research institutions and the private sector.	(a) Number of CBOs facilitated with good agroecological practices and systems established (b) At least 5 awareness campaigns and community meetings conducted to deliver the awareness in order to achieve community buy-in	Dec 2023 to Dec 2024 (Month 9 to month 21) One in every three months
D. Capacity building provided to CBOs (specifically towards women's groups) on quality control, marketing, financial management, partnership building, etc., for strengthening initiatives regarding organic and green products and ensuring women's participation and decision making in supply/value chains.	(a) The relevant selected CBOs (tbc) are facilitated in quality control, marketing, financial management, partnership building, etc and enhancing the supply chains of their agricultural products, NTFPs, and handicraft (b) At least 5 projects that are contributing to equal access to and control of natural resources by women and men (c) At least 3 projects led by women (d) Introductory and training sessions on social enterprise concept are conducted to all relevant CBOs and at least 3 CBOs interested to register with social enterprise accreditation	Dec 2023 to Dec 2024 (Month 9 to month 21) One in every three months
E. Capacity building on documenting traditional biodiversity knowledge among indigenous communities.	(a) The relevant selected CBOs (tbc) are facilitated in documenting and record ethnobotanical knowledge among indigenous communities (b) At least one resource classification systems to document all the relevant traditional knowledge and shared among other community group to ensure the uniformity of documentations and the traditional knowledge is respected and make available to local people	May 2024 to July 2024 (Month 14 to month 16)

	(c) The number of practices/documentation collected and recorded in the Sarawak Biodiversity Centre	
F. Build understanding of CBOs (including women and other marginalised groups) for enabling their participation in government programmes and schemes, as well as other initiatives sponsored by private sector or other stakeholders are built.	(a) All the selected CBOs (including 3 women groups) are linked with the potential government programmes and schemes (b) At least 5 related government/ non-government programmes and schemes/ initiatives sourced/filtered, compiled and shared with briefing/ introductory sessions conducted and/or direct connected with the organizers	Sept 2023 to Oct 2023 (Month 6 to month 7) ***or after the initiation of the CBOs' projects*
G. Provide training for CBOs on financial management and access to microcredit opportunities, specifically targeting women and other marginalised groups.	(a) The relevant selected CBOs (tbc) are trained on personal financial literacy and access to microcredit opportunities, specifically targeting women and other marginalised groups. (b) At least 3 related available microcredit opportunities/schemes are shared with briefing/introductory sessions conducted and/or direct connected with the organizers	Dec 2023 to Dec 2024 (Month 9 to month 21) One in every three months
H. Engage with research and academic institutes, delivering skills training to CBOs on innovative approaches and techniques.	(a) At least 2 universities/relevant agencies partnered and deliver skills training to local CBOs, providing latest technical guidance, data collection and analysis as future references (b) Number of CBOs trained on innovative approaches and techniques	Mac 2025 to May 2025 (Month 24 to month 26)
I. Training for CBOs (including women, indigenous peoples and other marginalised groups) on collecting and documenting information gained through implementation of community projects, with the involvement of the experts from learning institutions for data collection and analysis for future references.	(a) All 10 selected CBOs (tbc) are trained on project documentation: progress reporting, in particular on the measurable indicators and expected outcomes for the main interventions: (i) conservation of agricultural land and forest and/or; (ii) sustainable land management practices (agroecology & agro-forestry) and/or; (iii) social enterprise and/or; (iv) climate change mitigation (or E&E) (b) At least 1 coordinator appointed from each CBOs to oversee the project documentations	Dec 2023 to Feb 2024 (Month 9 to month 11)

	(inclusion of women, indigenous peoples and other marginalised groups) (c) Approximately 3,150 total direct beneficiaries (50% of women and men, respectively.	

1.7 Delivering advocacy for policy reform

The tentative timeline on delivering advocacy for policy reform is expected in April 2025 to March 2026 (Month 25 to month 36). Nevertheless, knowing that the progress on approaching the state agencies might take longer than expected, the initial stage of the project will be exploring the opportunity with state agencies where the related strategy on advocacy for policy reform will be updated again once effective mechanisms have been identified. The following are the current planning which will be updated again after further engagements and consultations with the stakeholders:

The key objective of this component is to advocate for local government units in integrating multi-stakeholder platforms into their local governance structures. By working closely with local authorities, the project aims to promote participatory decision-making processes that involve diverse stakeholders, including community members, civil society organisations, and private sector representatives. Through capacity-building efforts and strategic engagement, the project is hoped to support the establishment of inclusive platforms that foster collaboration and dialogue, enabling more effective and sustainable development initiatives at the local level.

Drawing from comprehensive evaluations of portfolio results and valuable lessons learned, the project plans to prepare policy briefs to advocate for an enabling environment that incentivizes participatory approaches. These policy briefs highlight the positive impact of community-driven initiatives and the importance of integrating participatory principles into national and local policies. By presenting evidence-based recommendations and practical insights, the project aims to influence decision-makers and stakeholders, driving policy changes that promote and support community-led development efforts.

The project intends to actively engage in advocating for policy reform by liaising with key stakeholders and convening stakeholder workshops. These workshops are set to bring together a diverse group of participants, including local and national government officials, financial institutions, donor agencies, civil society organisations, private sector representatives, and research-academic institutes. Through constructive dialogue and

knowledge-sharing, the project will facilitate discussions on the importance of participatory approaches and landscape-based strategies. By fostering partnerships and cooperation among these stakeholders, the project seeks to build consensus and momentum towards policy reforms that prioritise sustainable and community-driven development.

As part of its comprehensive approach, the project aims to deliver technical and strategic support to guide local stakeholders in implementing landscape approaches. In parallel, the project intends to continue its advocacy efforts, working to influence policy reform and upscaling of successful interventions. By combining on-the-ground support with high-level advocacy, the project aims to create a lasting impact that leads to more resilient and inclusive landscapes and communities.

1.8 Upscale Projects or Community Projects

To upscale successful interventions, proven technologies, systems, and practices in the Baram landscapes which will be expanded and implemented on a larger scale. By building on the foundations of previous successes, this upscaling effort will leverage valuable lessons learned and best practices, yet the positive impact of these interventions can be extended to more communities in the Baram landscapes, fostering resilience and sustainability (timeline expected in March 2024 to October 2024; month 12 to month 19).

To facilitate CBOs/NGOs in identifying and fostering potential partnerships to upscale successful interventions. By creating linkages with relevant stakeholders, including government agencies, research institutions, technical support organisations, foundations, and other NGOs, the aim is to promote collaboration and knowledge-sharing to amplify the positive impact of community practices in the Baram landscapes. By harnessing the collective expertise and resources of these partners, the CBOs and NGOs can enhance the effectiveness and reach of their interventions, leading to more sustainable and impactful outcomes (timeline expected in May 2025 to March 2026; month 26 to month 36).

Proposed systematic outreach activities will be implemented to promote the scaling-up of community practices in the Baram landscapes. Through targeted communication, knowledge dissemination, and collaboration initiatives, the goal is to raise awareness about successful community-driven practices and their potential for broader implementation. By engaging with various stakeholders, these outreach activities will create a supportive network that fosters the exchange of ideas, resources, and expertise, ultimately contributing to the sustainable development of the Baram landscapes (timeline expected in November 2025; month 32).

1.9 Monitoring and Evaluation Plans

The formulation of this Landscape Strategy involves the consultations of the communities in the Middle and Upper Baram, active NGOs in the landscape and SGP National Coordinator (NC). Local communities were made participants for the purpose of baseline assessment surveys, which include the community-leaders/representatives, and community groups (women and men groups). Potential project sites were prepared with their respective baseline assessment reports after updating information on the priority areas aligning with biodiversity conservation, rehabilitation of degraded forest, creating opportunities for introducing or enhancing alternative livelihoods for the local people, incorporating gender-responsive processes etc. Further follow-up consultations with the multi-stakeholders are in progress to update the Landscape Strategy whenever necessary.

For the overall Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) plans, the current project progress will be monitored through the documentation of the activities and will be progressively updated with the SGP NC. M&E tools will be designed to capture relevant data, track project progress, and assess the impact of community initiatives. These tools will take into account the unique characteristics and challenges of the projects while aligning with the broader goals of GEF SGP Malaysia. By implementing comprehensive M&E mechanisms, GEF SGP Malaysia can gain valuable insights into the effectiveness and efficiency of their support programs, fostering a culture of learning, accountability, and continuous improvement for the benefit of the communities and the environment.

CBO Grant Monitoring and Evaluation

The CBO grantees will receive assistance in monitoring and evaluating the outcomes of their community-based projects. Through capacity-building initiatives, technical support, and regular engagement, the CBOs will be equipped with the necessary tools and knowledge to effectively track the progress and impact of their projects. For example, Google Form/offline documentation template can be used as the tracking system and to gather and document all baseline from each CBOs that are involved. By fostering a participatory approach to M&E, the CBOs can gain valuable insights into the effectiveness of their interventions, identify areas for improvement, and showcase the positive changes brought about by their initiatives, ensuring the long-term success and sustainability of their efforts.

The following are the minimum standards that will be implemented for CBO grant monitoring and evaluation:

1. **Ex-ante Visit/Survey :** The project executor management team shall undertake the ex-ante visit/survey to the grant-requesting organisations upon the grant approval by

SGP National Steering Committee (NSC) and prior to the signature of the MOA between the Execution Partner and the grantee.

2. **Field monitoring visits:** By supporting the CBO grantees, the execution team will assist in monitoring and evaluating the results of participatory conservation, restoration and sustainable livelihood interventions through data collection as well as field monitoring visits.

3. **Progress reports:** Execution team assist the GEF-SGP Malaysia in the development of Monitoring and Evaluation(M&E) tools to monitor the community projects. The CBO grantees should submit half-yearly progress reports to the SGP Steering committee along with a financial report. A forecast of resources needed within the upcoming period should be submitted by the grantees to the SGP Steering Committee as a requirement for disbursement of the next instalment.

4. **Final project evaluation report:** CBO grantees should submit a final report summarising global benefits and other results achieved, outcomes produced, and lessons learnt. The final report should also include the final financial statement.

1.10 Knowledge Management Plan

Knowledge management can be used to cater and manage knowledge gained and input from (i) Global environmental and local sustainable development benefits (impacts), (ii) Organisational capacities and (iii) Knowledge from evaluation of the innovation experience.

Global environmental and local sustainable development benefits

Proper documentations and records are needed from the very beginning of the project implementations where this information will be useful to develop similar strategies for other landscapes. Below are some of the important information to be obtained and documented.

Reforestation and restoration of degraded land

(1) Land and vegetation survey (eg. land size, land code and ownership, topographical details, terrestrial vegetation mapping)
(2) Written agreement on land tenancy consent for project use
(3) Reforestation planning (eg. types of timber species use, recommended planting distance, field maintenance schedules and manpower (eg. weeding, pruning and fertilizer application)
(4) Timely monitoring report (eg. growth performance of planted trees, pest and disease occurrence, total CO_2 reduction index, budget)
(5) Final completion report (eg. overall growth performance of planted trees, budget, challenges and opportunities, impact assessment towards the environment and community)

Traditional Knowledge

(1) Sighting of the available traditional knowledge resources
(2) Interview questions on documenting traditional knowledge (eg. types of resources, locality, uses etc.)
(3) Specimen collection (eg. spirit collections, herbarium specimens, live specimens)
(4) Domestication or cultivation of the species for conservation purposes
(5) Traditional Knowledge documentation and catalogue (eg. photos, videos, interview recordings and findings, cultural usages etc.).

Organisational capacities

(1) Training needs analysis
(2) Training courses and modules
(3) Pre and post training surveys (to evaluate the effectiveness of the training)
(4) Timely training reports (eg. attendances, modules taught, challenges and recommendations)
(5) Project working framework and audit
(6) Monitoring reports (impact assessment of training by CBOs towards the community)

Knowledge from evaluation of the innovation experience

(1) Technical training needs analysis

(2) Theoretical and practical course modules
(3) Handbook and operating, troubleshooting manual on how to operate electricity efficient devices, renewable resource (microhydro)
(4) User feedbacks on the innovation (eg. challenges, area of improvements, recommendations)

The project will strengthen knowledge management platforms to facilitate links among communities, promote information sharing, and provide access to knowledge resources that are relevant to their individual projects. The acknowledgement approach involves assessing and sharing lessons learned and best practices from target landscape based on evaluation of implementation results and their contributions to Global Environment Benefits (GEB), local development objectives and landscape level outcomes, including the development of social capital. This knowledge serves as important documents or guidelines for future project planning and implementation, especially the risk and mitigation measures which can be applicable for future projects. As this knowledge is community-based, it will serve as important documents for policy makers to do policy strengthening and reform.

In Knowledge Management plan, there are 3 steps involved which is (i) Capturing: to capture whatever the surrounding is showing and gather information from the communities living in the priority areas; (ii) Process & Analysis: processing raw data into information and analysis (distilling knowledge and lessons learned from the landscape and communities within it); (iii) sharing or dissemination.

i) Capturing : All data or information gathered about the project activities and processes will be fully and formally documented to ensure their availability when required. It is to ensure that necessary training is provided to CBOs on collecting, recording and documenting knowledge and experiences of community development initiatives. These data are gathered from carrying out participatory baseline assessments of socio-ecological resilience for the Middle and Upper Baram landscape. The data and information shall be generated and securely stored through electronic means such as in Google Drive, Google Docs and Google Sheets.

ii) Process and Analysis: Gone through consultation and discussions with local NGOs and communities for the integrity of information collected. Established a multi-stakeholder platform for collective opinions and voices to ensure on the obtained information for the experts to analyse and come up with status, knowledge, and learning. Distil the information from the individual case studies produced by the grantees in the projects into consolidated knowledge products highlighting best practices on adaptive management for landscape resilience, including at least one case study highlighting the role of women. Develop a case study of the landscape planning and management experience in the Middle and Upper Baram landscape to highlight the processes of stakeholder participation, as well as the progress

toward the targets selected during landscape planning, using the Satoyama Resilience Indicators. A detailed analysis should be produced of the successes and failures in the landscape in regard to the generation of synergies between individual community projects around landscape level outcomes, lessons learned, and future efforts to strengthen the landscape planning and management processes.

iii) Sharing/Dissemination: Disseminating the case studies and other knowledge products among relevant stakeholder groups through appropriate communication techniques including print media, social media and other local media outlets, and stakeholder gatherings.

Furthermore, it's worth noting that all the CBOs have to include in their proposed project budgets a certain amount set aside for these Knowledge Management Plans. This includes approximately RM 2,000 for the translation of the final report into English and a budget ranging from RM 5,000 to RM 10,000, depending on the contents for the knowledge product.

Table 1.7: Timeline of Knowledge Management

Knowledge Management Plan	Measurable Indicators/ Outputs	Proposed Timeline
A. Distil information from the individual case studies produced by the grantees in the projects into consolidated knowledge products highlighting best practices on adaptive management for landscape resilience, including at least one case study highlighting the role of women.	(a) At least one representatives from each CBOs interviewed and one story from one CBO compiled (b) At least 3 project and portfolio experiences and lessons (including at least one case study highlighting the role of women) systematized and codified into case studies produced	-Mac 2025 to May 2025 (Month 24 to month 26) -Sept 2025 to Nov 2025 (Month 30 to month 32)
B. Disseminate the case studies and other knowledge products among relevant stakeholder groups through appropriate communication techniques, including print media, social media and other local media outlets, and stakeholder gatherings.	(a) At least 10 social media posts on case study and other knowledge products is published/posted (b) At least 200 copies of printed media disseminated to the multi-stakeholders (c) At least 3 case studies disseminated	- Oct 2025 to Mac 2026 (Month 31 to month 36)

	(d) At least 200 cumulative views of the case studies on the SGP website/ Baram project social media, or through dissemination with the KMC checklist as reference	
C. Disseminate the case studies and other knowledge products among relevant stakeholder groups through appropriate communication techniques, including print media, social media and other local media outlets, and stakeholder gatherings.	(a) All the selected CBOs are trained on collecting, recording and documenting knowledge and experience of community development initiatives (knowledge product contents: best practices, innovations and lesson learned) (b) At least 1 coordinator appointed from each CBOs to oversee the project documentations.	-May 2024 to July 2024 (Month 14 to month 16)
D. Develop a case study of the landscape planning and management experience in the Middle and Upper Baram landscape to highlight the processes of stakeholder participation, as well as the progress toward the targets selected during landscape planning, using the Satoyama Resilience Indicators. A detailed analysis should be produced of the successes and failures in the landscape in regard to the generation of synergies between individual community projects around landscape level outcomes, lessons learned, and future efforts to strengthen the landscape planning and management processes.	(a) One case study developed for the landscape planning and management experience in Baram landscapes (b) One of detailed analysis produced for the successes and failures in the Baram landscape	-Jan 2026 to Mac 2026 (Month 34 to month 36)

1.11 Risk Management Plan

The selected key risks along with their respective management plans as follows:

Table 1.8: Risk Management Plan

Assumptions	Risks	Mitigation Actions
Low collaborative level with the local government	Decreasing collaborative level may influence the pace of implementation and most importantly the long-term sustainability of the project.	Actively engage with the local government through leveraging the influence from the different stakeholders among the multi-stakeholder platform (eg: university/academia, environmental board etc).
(i) Poorly designed or executed project activities (ii) Climatic unpredictability, periodic droughts, changes in rainfall distribution, altered frequency of extreme weather events, rising temperatures may affect project results, including agroecological practices, rehabilitation of degraded terrestrial and coastal-marine ecosystems, etc.;	(i) Damage critical ecosystems, including through the introduction of invasive alien species during land or forest rehabilitation or restoration, or result in human-wildlife conflicts. (ii) The ecosystems in the project landscapes are vulnerable to the impacts of climate change in the Middle and Upper Baram in Sarawak.	(i) To involve the expert organisations, e.g., conservation agencies, protected area management administrations, NGOs for project consultations. Utilisation of natural resources, e.g., within buffer zones, will be carried out sustainably and according to relevant regulations. Restoration/rehabilitation activities will be carried out in accordance with management plans developed through participatory processes. No invasive alien species will be used (ii) The landscape strategies will include priority actions to achieve enhanced resilience, based upon the circumstances in the landscapes and capacities of the local communities. CBOs will be required to include an assessment in the project proposal documents on the risks of climate and geophysical hazards on proposed infrastructure and assets, and describe what measures are proposed to reduce and manage the risks.
Some local communities/CBOs are not familiar with documentation works	No immediate mitigation could be conducted in the case of poor performance Poor documentation/recording	Close monitoring and periodical meetings/on-ground visit as well as M&E training will be carried out accordingly to assist the relevant local communities in the close progress reporting and paper documentation tasks
High entry and/or timeframe needed for policy reform might be longer than the proposed project period	Long term administration works/follow up needed (beyond project period)	Multi-stakeholder platform plays key roles on this and main responsibility will be designated accordingly for the long term follow-up (with the aid of mainstreaming the landscape strategy into local government structure)
Factors and conditions	(i) Diverse Risks:	(i) Weather monitoring systems and alerts to

that are considered likely to be present or true during the transportation process. This includes factors like, weather, accessibility and infrastructure reliability.	Transportation involved in various modes (off-road condition, rivers, air) where required comprehensive approach (ii) Rural regions (in particularly off-road) are often more susceptible to extreme weathers like heavy rain or thunderstorm (iii) Limited infrastructure like road condition makes the resources constraints where it is become more expensive to access	impend weather-related risks, allowing the executors/stakeholders to make informed decisions. (ii) Alert on the emergency response capabilities in rural areas. (iii) Budget planning to include the necessary costing needed for the transportation.