Biodiversity Conservation in Sarawak
Where are we?

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SABAH WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COLLOQUIUM 2012
(JAN 9 – 10)
29 year old
RITCHIE
“the Boss” of
SEMENGOH
wildlife center

ICON of
Sarawak’s
Conservation
success
A quick take....

1850’s
Hunting for specimens & collection mainly by European

1950’s
Conservation ideas began

1959
Protection commission established

1960’s
Rehabilitation programs initiated

1990’s
Research activities conducted

1998’s
Law enacted – Wildlife Protection Ordinance
Biodiversity of Sarawak
(at a glance.........)

Totally Protected Species
- 5 Reptiles
- 21 Mammals
- 26 Birds
- 2 Flora

Protected Species
- 8 Reptiles
- 12 Mammals
- 17 Birds
- 47 Flora

No of FAUNA Species
- 166 snakes
- 185 Mammals
- 113 Amphibians
- 104 lizards
- ??? Birds

No of FLORA Species
- > 1000 Orchids
- > 2000 Trees
- > 700 Ferns
- > 200 Palms
Conservation framework

Institutional
- Governance
  - Ministry
  - Forest Dept
  - Sarawak Forestry
- Tertiary (R & D)
- Other Govt. Dept

Legal
- Ordinances
- Wildlife Protection
- NPNR
- Forest
- Other laws
- NREB
- SBC

Physical
- Totally Protected Areas System
- NP/NR/WS (10% of land mass)
- Permanent Forest Conservation zones in license areas
Conservation Strategies (in general)

• Protection of important ecosystem and habitat by law (ordinances)

• Establish and build mutually benefiting collaboration programs with key stakeholders

• Establishment of institutional and infrastructural support system

• Employ/use of relevant advanced technologies in management

• Build a sustainable funding framework and mechanism

• Develop resources generating alliances
Strategic Paradigms

Four key approaches

TPA systems

G to G collaborations

4KA

Regional Cooperation

International (Affiliation) (Conventions)

Loagan Bunut
Truly unique ecosystem

Hornbill Workshop
14th Dec, 2010
Some key Strategic Initiatives

G to G

- DANIDA/SWMPI (Similajau)
- UNDP-GEF (Loagan Bunut)
- Malaysia
- Netherlands (Maludam)

Regional Cooperation

- SEAFDEC (turtles)
- SOSEK MALINDO (enforcement)
- BIMP-EAGA (ecotourism)

14th Dec, 2010 Hornbill Workshop
International Conventions

- RAMSAR: Wetlands of international importance
- CBD: Biological Diversity
- WHC: World Heritage Sites
- IUCN: World Conservation Union
Successful Conservation Programs

- Honorary Wildlife Rangers (700+ gazetted up to end 2011)
- Sarawak Wildlife Conservation Fund (RM700+K received by end 2011)
- Marine Ecosystem Protection (100,000+ sea turtle hatchling released & 3500 reef balls planted since 2003)
- OU center of excellence in BATANG AI NP PLANT research center of Excellence in LEW Sanctuary
Successful Conservation Programs

Park Guide Licensing System
(300+ NP guides licensed since 2008)
External conservation "ambassadors"

Rehabilitation Centers
(53 semi wild OU resides in 2 centers)
More than ½ born at the center, 3 generations

Wildlife rescue in flooded zone
(Bakun Dam)
(1600+ fauna rescued, 35000+ flora planted)
Principal Conservation Challenges

- Expertise (capacity)
- Sustainable funding
- Other land use & development
- Public Apathy
Conserving for the future

Capacity building (resources) (technology)

Totally Protected Areas (1 million Hectares target)

Conservation business (virtual tourism) (twinning programs) (education & research)
Conserving for the future

- Conservation zones & wildlife corridors (in plantations & concessions areas)
- Legislation (ordinance amendment to include increased penalties and wider public participation)
- Infrastructure development (in areas of communications, technologies etc)
- Global Alliances (NGO) (conservation fraternities) (corporate organizations)
Moving Forward — some directions

- Focus
  - Prioritize

- Conservation Programs
  - (sustained benefits)

- Technology
  - (innovative use)

- Land use
  - (create common goals)

- Community
  - (shared benefits)

- Resources
  - (wise use)
As we forge ahead,
In our conservation crusade,
Like the fighting cock and the warrior,
We are ready for battle as biodiversity savior.