



APPGM-SDG
APPROVED BY THE 15TH MALAYSIAN PARLIAMENT

SDGS AND GRASSROOTS REALITIES: SEVEN COMMUNITY CASE STUDIES IN MALAYSIA

Edited by Teo Sue Ann



SDGs and Grassroots Realities: Seven Community Case Studies in Malaysia

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FOREWORD

Prof Datuk Dr Denison Jayasoria

Head of Secretariate, APPGM-SDG

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Documenting community case studies is a significant dimension of researching communities left behind in any society. This collective perspective provides demographic, historical, and cultural context to the challenges and struggles facing local communities who are left behind amidst the fast economic growth of certain sections of a country.

This new publication, entitled “SDGs and Grassroots Realities: Seven Case Studies in Malaysia” and edited by Dr. Teo Sue Ann, analyses seven communities we identified during the 2022 SDG mapping of local needs at parliamentary constituencies. Here are local scenarios in seven villages in seven parliamentary constituencies covering six states and one federal territory of Kuala Lumpur. The write-up provides a clear picture of the deprivations experienced at the grassroots and the need for holistic intervention, which is cross-cutting SDG goals involving multiple agencies and stakeholders.

Notably, this volume complements another publication entitled “Localizing SDGs and Grassroots Concerns of Six Vulnerable Groups in Malaysia”, also edited

by Dr. Teo Sue Ann. The methodology provides a situational analysis of target groups across 28 parliamentary constituencies with similar issues and concerns.

However, this publication uses a case study method to undertake an in-depth review and analysis of a village and local community impacted and, in most cases, left behind. After the initial visit during the field study, the writers visited the location, and new conversations and a secondary literature review were undertaken.

The theme that rings a bell in SDGs is “leaving no one behind”; however, here it is “leaving no village or community behind”. Both publications shift from the individual to a collective and target group approach, which requires new intervention strategies and community development approaches, moving behind individual problem-solving to the collective and village or target group level.

The stories are of five rural communities and two urban ones. They each have specific issues and concerns. They require different solutions. However, resolving the problems is similar, namely active engagement with the local community on identifying the root concerns, intervention strategies and the collective action of all parties concerned.

This brings us to the issues of local development planning and an inclusive process to engage all the stakeholders in the decision-making process. A decentralized approach to development planning is needed, especially arising out of local SDGs at the grassroots. There is an urgent

need to establish a district-level or grassroots SDG task force where Federal agencies, state agencies, local government agencies, local-level civil society and local business communities, and academics from local universities are part of the multi-stakeholder taskforce or working groups.

The summary table below provides a quick overview of the communities and a description of their concerns, which require long-term development assistance and collaborative effort to resolve. There is great potential in using the SDGs framework for problem-solving.

Chapters	Vulnerable Community	Description
1	Kampung Panji, Tenom, Sabah	Infrastructure gaps and geographical challenges of an isolated village of 500 people with access only by rail and prone to flooding. Safety concerns over the two bridges.
2	Kampung Mongkas, Serian, Sarawak	Concerns over security vulnerabilities, especially smuggling of persons and goods. The call is by local villages to improve border security.
3	Jerai Geopark, Merbok, Kedah	The study focuses on the need for greater engagement of local people and the agencies to realise the full potential of ecotourism potential, which is untapped.

4	Fishing villages, Parit Buntar, Perak	Fishers from several fishing villages are affected by the clearance of the mangrove swamp, impacting the livelihood of local fishers who are only coastal. Local people are now involved in the replanting of mangroves.
5	Orang Asli village, Gua Musang, Kelantan	A focus on development planning and assistance in addressing the socio-economic conditions of the Orang Asli community, which has yet to be realised, and the reasons for it are given from the perspective of the Orang Asli leaders from these villages.
6	Kampung Bunga Raya, Sg Buloh, Selangor	This case study concerns urban settlers and the delayed housing they have been waiting for for the past 30 years. It documents the history and struggle for affordable housing and a forgotten people.
7	Taman Supreme, Cheras, Kuala Lumpur	The focus is on the urban space's overdevelopment and the residents' mobilisation through their resident association to voice these concerns.

Grounded research methodology gives visibility to the everyday struggles of ordinary people. One can be impressed by national statistical data on SDG achievements. Still, in a study of grassroots realities, whether it is thematic on significant target groups or specific in-depth case studies, one can recognize the many unresolved issues on the ground. There is an urgent need, especially in localizing SDGs, to complement the statistical studies with ground reality studies to ensure that no one target group, community, or village is left behind in Malaysian society.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

APPGM-SDG acknowledges the work undertaken by the editor Dr Teo Sue Ann and the chapter writers of these case studies. You have enlarged the knowledge based on SDGs especially on vulnerable communities and these write up provides greater visibility to their issues and concerns.

All seven are directly involved in the secretariate as staff or as resource persons. Appreciation for the work undertaken by Dr Teo Sue Ann, Dr Jain Yassin, Dr Wong Sing Yun, Associate Professor Dr Zaimuariffudin Shukri Nordin, Dr Eva Kristin Larry Sait, Abang Izhar Abang Ahmad, Mohamad Hardyman Barawi, Dato' Dr Mokhtar Saidin, Dr Wan Suzita Wan Ibrahim, Dr Nurfahana Che Awang and Anthony Tan Kee Huat.

We also thank the Members of Parliament involved and officials from government agencies and local communities for their cooperation and support.

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INTRODUCTION

Dr Teo Sue Ann

Issue mapping initiates the localisation of sustainable development goals (SDGs) for APPGM-SDG. The process comprises multi-stakeholder engagement, including the members of Parliament, the federal and state government agencies, the community leaders, and the grassroots community. Each engagement requires dedication from the APPGM-SDG researchers to make contacts, coordinate fieldwork, and facilitate discussions. As we employ the qualitative methodology in the issue mapping, each engagement allows the researchers to not only document the social, economic, and environmental issues but also give insights into each of the issues – including the lived experiences of the grassroots communities in dealing with the issues and survive despite the difficulties and hindrances that entailed.

This volume contains seven case studies, among the issues the APPGM-SDG researchers have documented during the issue mapping process. Each of these cases left prominent impressions on the researcher, not only because of its importance, but because of the strong urge ignited to the researchers, and they are compelled to cast more limelight on them. Hence, after the issue mapping process, the researcher returned to the community to further investigate the issues they documented.

Each case study gives a specific and more nuanced focus on the issues that affect the communities living in a specific locality. The fundamental objective of these case studies is to initiate momentous and in-depth discussions about the highlighted issues. The issues are often longstanding, highlighted by the community in the hope that the APPGM-SDG researchers could bring the issues to "*pihak atasan*" (translated as higher authorities), as they said. More importantly, what the case studies impressed the researchers is the community's agential daily actions as they live with the issues that continuously affect their socio-economic well-being. Their agential actions are localising SDGs contextually, which are essential for the researchers to document, explore and investigate further. This is because, through the community's action in managing the issues, the researchers realised the communities are important stakeholders in localising the global agenda of SDGs to the grassroots level.

It is also worth noting that each case study has undergone several internal and external reviews. The writers had the opportunity to share their cases in a workshop, in which we invited members of the CSOs, academicians and experts for discussions and exchange opinions. A crucial and fundamental question raised during the discussions was how we accentuate the inter-relations between the local analysis presented by the case study and the macro-level policy discussions. Indeed, the case studies are not intended to answer this critical question. In fact, the question can attract multiple answers from different stakeholders and interested parties. Above all, the question indicates that the case studies

have successfully served their purposes as impetuses for initiating meaningful discussions in the hope of attracting interested parties (including the *pihak atasan*) to strengthen the current policy implementation strategies.

The seven case studies will bring the readers on a journey to different localities across Malaysia. As reflected in these issues, our interests stem from diverse perspectives. For example: -

In **Chapter 1, DR JAIN YASSIN** highlights the situation of villagers residing in Kampung Pangi, a remotely located village, rely on the train schedule of one return trip per day to the nearest town. The emphasis of his case study is on Sabah's need for better infrastructure.

In **Chapter 2, DR ZAIMUARIFFUDIN SHUKRI BIN NORDIN's** case study is on the porosity of the border separating Malaysia and Kalimantan. The illegal routes across the Malaysia-Kalimantan border (known as rat tunnels or *terowong tikus* to the locals), used for smuggling activities, pose a security threat to the villagers of Kampung Mongkol. In an attempt to protect themselves from criminals operating in the border area, the villagers took matters into their own hands, by putting up a wall surrounding the village. The situation, however, is complicated by the fact that these illegal routes also facilitate cross-border trading activities. The case study for this situation, delves into the difficulties encountered, during efforts to maintain security at the Malaysia-Kalimantan border.

Chapter 3 covers **DATO DR MOKHTAR SAIDIN's** investigation on the situation at the Jerai Geopark in Merbok, Peninsular Malaysia. In his opinion, the geopark's social and economic potential can only be realized, through the concerted efforts of the authorities and the local communities. The SWOT analysis, employed during this case study, revealed that the local communities are yet to appreciate the benefits to be gained, from the geopark. As a consequence, many ecotourism options at the Jerai Geopark remain unexplored.

In **Chapter 4**, the case study delves into mangrove deforestation in the district of Parit Buntar. In this chapter, I describe the efforts of the minority fishing community, to undo the environmental damage caused by mangrove deforestation, through the planting of mangrove seedlings, along the river running through Bagan Tiang and Tanjung Piandang. The expansion of the aquaculture industry, in the Parit Buntar district, caused the destruction of a vast mangrove forest area. The resulting soil erosion and damage to marine habitats, drastically affected the local fishing community's source of income. The local fishers at Bagan Tiang and Tanjung Piandang have raised this issue with the local authorities, political representatives, CSO and members of parliament, while continuing in their efforts to restore mangrove growth along the riverbanks.

In **Chapter 5, DR WAN SUZITA WAN IBRAHIM** highlights the longstanding socio-economic issues, affecting the *orang asli* (indigenous community) residing in Pasik, Gua Musang. In 2022, a prominent veteran politician, representing the Gua Musang parliamentary constituency, highlighted the plight of this particular *orang asli* community. However, the lack of an appropriate response, from the authorities concerned, suggests that the involvement of an eminent political representative, may not necessarily translate into the implementation of measures, to improve the socio-economic standing of the *orang asli* community.

In **Chapter 6, DR NURFARHANA CHE AWANG** brings to light, the longstanding housing woes, endured by the community living in Kampung Bunga Raya. Although Kampung Bunga Raya was designated a temporary two-year housing location for members of this community, they have been waiting in vain for the pledged permanent housing for over 30 years. Dr. Nurfarhana reports that the community are paying the price for weaknesses in the partnership agreement, between the developers and government agencies, which rendered this housing issue unresolved.

In **Chapter 7, ANTHONY TAN KEE HUAT** emphasizes on the direct implications of over-development in the housing area of Taman Supreme, Cheras. This case study draws attention to the mobilisation of residents, for the purpose of raising concerns, regarding over-development in their housing area.

Each case study portrays the challenges faced by the local communities, and proposes various avenues for the localisation of SDGs, by the grassroots, for the grassroots. The significance of each case study can be attributed to our engagement with multiple participants, during our efforts to realize SDG localisation in Malaysia.

Chapter 1

INFRASTRUCTURE GAP AND GEOGRAPHICAL CHALLENGES: CASE STUDY IN KAMPUNG PANGI, TENOM SABAH

Dr Jain Yassin | Dr Wong Sing Yun

ABSTRACT

This case study explored the infrastructure gap and geographical challenges in Kampung Pangi, Tenom, Sabah. The research data was gathered in two stages. The first phase involved conducting focus group discussions (FGDs) during the mapping process for the All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia (APPGM) - Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The second step in the data collection process involved obtaining secondary data from published books, databases, reports, and other materials. The findings of this study showed that the geographical challenges in Kampung Pangi have given rise to an infrastructure gap that has impacted the socioeconomic development of the community, thereby directly impacting several SDGs. The absence of good roads as well as limited access to healthcare and educational facilities have contributed to a number of social and economic issues. The study emphasises the need for a comprehensive strategy to deal with these problems and recommends that the government and other stakeholders cooperate to create sustainable infrastructure solutions that are sensitive to specific topographical constraints,

particularly in the rural areas of Sabah. In order to improve the infrastructure and socioeconomic development of Kampung Pangi and similar settlements in Tenom, Sabah, this study concludes with suggestions for further research and policy interventions.

INTRODUCTION

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development provide a set of internationally recognised priorities that are crucial for all nations, including quality infrastructure that is sustainable, accessible, affordable, and resilient. Malaysia has also made significant progress in mainstream SDG funding in its national development planning, which has been aligned to the SDGs, as shown in the 11th Malaysia Plan (11MP), 12MP, and Budget 2022. Despite the enormous efforts being made to reduce regional imbalances, infrastructure gaps still persist, especially in Sabah.

Sabah, which is known as The Land Below the Wind, is the second-largest state in Malaysia and one of the six main contributors to the national gross domestic product (GDP). In 2021 alone, Sabah was one of the six states that contributed close to 72.2% of the national GDP (Poket Stats, 2022). In the past, the economy of Sabah relied mainly on exports of its primary and minimally processed commodities, with petroleum, palm oil, and cacao being the top three export commodities of the state. In recent years, however, the agricultural, tourism, and manufacturing sectors have been rapidly expanding and have become the main economic

sources of the state. The large span of land and rich natural resources in Sabah have largely contributed to the development of the economic sectors, especially the agricultural sector.

Geographically, Sabah has a mixture of mountainous regions, beaches, and tropical rain forests. It covers an area of 73,711 km² with a long coastline of 1,743 km and shares a border with the province of East Kalimantan of Indonesia in the south (Abdul-Hadi *et al.*, 2012). The coastline of Sabah is home to some of the richest ecosystems in the world, including large coral reefs, dense mangrove forests, and a variety of coastal and deep-sea fisheries (Biusing, 2001). This strategic location enables the Sabah marine fishing sector to produce more than enough fish for both domestic consumption and export (Jafar-Sidik *et al.*, 2010). Nearly 1/7 of the land in the areas surrounding Sabah is ideal for agricultural development because of its rich natural resources (Sabah State Government, 2022). According to Zainal Ajaiman, a senior research fellow from Universiti Malaysia Sabah, the state has about 2,000,000 ha of land that is suitable for agriculture, but half of it has been left idle (The Borneo Post, 2010). Research by the Department of Agriculture also similarly pointed out that Sabah has 322,600 ha of arable land that is suitable for the cultivation of food crops (Daily Express, 2018).

Despite the progress of the economic development of Sabah over the past decades since independence, there have been long debates over the unsatisfactory development of the state, especially in terms of its infrastructure, human

capital development, socio-economic development, employment opportunities, and available economic opportunities. For example, Suffian *et al.* (2021) raised the question of why Sabah has fallen behind in its development outcomes despite being rich in resources. And again, another question has to do with the problems associated with the slow economic development of Sabah. These questions are, in fact, putting the spotlight on the poor economic performance of Sabah and its lagging infrastructure development.

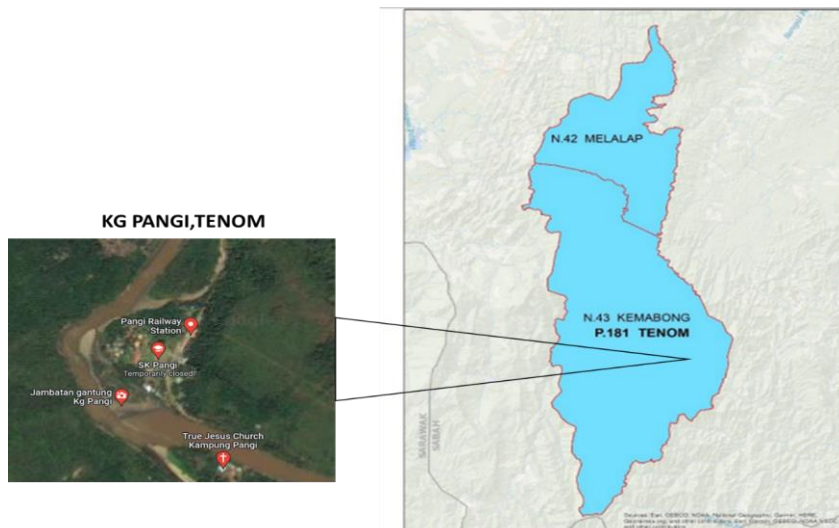
Even to date, one of the main obstacles for attracting large investors to the state and creating job opportunities for the locals remains the lagging infrastructure development in Sabah (The New Straits Times, 2022). Ahead of the tabling of the 2023 Budget, the villagers in Sabah voiced their concerns in the hope that the government would seek to prioritise the development of Sabah in terms of upgrading basic facilities such as roads and Internet access (The Star, 2022). It is noteworthy, therefore, to shed light on the issue of the infrastructure development gap that remains to this very day, particularly in many of the remote areas in Sabah that are facing geographical challenges.

STUDY AREA: PANGI, TENOM

Tenom is included in the Interior Division of Sabah, Malaysia. In the early days of British colonial rule in Malaysia, the town was called Fort Birch. It is considered to be the unofficial capital of the Murut community, whose most important festival, the annual *Pesta Kalimantan* (Kalimaran Festival), is

held in the town. It is also the main gateway to other areas within the Murut heartland and the Lundayeh minority. Tenom covers an area of 2,457 square kilometres and the town has an estimated population of 50,230 people. Tenom is represented in Parliament by two members of the Sabah State Legislative Assembly, namely the representatives of Melalap and Kemabong. Tenom is divided into seven districts and 201 villages. The Murut community is the largest tribe at 60%, followed by the Chinese (20%), Malays (10%), Dusun-Kadazan (8%), and others (2%). The Murut tribe is divided into two groups, namely the Murut Timugon and Murut Tagol tribe. The Murut Timugon live mostly in Pekan, Melalap, and Entabuan, while the Murut Tagol live in Sapong, Kemabong, Tomani, and Rundum. The town is administered by the *Pejabat Daerah Tenom* (Tenom District Office).

Figure 1 Location map of Tenom, Sabah



Source: Department of Statistics Malaysia (2021)

Pangi area in Tenom is surrounded by hilly inland with undulating hills and mountainous terrain. In this area, lives over 5,000 residents, scattered around nine villages. The nine villages are Batu 75 Baru, Batu 75 Lama, Batu 78, Kalandos, Kampung, Pangi, Matolop, Anginlalang, Sisiuron, and Kampung Rayoh. It is interesting to note that the Pangi area can only be accessible by a 45-minute train ride from town. The old railway system only operates twice daily to enable locals to enter and exit their common village site. A ticket from the Tenom Station to the Pangi Station only costs RM 1.90 (Official Website of the Sabah State Railway Department, JKNS). The farthest village from the railway in this district is Kampung Rayoh, which is about 20 km from Tenom.

This research focused especially on Kampung Pangi for its case study. There are approximately 500 people, predominantly Muruts, living in Kampung Pangi. The majority of the villagers belong to the Borneo Evangelical Mission (BEM) church, better known by its Malay abbreviation of SIB (*Sidang Injil Borneo*), which is one of the largest Christian denominations in Sabah. The Kampung Pangi villagers rely on the old railway system to enter and exit the village to buy necessities and transport crops. Therefore, they plead with the state government to consider permitting trolleys to be used on the railway tracks. The trolleys can be used to buy daily necessities and would enable the villagers to go out during emergencies, for example, when trains to Tenom stopped operating during the Movement Control Order (MCO). However, the use of trolleys has been restricted by the JKNS because of safety hazards.

Figure 2 Train at Tenom Station



Figure 3 Handmade Trolleys



Source: Daily Express (2018)

Figure 4 Map showing the location of Sabah State Railway Route



The communities not only have limited facilities and opportunities but also have limited and unequal access to health, employment, and other vital services due to distance and location. There is currently only one elementary school, SK Pangsi, but there are no health services. In 2017, the former Member of Parliament for Tenom, Datuk Raime Unggi, announced that the government would be building a health clinic in Kampung Pangsi to make it easier for the people of the village and its surrounding areas to receive treatment without having to go to the Tenom Hospital. However, the clinic has yet to be constructed.

Hence, the fundamental objective of this study was to explore the existing socioeconomic problems in Kampung Pangi as a consequence of the shortage of infrastructure and its geographical challenges.

LITERATURE REVIEW

One of the essential socioeconomic aspects that is emphasised in any development plan is the adequacy of the provided infrastructure. Besides that, both location and geographical factors are the other important aspects that influence income levels and growth, with their substantial effects on transportation costs, disease costs, and agricultural productivity (Gallup *et al.*, 1999). Many studies have highlighted the “obvious” link between geographical factors and infrastructure gaps (Manggat *et al.*, 2018), which are closely related to barriers and the overall standard of living of the community, especially for those people residing in remote areas (Ali *et al.*, 2009). To put it in simple terms, the geographical challenges in the rural areas are mostly due to the inadequate basic infrastructure facilities being provided to the people living in the rural areas, thereby prolonging the unresolved income disparity issue.

Meanwhile, in another study conducted in Malaysia, Bakar, Mat, and Harun (2012) postulated that the availability of infrastructure in a country can definitely attract foreign direct investment (FDI) and further accelerate the rate of economic development. According to Ahmad *et al.* (2015), the capacity of the infrastructure to attract FDI is ascribed to the fact that it fosters an environment that encourages foreign

investors to place their funds in the host nation. Similarly, Azam and Bakar (2017) suggested that the government of Malaysia needs to emphasise infrastructure development, which will subsequently boost economic growth and consequently improve the welfare of society. The findings of these past studies highlighted the importance of critically examining and evaluating the adequacy of the provided infrastructure, with a special focus on its provision in rural areas. The case study of Kampung Pangi is one of the relevant examples that can be used to highlight the issue of the lack of infrastructure in many of the remote districts of Sabah.

Meanwhile, a few papers presented their findings based on the development of Sabah and highlighted some of the critical issues. Suffian *et al.* (2021) argued that it goes back to the institutions that had an impact on how the relationship between the federal and state governments was shaped, even when it was essential to industrialise the state in order to promote economic progress. Their research found that economic policies at the federal level do not emphasise the development of Sabah. Instead, the federal government has been focusing on industrial development in Peninsular Malaysia, with more funds being provided for the construction of physical infrastructure to support those value-added activities. Hence, the Peninsular states have an advantage in the manufacturing sector compared to Sabah.

On the other hand, Idris and Mansur (2020) proposed the Sabah Economic Model as a preliminary model for steering the discussion on the economic development of Sabah towards a new policy. It is essential to have game-

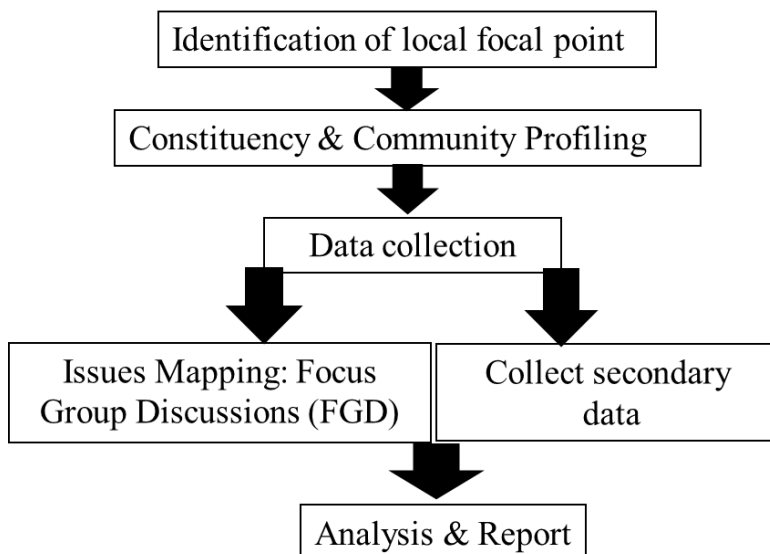
changing projects in Sabah, a larger annual budget, improve the current basic infrastructure of the state, enhance health and education services, diversify the attractions in Sabah, support down-streaming activities, and introduce policies that draw more investments and foster an environment in Sabah that supports economic activities. Infrastructure, in particular, serves as an important enabler of the economic performance of the state. For instance, stable supplies of water and energy are essential to the support of any economic activity. Disruptions in these supplies will interfere with production processes. In addition to the issue of the lack of basic infrastructure, Internet connectivity has become another highly prominent issue in the state as well.

Previous studies have firmly established the importance of infrastructure development in supporting the economy. Besides that, research that focused on the development of Sabah have shed light on the issue of the critical lack of infrastructure that is in dire need of an immediate solution. These studies have called for the need for regulation and institutional transformation that will improve infrastructure development in the state. However, very few studies in the past provided a critical analysis of a case study of a remote location. The unique geographical setting and topography of Sabah, which include rivers and steep hills, present a number of obstacles that are said to have contributed to the inadequate infrastructure. Hence, this paper will fill in the literature gap by providing a comprehensive review of a case study that will thoroughly examine a particular remote village in Tenom.

METHODOLOGY

The data collection consisted of two phases. The first phase was the focus group discussions (FGDs), which were based on open-ended questions to encourage discussion among the participants. The discussions revolved around the common experiences of the participants. The second phase involved the collection of secondary data from the existing literature, data sets, reports, and documents. Figure 1 shows the research flow. Prior to the FGDs, the key local stakeholders and resource persons were identified for the selection of the participants and to gain an overview of the social and economic situation in the selected area, respectively. The FGDs for this case study of Kampung Pangsi, in particular, were conducted on 22 September 2022. All the FGDs were recorded and transcribed.

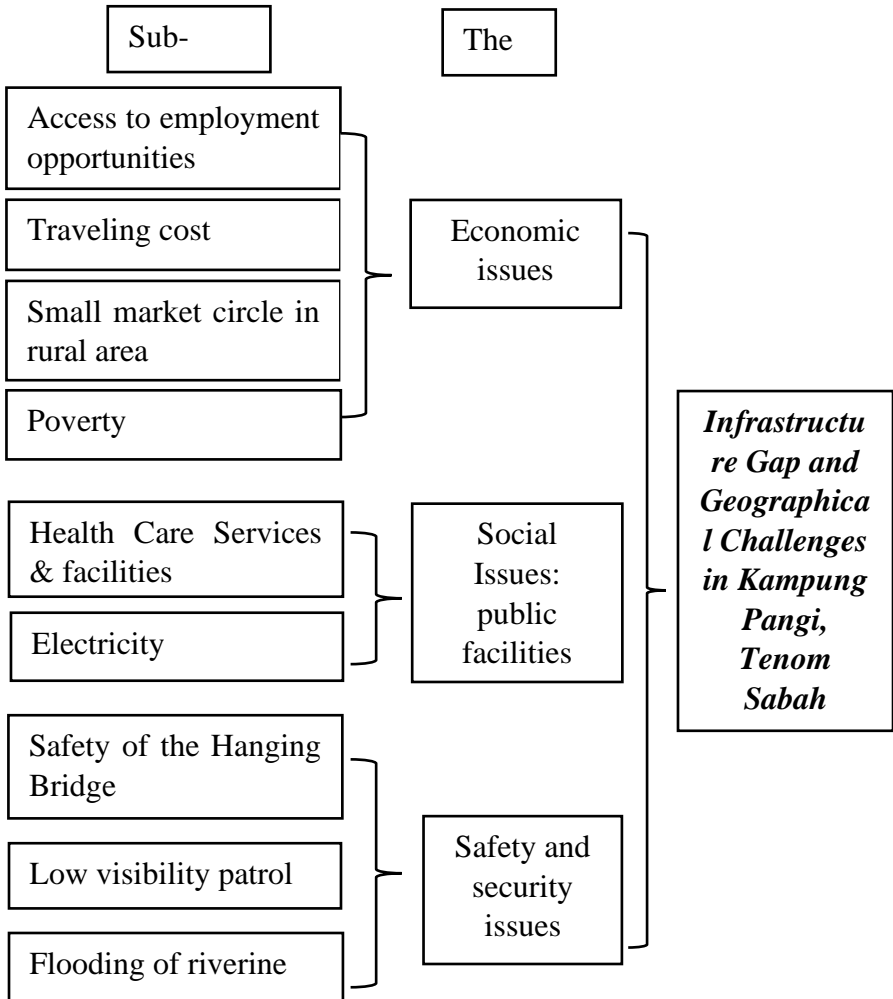
Figure 5 Research Flow



FINDING AND DISCUSSION

The findings from the FGDs were summarised according to three major themes: Economics, Social: Public Facilities, and Safety and Security, as presented in Figure 6.

Figure 6 Three major themes that emerged from the FGDs



Economic Issue due to limited basic infrastructure and Geographical Challenges

The first theme was the economic issues in Kampung Pangi due to the infrastructure gaps and geographical challenges. The majority of 500 Muruts residents living in Kampung Pangi depends on agriculture and fishing, particularly small-scale farming such as rubber tapping and the planting of vegetables, as the primary sources of their livelihood. The villagers claim that Kampung Pangi is quite famous for its tourist activities, such as river rafting and camping. Nevertheless, as the train service is only available once or twice daily, the number of tourists who come here is also fairly modest.

Moreover, the underdeveloped infrastructure and geographical challenges are not conducive to the creation of employment opportunities, especially for the younger generation. The lack of infrastructure has discouraged the creation of suitable jobs for the local skill sets, and most of the jobs are for unskilled workers (rubber tappers), where the wages and nature of the work are unattractive. Hence, more youths are migrating from the villages to the urban centres in search of jobs and other opportunities. According to the youth representative:

"It is difficult to find a job in this area. Most young people move to Tenom or Kota Kinabalu. Only some who perform poorly in school choose to remain here and work on the farms... There are no jobs available here. You can only work on a

farm...The villages primarily comprise rubber tappers and fisherman. Jobs in the tourism industry are only available if there are visitors.”-

Villager (Youth Representative), Kampung Pangi

The major source of income for the traditional farmers, planters, and breeders is the *tamu* (weekly market). Nevertheless, the limited road networks have affected not only the marketing of agricultural products but also the delivery of farm inputs and other services.

“If you have to take the train, there is almost no profit to be gained from going to the tamu.”-

Villager (Farmer 1) Kampung Pangi

“The economy is the issue here. Everyone was at a loss on what to do during the Covid-19 pandemic. As the market is far away, if you were looking for fish, you wouldn't know where to go.”

- Villager (Farmer 2) Kampung Pangi

“It is challenging to sell vegetables, like chilli, in this isolated village. You must leave as early as 5:00 am to sell at the tamu. But where can you find a train that early in the day?” -

Villager (Farmer 3) Kampung Pangi

Gaps in the basic infrastructure, such as tarred roads and health facilities, also affect the lives of the rural communities in Tenom, Sabah. The villagers in Kampung Pangi have practically no other alternative as their area is

only accessible by a 45-minute train ride from town, hence increasing the travel cost.

"If we want to sell vegetables, we go to Tamu Tenom downtown. Going back and forth wastes a lot of time and money."- **Villager (Farmer 4) Kampung Pangli**

The claims were valid, based on the visit of the researchers, as a villager had to travel by train to Tenom town to refill his empty cooking gas cylinder, as shown in Figure 7. According to the owner of a small sundry shop in Kampung Pangli, he has very limited stock in his shop because of logistical issues and the high cost of travel, and hence, the villagers usually have to travel to town for their supplies.

Figure 7 Villager Travel by Train to Tenom Town to Refill an Empty Cooking Gas Cylinder



Economically speaking, due to its undeveloped infrastructure, Kampung Pangi continues to face difficulties in attracting investments for industrial growth. Furthermore, due to the lack of a supportive ecosystem, the villagers are mainly involved in low-skilled jobs and conventional farming. Apart from agriculture, the villagers are actively involved in the tourism sector. Nevertheless, the number of tourists is small, again due to accessibility.

Due to constraints brought about by the lack of basic infrastructure and geographical challenges, which result in limited access to employment and poor access to markets, the cycle of poverty among the rural communities remains a great challenge in Kampung Pangi. According to teachers from SK Pangi, most parents cannot afford to provide their children with sufficient school supplies, such as shoes, school uniforms, and sports uniforms. Given below are extracts from interviews with teachers from SK Pangi:

*“Most students arrive at school without any coins in their pockets. They solely rely on RMT (the Supplementary Food Programme). So, they are starving until recess.”- **Teacher 1, SK Pangi***

*“The students lack basic needs and attire. When they come to school, some of them wear slippers. Even though I feel angry, I am aware that most of them come from rubber tapping families.” - **Teacher 2, SK Pangi***

The second theme was safety and security issues due to geographical challenges, which were also highlighted in Kampung Pangli. The villagers expressed their concern about the condition of the two bridges connecting Kampung Pangli to Kampung Pangli Seberang on the other side. The students and locals have to take a risk and use a hanging bridge to cross over to the other side of their village. Extracts from the interview were as follows.

"I was just informed that the boards of the bridge are very worn. Just yesterday, something fell. This is dangerous for the villagers. Moreover, the bridge is the main route that the children take to go to school." – **Villager 1, Kampung. Pangli**

"A child and an elderly man were killed when their boat capsized."– **Villager 2, Kampung. Pangli**

The construction of the bridges began in 1989 and was completed in 1990. The present condition of the bridges, however, is a cause for concern. The hanging bridges are poorly managed, and they have a weak structure. Some external repairs were done over the years, of course; however, these were only minor repairs due to the lack of funds. Some parts of the hanging bridges also have holes and are not properly maintained. According to the villagers, the delay in repairs is due to the high cost of transporting materials from Tenom town to Kampung Pangli.

Figure 8 Hanging Bridge Kampung Panggi



Primary school students face a lot of hazards getting to school because of the hanging bridges. Students have to travel using private boats, sometimes without proper safety equipment, such as life jackets, although it is provided by the schools. Nevertheless, during floods, the midsection of the bridges will be submerged in water, and the villagers will not be able to cross them. Therefore, they have to rely on private boats. This situation occurs in a few other places as well, including Timbang Taun and Kampung Pituru, Sabah, due to the poor condition of the hanging bridges that are used by them every day.

Figure 9 School Children SK. Panggi Who Use Boats to Get to School



Another security concern is the lack of police officers, safety officers, or civil guards in close proximity to the villages. The villagers claim that because of their remote location, the police only patrol their area less than three times each month. Hence, if a crime or emergency occurs, such as illegal hunting or suicide incidents, the police officers are not able to arrive at the scene soon enough.

Lack of public facilities due to Geographical Challenges

Tenom district currently has one hospital, two health clinics, and seven rural clinics. With a total area of 2,457 square kilometres and an estimated population of 50,230, the number of operating hospitals in the town is certainly insufficient. The World Health Organisation (WHO) recommends using travel time rather than distance to evaluate healthcare services since this approach considers the state of the roads and the available modes of transportation (Huerta Munoz U, 2012). However, in the case of an emergency, such as a severe illness or a mother giving birth, it is difficult for the people of Kampung Panggi to access medical care due to the limited train service and absence of road networks. When such an emergency occurs, the villagers will resort to man-made trolleys to bring the sick or expectant mothers to the Tenom Hospital, which is about 13 km from Kampung Panggi, and this journey takes approximately more than an hour.

In the case of Kampung Panggi, Tenom, the longer travel time is due to its unique geographical location on the banks of the Padas River, where the villagers can only reach

the town by the train that comes twice daily. Hence, due to the limited train service and absence of road networks, it is difficult for the residents to receive medical care in the event of an emergency such as a severe illness and mothers giving birth. The residents of Kampung Pangi previously encountered numerous problems when it came to transporting patients to hospitals. An extracts from an interview was as follows:

"To get to the clinic, we have to take the train. Even if you want to give birth, you must take the train. So, there have been instances of women giving birth while waiting for the train."- **Villager 3, Kampung Pangi**

The villagers in the Pangi area have urged the government to build roads and a village clinic to accommodate the needs of the residents. The people have been waiting for a very long time for such infrastructure. A participant said,

"Ideally, a clinic should be constructed here. It should have amenities like equipment for asthma and urination problems. If there is a clinic here, at least people from other villages can come there as well."- **Villager 3, Kampung Pangi**

In 2017, the government announced that a health clinic would be constructed in Kampung Pangi to make it easier for the residents of the village and its surrounding

areas to access healthcare without having to travel to the Tenom Hospital due to the distance and transportation issues in the area (Utusan Borneo Online, 2017). The locals, however, do not expect the issue to be settled soon. A participant said,

"After a year, nothing happened. Why wasn't it built, we asked? According to them, the contract was terminated because the place was too far away, and the significant capital involved would have resulted in a loss. We, therefore, asked, "Why approve the project if you don't want to build it?" The construction site of the clinic was relocated to another village in the Tenom district." – **Villager 4 Kampung Pangi**

In addition, the villagers of Kampung Pangi Seberang still do not have full electricity supply or lack electrical power supply because of the seclusion of the village from the town. According to the villagers, they have experienced several incidents of electricity disruptions, with blackouts lasting more than 24 hours.

"We, recently, didn't have electricity for three days straight. Sometimes, we don't have electricity for as long as three weeks."– **Villager 5, Kampung Pangi**

"Since my electricity has been disconnected for a while, I don't pay for my power metre. I don't use a generator either as gas isn't available. I have a

battery-powered sun lamp that I use. I, occasionally, use candles. I've had the power metre for ten years, but there is no electric supply.” – Villager 5, Kampung Panggi

Here are some of the highlighted issues that have been mapped into the relevant SDGs, as illustrated in Figure 10.

Figure 10 Issues Mapping into Relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

According to the former Member of Parliament (MP) for Tenom, Noorita binti Sual, the Sabah government has a long-term plan to address the problems in Kampung Panggi. The state government plans to construct a road from Tenom to Panggi as part of the 12th MP under the Ministry of Works (KKR) and, in 2017, the government announced that a health clinic would be built in Kampung Panggi. However, up to this point, infrastructure projects frequently fall behind schedule, and Kampung Panggi has yet to be allocated a budget, particularly for solving the infrastructure and public services issues. The lack of access to good infrastructure is the main factor that can affect the quality of life of the rural communities as well as undermine efforts to improve the economic transformation of the rural areas, which typically rely on agricultural resources.

Meanwhile, according to Melvin V. Majanga, the former director of JKNS, among the challenges faced by them are an ageing train fleet, poor rail infrastructure, and weather-related acts of God such as landslides, floods, and soil erosion (The Star, 2016). The former Sabah State KKR Minister, Datuk Seri Bung Moktar Radin, stated that the Sabah government was committed to improving the quality of train services and would ensure that conditions at the station were more organised and conducive. In 2016, Sabah announced the upgrading of the rail line from Halogilat and Tenom and the replacement of the old trains with new diesel multiple unit trains (The Star, 2016). However, according to the Auditor General's Report (LKAN) 2020 Series 1, the Sabah

railway upgrading project was implemented inefficiently and ineffectively, which contributed to its delayed completion. The approval period for the extension of time, and extension of the contract and instruction order, which took a long time, apart from ineffective monitoring by JKNS, were reported as the main weaknesses. The delay in the completion was also due to topographical issues as well as landslides, riverbank erosions, and floods (Daily Express, 2022).

The Sabah Maju Jaya (SMJ) Development Plan, which was launched in early 2021 by the Chief Minister of Sabah, Datuk Hajiji Noor, will serve as the impetus for determining the direction of the state over the next five years. The three major economic sectors of agriculture, industry, and tourism are represented by the acronym SMJ. Human capital and general well-being are represented by the letters M and J, respectively, and green infrastructure and sustainability networks are represented by the letter S. There are five enablers under each thrust, namely fiscal sustainability, financial facilities, effective and efficient delivery, excellence in integrity and governance, and digital government (The Borneo Post, 2021). The current development plan gives new hope to not only the villagers of Kampung Panggi, but also all Sabahans.

The issues that have been brought up are in line with the SDGs to create a future that is inclusive and sustainable for future generations (Figure 10). The implementation of the SDGs must start with an integration initiative because there is a strong possibility that only particular goals will be chosen that are aligned with the aims of the government (Smith *et al.*,

2017). As a consequence, several goals that are deemed to be "less important" have been entirely disregarded.

It is therefore essential for the state government to be transparent with regard to the progress of the implementation of the policy. In other words, the impact of the projects carried out under the SMJ in the short, medium, and long term needs to be gauged. In addition, more *in-situ* research needs to be conducted to understand the needs of the people, especially those living in rural areas. There should be more collaboration between the government, NGOs, and local business communities so as to ensure that the projects implemented are both effective and efficient. Besides that, a bottom-up economic planning approach is more critical than a top-down approach. More focus should be given to productive economic activities to promote growth, increase employability, and improve basic infrastructure. Below is a possible intervention to minimise the infrastructure gaps in Sabah, particularly, in Kampung Pangi.

SUGGESTED INTERVENTIONS	DESCRIPTION
Improving the delivery system	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Healthcare services should be made more accessible and available by using innovative ways of engaging the community. 2. It is high time that the Sabah state government improve access to primary healthcare in Pangi, Tenom, and Sabah, in general, by setting up mobile clinics and reintroducing flying doctors, especially in rural areas.

	<p>3. Politicians need to ensure good electricity supply and that a health clinic will be constructed in Kampung Pangsi.</p>
Encouraging more private investment	<p>1. Increasing value-added investments, particularly in the tourism sector, may pressure the government to expedite infrastructure development in Pangsi. It is important to leverage the area's availability of land and labour as well as proximity to natural resources. The communities, NGOs, and local government should manage the promotion efforts.</p> <p>2. Cooperatives should be established to empower business enterprises in the locality by encouraging networking with neighbouring communities that engage in similar economic pursuits to take advantage of the economies of scale and establish industry-specific hubs.</p>
Improving the quality of the train services	<p>1. The trains should run more than five times a day as well as at night.</p> <p>2. The state government should ask for more funds to address issue of landslides and riverbank erosion, which affect the operations of railway and upgrading projects.</p> <p>3. According to the Auditor General's Report (LKAN) 2020 Series 1, the government and JKNS need to develop more effective methods of monitoring on-going projects and their daily operations.</p>

<p>Improving safety & well-being</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The repairing of bridges that increase intercommunity connectivity should be prioritised. A task force for community and public safety and wellbeing should be established under the Village Development and Security Committee (JPKK) with locals involved and serving as members to create initiatives that rely on community-based prevention, intervention, and re-entry instead of policing and the criminal legal system. 2. The local government, especially the district office, should rectify these issues immediately.
<p>Developing a comprehensive integrated database system</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Multiple studies have examined the economic issues that Kampung Pangli faces. According to Kampung Pangli's JPKK representative, the area's socioeconomic database has not been updated since 2015 and the information is limited and incomplete. 2. Accurate demographics, socio-economic, and infrastructure information should be used as a national reference to effectively plan rural development programmes and projects. Therefore, Kampung Pangli requires micro level socioeconomic data as a baseline to justify the need for infrastructure development.

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Chapter 2

BORDER SAFETY: KAMPUNG MONGKOS TEBEDU SERIAN SARAWAK

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ABSTRACT

This case study was conducted in Kampung Mongkos, a village located within the Serian parliamentary constituency and close to the border between Malaysia and Indonesia. The proximity of this village to this international border renders it an area prone to activities contrary to both international and domestic laws. During the site visit and interview session, the researcher acquired information on security vulnerabilities, which the Malaysian government needs to address. Among these vulnerabilities is the issue of smuggling involving both humans and merchandises. Despite the fact that Kampong Mongkos is the closest village to the border, the security post of the Customs, Immigration, and Quarantine (CIQ) of Malaysia is located not in this village, but in a village approximately seven kilometres from the border. Therefore, this study emphasises on the importance of raising the level of security along the Malaysia-Indonesia border, particularly with regards to Kampong Mongkos.

INTRODUCTION

Border security is a critical issue as it plays a central role in promoting the safety and economic development of a country. The term 'border' is defined as a predetermined line of demarcation indicating the boundaries of power between two countries, even though no specific definition has been reached (Antoszek, 2018). Borders are anticipated to prevent the illegal flow of people, goods, and weapons as well as provide protection against terrorist threats and other security risks (Atger, 2008). The measures employed by governments to regulate border security include border patrols and surveillance as well as the use technology in the form of drones and biometric systems (Martins & Jumbert, 2022). These measures serve to curb illegal crossings and smuggling activities as well as facilitate the detection and interception of individuals or groups that pose a threat to national security.

As Malaysia is a country with several land and maritime borders, ensuring the safety and security of areas in the vicinity of these borders is the main concern of the Malaysian authorities (Darmayani, 2021). To that end, other than the implementation of measures; such as border patrols, surveillance, and the employment of technological techniques, including biometric systems; the Malaysian government has also established strong relationships with neighbouring countries to coordinate border safety efforts and prevent the illegal flow of people, goods, and weaponries. According to Anuar and Raharjo (2022), Malaysia has also implemented several immigration policies

to regulate the flow of people across its borders, including policies associated to asylum seekers and refugees as well as policies aimed at curbing human trafficking and smuggling activities. However, as in many other countries, Malaysia needs to establish a balance between border safety and the economic and social repercussions stemming from border regulations. Additionally, the impact of border regulations on international trade and inter-country relationships need to be taken into consideration.

The Malaysian state of Sarawak has the most extensive border in the country. In terms of issues related to Sarawak's state security, border security is the issue most frequently highlighted by the mass media. Sarawak shares borders with the Malaysian state of Sabah and the Indonesian territory of Kalimantan. According to Dunan and Adnan (2012), social and cultural differences as well as border issues represent the catalysts for political disagreements between Malaysia and Indonesia. The porous Sarawak-Kalimantan border is associated with an alarming number of criminal operations. Over the years, local police have received reports regarding illegal crossings, drug trafficking operations, kidnappings, auto thefts, smuggling, and the infiltration of illegal immigrants. Despite persistent efforts on the part of the Sarawak government to enhance the level of border security, including the setting up of five new guard posts in 2018, the problems remain largely unresolved.

The West Kalimantan border region, for instance, has long been the source of intense trepidation for the

authorities in Kalimantan. Eilenberg (2012) reported that the population living along the border region, particularly the remote border region of Kapuas Hulu, in West Kalimantan, Indonesia are often viewed as a menacing and potentially subversive community for whom various illegal practices are part and parcel of daily life. Over many years, Indonesian job-seekers have illegally traversed the porous border to gain entry into Sarawak, Malaysia.

Other than the carrying out of border patrols and surveillance (Anuar and Raharjo, 2022), the Malaysian government has also cooperated with neighbouring countries to coordinate border security efforts aimed at curbing the illegal cross border movement of people, goods, and weaponries. In their efforts to promote border security, the Sarawak government needs to consider the economic and social impact of border regulations on international trade activities and inter-country relationships. Also, it is essential that the Sarawak government establish a balance between border security and the rights of individuals, including asylum seekers and refugees hoping to take refuge in the state. The establishment of a proper balance between border security and the rights of foreign individuals seeking refuge will serve to ensure the safety and economic stability of the people of Sarawak.

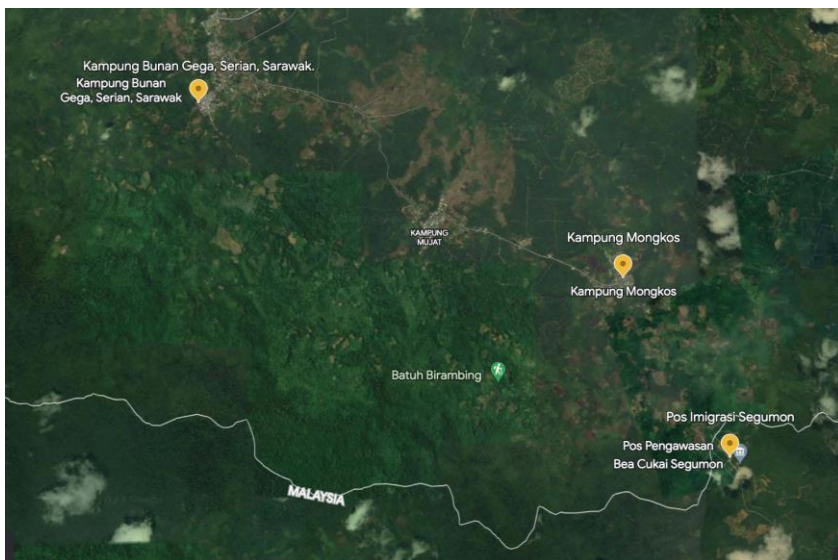
International borders can also turn out to be a location, where individuals from both sides of the border are encouraged or even invited to participate in activities that could be classified as either legal or illicit, depending on the laws and regulations of the two countries in question, and the

social acceptance of the communities in question (Fadahunsi & Rosa, 2002; Johnson & Post, 1996; Kyle & Koslowski, 2012).

On August 24, 1970, the governments of Indonesia and Malaysia introduced the Border Trade Agreement (BTA), which established several guiding principles regarding cross-border trade, cross-border activities, and the nature as well as value of goods and products (Agusriyanti, 2020). As reported by Anuar and Raharjo (2022), the maximum transaction value for the two border communities is likewise restricted by the BTA to not more than 600 Malaysian ringgit per transaction.

STUDY AREA: KAMPUNG MONGKOS, SERIAN

Figure 11 Map of Kampung Mongkos and its proximity to the Malaysia-Indonesia border.



Source: Google Earth (16 August 2012). Google Maxar Technologies CNES/Airbus

This case study focuses on concerns at the border region of Sarawak and Kalimantan (Malaysia-Indonesia), specifically Kampung Mongkos in Tebedu, Serian. Kampung Mongkos is located about 14 kilometres to the northwest of Serian town, close to the border separating Sarawak and Kalimantan. More than 200 families live in this village, making up a population of 1200, with the Bidayuh community representing the majority. In Kampung Mongkos, the main economic activity is agriculture and the crops cultivated include rice, pepper, and local fruits. Several villagers have also ventured into the cultivation of oil palm. The well-known homestay programme offered by the villagers provides visitors with the opportunity to experience Bidayuh cuisine and culture while accommodated in a traditional Bidayuh longhouse built in 1959.

Local guides from the village are available for visitors interested in a 2.5-kilometre hike to Pos Segumon on the Indonesian border. The nearest Indonesian village to Kampung Mongkos is Desa Segumon and these two villages share close ties in terms of family, ethnicity, language, and culture. The close relationship among the inhabitants of these villages, stemming from blood and social ties, has facilitated easy cross border travels for community events via existing roads (Abdullah et al., 2016). However, easy cross border travels also provide criminal elements with the opportunity to conduct illicit activities, such as smuggling and human trafficking.

The non-existence of a Customs, Immigration, and Quarantine (CIQ) security post in Kampung Mongkos is

conspicuous, taking into consideration the fact that this village is closest to the Sarawak-Kalimantan border. This is the first point of arrival for those travelling from Indonesia to Malaysia, prior to their arrival at the nearest CIQ checkpoint at Kampung Bunan Gega, which is approximately eight kilometres from Kampung Mongkos.

As the nearest General Operations Force (GOP) office and police station are also located in Kampung Bunan, the response to reports and complaints lodged by the villagers of Kampung Mongkos is predictably slow. The absence of a CIQ checkpoint in Mongkos-Segomon to monitor human movements hampers the performance of the Malaysian army and GOF operating in the vast thickly forested area of Serikin. Such a situation contributes towards the compromising of national security.

METHODOLOGY

This study, which was conducted during our visit to the Serian parliamentary constituency in December of 2022, entailed focus group discussions (FGDs), key informant interviews, informal discussions, and the utilisation of secondary data from reports, existing literature, and other documents. During the FGD, the issue of border security in Serian was raised by several parties, including government agencies, community leaders, and members of the Sarawak state legislative assembly. The discussion was recorded and transcribed.

Subsequently, we sought a recommendation from a member of parliament regarding a reliable participant in the key informant interview and he proposed the Kampung Mongkos village head. The approximately one hour interview, which was conducted at the home of the village head, was recorded and transcribed.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Discussions on the issue of border security, particularly in the context of Kampung Mongkos, continued over lunch with participants sharing accounts of safety concerns associated to crimes such as thefts and armed robberies stemming from the illegal entry of foreigners.

During the interview with the *ketua kampung* (village head) on December 12, 2022, we learned that the border security post was shifted from Kampung Mongkos to Kampung Bunan Gega in the early 2000s. The nearest police station, clinic, and school (SMK Tebakang) to Kampung Mongkos are also located in Kampung Bunan Gega.

According to the Village Head, despite the proximity of Kampung Mongkos to the Indonesian border, the presence of Malaysian authorities is not felt in that area. Instead, Malaysian soldiers are frequently seen patrolling along the Ta Ann palm oil plantation and through the *nibong* (Malay feather palm) forest, locations which are rather far from Kampung Mongkos.

The village head confirms that many residents of Kampung Segumon and Kampung Mongkos share family ties. He also states that, while the lack of border security is evident in Kampung Mongkos, villagers traversing the border have observed Indonesian officers on patrolling duty in the vicinity. According to him, *"The Indonesians built that road and their security forces it. It is a proper road compared to the Malaysian side."* (Interview conducted on 12 December, 2022, Kampung Mongkos, Tebedu, Serian)¹.

The most pertinent issues affecting the lives of Kampung Mongkos villagers are smuggling and human trafficking activities. According to our key informant, *"Many activities that aren't right, that violate the laws of our country, have been going on since the 80s. Smuggling and so on."*² The village head also reported that smuggling activities mainly involved the movement of drugs and goods into and out of Malaysian territory.

"This kind of activity was more prolific prior to 2018. This isn't a rat trail anymore. It's become an elephant road." That

¹ Translated from: *"...orang Indon sana itu jalan dia buat ho...jalan border ni..dia bikin...pakai sidak dia punya anggota pakai jalan ronda...kat sini mana hutan semua...proper Indon ni..."*.

² Translated from *"...sekarang dari tahun 80-an banyak aktiviti tidak betul...menyalahi undang-undang negara kita...penyeludupan dan sebagainya."* (Interview conducted on *12 December 2022*, Kampung Mongkos Tebedu, Serian).

*what I always tell those people [the authorities]."*³ (Interview conducted on 12 December 2022, Kampung Mongkos, Tebedu, Serian).

The lack of border security in Kampung Mongkos, Serian is a longstanding problem, which has drawn the attention of high-level personnel in the Malaysian government. In December, 2009, during the 2nd Meeting of the 2nd Session of the 12th Parliament sitting and again in December 2020 in during the 3rd Meeting of the 3rd Session of the 14th Parliament sitting (Hansard Parliament), the proposal to increase border security personnel by reforming the border scouts in Sarawak was forwarded by Serian member of parliament, Dato' Sri Richard Riot. Mambong member of parliament, Dato Dr. James Dawos, who concurred with the Serian MP, stated that *"The Serian and Mambong Parliamentary Constituencies, Dear Deputy Minister, border Kalimantan. Therefore, the issue of security at the border arises every day as robbers and thieves cross over from the other side using the numerous rat trails. They steal motorcycles, rob houses, and rob families at gun point. Firearms have now come in through these illegal routes."*⁴ to emphasise on the dire need for increased border security in Serian.

³ Translated from: "...aktiviti aktiviti seperti ini tahun 2018...sebelum itulah memang hebat...itu yang saya selalu ada dialog dengan orang itu...bukan jalan tikus lagi...jalan gajah..."

⁴ Translated from: "Kawasan Parlimen Serian dan kawasan Parlimen Mambong Yang Berhormat Timbalan Menteri, adalah bersempadan dengan Kalimantan. Oleh itu, isu keselamatan di sempadan timbul setiap hari kerana perompak-perompak, pencuri-pencuri menyeberang

Deputy Minister of agricultural modernisation and regional development, *Yang Berhormat* (YB) Martin Ben, who is also the state assemblyman for N22 Kedup mentioned that cross-border activities, particularly those involving illegal immigrants, increased following the closure of the national border due to the Covid-19 pandemic (*"Pos Kawalan Sempadan Perlu Dibina Di Kampung Mongkos."*, 2022). During his visit to Kampung Mongkos in March, 2022, he proposed that the Malaysian National Security Council grant its approval for the construction of a border security post in the village.

According to our key informant, *"Human trafficking activities have recently increased. Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, they are still coming in."* (Interview conducted on 12 December 2022, Kampung Mongkos, Tebedu, Serian).⁵

The illegal delivery of foreign labour from Indonesia to Malaysia is orchestrated by parties from both sides of the Indonesian-Malaysian border. In terms of smuggling activities, upon illegal entry, Indonesian smugglers are received by their Malaysian contacts at pre-arranged locations within the Malaysian border. As for human

dari sebelah sana melalui jalan-jalan tikus yang sekian hari sekian banyak. Mencuri motosikal, merompak rumah-rumah, merompak keluarga dengan menggunakan senjata api. Senjata api sekarang sudah masuk melalui jalan-jalan tikus."

⁵ Translated from: *"...pemerdagangan orang baru baru ini memang hebat...walaupun Covid masih ada masih masuk..."*

trafficking, exorbitant fees are imposed on the men, women, and children victims of this criminal act.

The complaints lodged by villagers regarding smuggling activities appear to have fallen on deaf ears, leading to the assumption that there are those in authority working hand-in-hand with smuggling syndicates for personal gain. In a study conducted by Dahari *et al.* (2019), it was reported that the lack of integrity and susceptibility to bribery among officers at border checkpoints are the major contributing factors towards cross-border smuggling activities.

Despite the occasional arrest of certain high-profile smugglers, dissatisfied villagers decided to take matters into their own hands through the construction of one-step barricades. Following the interview, the village head led us to the gate the villagers had built to deter illegal entry from the Indonesian side of the border. He also showed us the signage put up by villagers denying entry into the Malaysian side of the border during the Covid-19 pandemic lockdowns.

A previous barricade constructed through the sponsorship of YB Martin Ben was demolished by smugglers, leaving the villagers with little choice but to erect a barricade of their own at their own expense. Costing 1500 *Malaysian ringgit*, the construction of the barricade together with consistent monitoring and patrols conducted by the villagers have served to significantly reduce the occurrence of smuggling and human trafficking activities. The barricade,

which is made of iron, is cemented to the ground and fortified with chains as well as a heavy-duty lock.

Figure 12 The barricade between Kampung Mongkos and the road that leads to the border



In addition to smuggling and human trafficking activities, the villagers also have to contend with vehicle thefts, particularly motorbikes, and robberies at their homes. In one of these incidents, a thief was fatally shot by a villager, emphasizing the fact that the lack of security at the border jeopardises the lives of the local population.

"There was a theft here just the other day. The villagers couldn't take it anymore. So, they shot the robber dead. He was from the other side. He'd robbed house all the way to Kampung Bunan. He broke into a teacher's house, stole a gun, and ran

away. Then he stole the motorcycle of one of this village's (Kampung Mongkos) villagers. The villagers managed to catch him and shot him."⁶ (Interview conducted on 12 December 2022, Kampung Mongkos, Tebedu, Serian).

Other than the problems arising from illegal border crossings, the villagers also have to contend with the transmission of diseases from foreigners to the local population. In a health screening session conducted a day prior to the interview, 29 to 30 villagers were diagnosed with tuberculosis. The village head claimed that *"The officials from the Serian health department came here to screen for tuberculosis. There was one case of tuberculosis in the longhouse. There is a lot of mixing [between locals and foreigners]."*⁷

⁶ Translated from: "...kecurian...itu hari ada..kecurian sini...sampai orang kampung sudah tidak tahan lagi...tembak dia..mati... orang seberanglah...sampai dia merompak sampai Kampung Bunan sana ho...masuk rumah CiKampungu...ambil senapang...lari ho...dia curi motosikal org kampung sinilah...Kampung Mongkos..dapat tangkap...orang kampung tembak..."

⁷ Translated from: "...pejabat bahagian eh kesihatan bahagian Serian datang sini buat saringan...TB ada kes satu..TB di longhouse sana...yelah klo banyak campur..." (among locals & foreigners).

Figure 13 Signage warning against smuggling of goods, particularly animal products across the border



According to the locals, pigs are slaughtered in Malaysia and then transported to Indonesia to be sold at a more lucrative price. This activity infuriates the Bidayuh community as, during transportation by car or motorcycle, the blood dripping from the pig carcasses desecrates the land that their ancestors proclaimed sacred. Due to the cheaper price of pigs in Malaysia compared to Indonesia, Indonesian traders are willing to go through the trouble of purchasing and slaughtering pigs in Malaysia before transporting them for sale in Indonesia.

The participant also claimed that, *"In the past, the young people here didn't know what drugs were. Now they do."*⁸ Even with the threat of dire consequences, including the death penalty posed by Malaysia's drug-trafficking laws, the participant added that, *"Many are apprehended carrying drugs instead than gas barrels."*⁹ These reports are an indication that lax movement control at the border can lead to drug abuse and drug smuggling operations.

The participant suggests the implementation of round-the-clock border patrols and the setting up of a CIQ post at Kampung Mongkos, the village closest to the border area. The participant also opined that, *"In terms of safety, Mongkos is indeed very fragile. What is the most important suggestion? 24-hour security. Guarded control posts at the border, not here. Don't guard the back of the house. There used to be a PGA here, but in 2000 it was moved to Bunan."*¹⁰ The participant claimed, *"I have told the Minister many times by speaking to the officer. I said, "This is like a bomb. The time bomb*

⁸ Translated from: *"...dulu budak budak sini tidak tahu apa makan dadah..pun sudah tahu makan dadah..."*

⁹ Translated from: *"...banyak kena tangkap ...bukan bawa tong gas...tapi dadah..."*

¹⁰ *dari segi keselamatan Mongkos ini memang...very fragile...apa cadangan yang paling penting...24 jam di jagalah...di kawallah...pos kawalan...patut di sempadan...bukan disini...jangan jaga belakang rumahlah...dulu memang ada PGA sini tapi apa kena tahun 2000 dia pindah pergi Bunan sana..."*

*is there. It may be okay now, but over time..."*¹¹. The participant also warned, *"If we don't take care, in the future it will be like a time bomb. It's a crime to invade borders. It can happen at any time. How can we sleep peacefully when it can happen at any time? Day or night! Because there is no security, they can just walk right in. It shouldn't be like that. But it can happen in our country because the soldiers that are sent here are stationed somewhere else. It's the same thing with the police."*¹²

For the Serian members of parliament, the lack of security at the border area is a longstanding and worrying situation. The minister of home affairs, who paid a visit to Kampung Mongkos, pledged appropriate action to rectify the situation. However, to date, the level of security at the border area remains unchanged.

The appeals by locals and members of parliament for a new security post at Kampung Mongkos, or at least at a location closer to the border, is also due to the existence of illegal entry routes, or *jalan tikus* as the locals call it, through this village. The use of these illegal routes became

¹¹ *"...berkali kali saya cakap dekat Menteri ketika waktu dialog dengan petugas...saya cakap ini macam...ini time...ini macam bomb ba...time bomb is there...klo ada masa...sekarang ok la..."*

¹² *"...kalau kita tidak jaga lain kali macam time bomb lah...itu jenayah merentas sempadan...dia bila masa saja...tidak dapat tidur lena ba...camana..malam siang..boleh berlaku ba...kerana tiada kawalan...bebas saja masuk...itu tidak patut la berlaku...di negara kita yang ada...mana tidak...askar di hantar sini simpan tempat lain...PGA simpan tempat lain..."*

particularly rampant during the Covid-19 pandemic due to the closing of legal borders to curb the spread of this disease. The village head urged the authorities to set up a permanent post in Kampung Mongkos, conduct regular inspections through roadblocks, and if possible, implement 24-hour monitoring at the border.

According to the participant, *"There are RELA troops near Kampung Bunan. RELA is posted along the border, just watching people. I reprimanded them. I asked them, "What is your role here? Just taking pictures of people going in and out every day?"*¹³

During the FGD, the *penghulu* (chieftain) and members of the group stated that the lack of security and monitoring at the border area renders the safety and well-being of the Kampung Mongkos community at risk.

The recent decision of the Indonesian government to move its capital to Kalimantan ought to raise alarm bells among the figures heading the Malaysian army and police force. This decision, which may lead to massive illegal crossings from both sides of the border, makes it urgent that the Sarawak-Kalimantan border be swiftly and significantly

¹³Translated from: *"...ada pasukan RELA dekat Kampung Bunan tu...border punya RELA...mana ada orang tengok saja...saya tegur dorang..apa tugas kita orang tok?"gambar tiap hari sapa (keluar masuk)..."* Kampung Bunan is located around 7.5 km from border but the CIQ was built there.

fortified. According to a newspaper article (*“Armed Forces to Beef up Border Security in Sabah, Sarawak Following Relocation of Indonesia’s Capital to Kalimantan.”*, 2022), published on 14 September 2022 in the Malay Mail, “the Malaysian Armed Forces (MAF) will increase the number of border posts and regiments at the locations as the relocation is expected to begin in the first quarter of 2024.” Nevertheless, due to the longstanding and escalating border issues described through this undertaking, we propose that work on the establishment of the border post in Kampung Mongkos begins as soon as possible and before the targeted year of 2024.

In efforts to address border security issues, it is necessary that stipulations in the federal list be adhered to. As such, to accelerate the process, collaboration between the state and federal governments is essential. The Sarawak state government, through their YB, expressed concern regarding the lack of urgency in the setting up of a proper and reliable CIQ in the area. The state government also requested for additional border posts for the monitoring and deterrence of illegal activities along the Sarawak-Kalimantan border.

State agencies are understandably concerned about the porous nature of the border and the illegal activities occurring in its vicinity. In the early 70s, there were requests for the reinstatement of border scouts to curb the illegal activities taking place at the Sarawak-Kalimantan border.

During the budget 2022 parliamentary debate, Datuk Seri Rohani Abdul Karim requested the fortification of

security at the border citing the shifting of Indonesia's capital to Nusantara, East Kalimantan (The Borneo Post).

The anxiety level among Sarawakians climbed several notches at the announcement by Indonesia's President Jokowi regarding the relocation of his country's capital to East Kalimantan. With this relocation of Indonesia's capital, Sarawak's currently weak border control and inadequate border infrastructure will render the state vulnerable to massive unauthorised border crossings.

The findings derived through this study also revealed that, while Indonesians are usually accused of border-related wrongdoings, the locals may not be completely uninvolved as there are indications that some are leaders of criminal organisations operating in the border area. Indonesia is looked upon as the black market haven for transactions involving illegal items, such as drugs and stolen cars.

Although the border was closed during the Covid-19 pandemic, this did not put an end to illegal border crossings, with some wrongdoers bringing the Covid-19 virus along with them. The difficulties faced in limiting the movement of animals into Sarawak during the African swine fever outbreak is another reminder of the urgent need to tighten controls at the Sarawak-Kalimantan border.

CONCLUSION

For every country, border security translates into national security. The earlier invasion of the Malaysian state of Sabah

by enemy forces, which led to bloodshed and a high death toll, is a grim reminder of the need for strict border control measures. It is our expectation that, with the findings derived through this case study, government agencies tasked with ensuring national security will take the necessary steps and elevate the level of security at the border area to deter the occurrence of incidents detrimental to the inhabitants of Kampung Mongkos, in particular, and the Malaysian state of Sarawak in general.

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Chapter 3

WARISAN JERAI GEOPARK IN MERBOK, KEDAH

Dato Dr Mokhtar Saidin

ABSTRAK

Kertas kerja analisis situasi ini akan menfokuskan aspek-aspek warisan Jerai Geopark yang berada dalam Parlimen Merbok, Kedah Darul Aman. Jerai Geopark telah diisytiharkan menjadi Geopark Kebangsaan pada 2017 oleh Kementerian Tenaga dan Sumber Asli. Program Geopark bertujuan untuk menjadikan sesebuah tapak, kawasan atau landskap yang mempunyai nilai elemen geologi yang unggul dapat diuruskan berdasarkan konsep perlindungan, pendidikan dan pembangunan mampan yang holistik dengan menggabungkan semua elemen biologi dan budaya. Geopark memberikan tumpuan kepada pembangunan geopelancongan yang lestari. Sehubungan itu, tujuan kajian adalah untuk i) mengenal pasti situasi semasa Jerai Geopark selepas lima tahun menjadi Geopark Kebangsaan berdasarkan perspektif komuniti dan pelancongan, dan ii) menentukan strategi dan panduan untuk memperkasakan inisiatif Geopark berdasarkan pelaksanaannya pada peringkat dunia. Data asas Jerai Geopark dan Global Geopark diperoleh daripada kajian literatur manakala data lapangan diperoleh melalui borang soal selidik kepada kumpulan komuniti yang telah ditentukan. Gabungan data asas dan

kajian lapangan dianalisis menggunakan kaedah SWOT (*Strength, Weakness, Opportunities dan Threats*) untuk mengetahui situasi semasa dan kaedah TOWS (*Threats, Opportunities, Weakness dan Strength*) untuk membantu merancang hala tuju yang sepatutnya. Hasil kajian menunjukkan lebih banyak program pendidikan dan kesedaran awam tentang geopark, geotapak dan geopelancongan perlu dilaksanakan dalam kalangan komuniti setempat untuk memastikan agenda geopark tercapai. Ia dapat dilakukan secara menyeluruh apabila Jerai Geopark mempunyai pengurusan yang sistematik, sumber kewangan yang khusus serta telah menyediakan pelan pengurusan kewangan, pelan pengurusan geokomuniti, pelan pengurusan perniagaan geopelancongan serta pelan pengurusan penyelidikan dan pemuliharaan.

PENGENALAN

Perbincangan analisis situasi Warisan Jerai Geopark yang berada dalam Parlimen Merbok ini dimulakan dengan perbincangan umum tentang warisan dan geopark. Ini kemudiannya diikuti oleh perbincangan khas tentang Jerai Geopark. Sebelum perbincangan analisis SWOT dan TOWS, terlebih dahulu akan dibincangkan metodologi kajian dan kajian literatur yang digunakan. Kertas kerja ini diakhiri dengan cadangan penambahbaikan dan kesimpulan tentang situasi semasa dan hala tuju yang sepatutnya dilaksanakan.

Warisan

Pada peringkat dunia, UNESCO (Jadual 1) mempunyai agenda pengiktirafan dan pengisytiharan tapak dan objek warisan semula jadi dan budaya yang mempunyai nilai keunggulan sejagat bertaraf dunia. Tujuannya adalah untuk memastikan khazanah ini terpelihara dan pengurusannya mesti memastikan komuniti setempat mendapat faedah daripadanya (UNESCO 2017). Pengiktirafan UNESCO ialah (i) Program *Man and the Biosphere* (MAB) sejak 1971 khusus untuk warisan semula jadi, (ii) tapak *World Heritage Site* (WHS) sejak 1972 melibatkan warisan semula jadi dan budaya, dan (iii) *UNESCO Global Geopark* (UGGp) sejak 2015 melibatkan warisan semula jadi yang mempunyai elemen geologi yang bertaraf dunia. Tujuan khusus program MAB diwujudkan adalah untuk mempertingkatkan hubungan manusia dengan kawasan semula jadi alam sekitar melalui program saintifik pemuliharaan yang diwujudkan manakala WHS bertujuan untuk pemuliharaan tapak budaya dan semula jadi yang mempunyai nilai keunggulan sejagat. Program UGGp pula bertujuan untuk sesebuah tapak, kawasan atau landskap yang mempunyai elemen nilai geologi bertaraf dunia diuruskan dengan konsep perlindungan, pendidikan dan pembangunan mampan yang holistik.

Jadual 1 Senarai tapak WHS, MAB dan UGGp UNESCO

	MAB (1971- 2022)	WHS (1972 - 2022)	UGGp (2004 - 2022)
1. Bilangan	738	1154 (897 budaya, 218 semula jadi dan 39 campuran keduanya)	177
2. Bilangan negara	134	167	46
3. Tapak di Malaysia yang telah diiktiraf UNESCO	Tasik Chini dan Bukit Bendera	Lembah Lenggong (Budaya Arkeologi), Mulu dan Kinabalu (Semula Jadi) dan Melaka dan George Town (Budaya Bandar Bersejarah)	Langkawi

Berdasarkan agenda Bangsa-Bangsa Bersatu melalui UNESCO (Jadual 1), Kerajaan Malaysia juga telah mewujudkan Akta Warisan Kebangsaan 2005 (Akta 645). Akta ini memberikan klasifikasi warisan kepada (i) Warisan Kebudayaan Ketara (tapak, monumen, bangunan termasuk warisan arkeologi dan warisan bawah air), (ii) Warisan Kebudayaan Tidak Ketara (puisi, muzik, budaya, makanan dan rumah tradisional) dan (iii) Warisan Semula Jadi (bukti biologi, geologi dan landskap). Kerajaan Malaysia telah merancang program untuk menambah lebih banyak tapak menjadi tapak UNESCO (Jadual 2). Jabatan Perhutanan dipertanggungjawabkan tentang MAB, Jabatan Warisan

Negara tentang WHS dan Jabatan Mineral dan Geosains untuk UGGp. Sejak 2005, Jabatan Warisan Negara telah memulakan program pengiktirafan terhadap warisan budaya dan semula jadi sebagai Tapak Warisan Kebangsaan dan Objek Warisan Kebangsaan sebelum dicalonkan sebagai WHS sementara Jabatan Mineral dan Geosains sejak 2015 telah mewujudkan pengiktirafan Geopark Kebangsaan sebelum dicalonkan sebagai UGGp.

Jadual 2 Agenda Warisan oleh Kerajaan Malaysia dalam memenuhi keperluan dunia melalui UNESCO

	WHS	MAB	UGGp	UNESCO MALAYSIA
1. Jabatan yang dipertanggungjawab untuk sediakan senarai tapak UNESCO	Jabatan Warisan Negara	Jabatan Perhutanan	Jabatan Mineral dan Geosains	Suruhanjaya Kebangsaan UNESCO Malaysia (SKUM), Kementerian Pendidikan
2. Agenda peringkat kebangsaan	Tapak Warisan Kebangsaan dan Objek Warisan Kebangsaan	-	Geopark Kebangsaan	

Geopark

Pendekatan bawah-atas UGGp yang menggabungkan pemuliharaan dengan pembangunan mampan dan melibatkan biologi dan budaya komuniti yang terdapat di dalamnya didapati lebih menyerlah kejayaannya sebagai

produk pelancongan lestari berbanding MAB dan WHS yang secara dasarnya lebih memberikan penekanan kepada pemuliharaan.

Geopark juga memenuhi agenda pembangunan mampan (SDGs) UNESCO dengan merekodkan kejayaan UGGp (UNESCO 2017) memenuhi lapan daripada 17 matlamat iaitu Matlamat 1 (tiada kemiskinan: UGGp menyediakan peluang pelbagai aktiviti ekonomi yang mampan), Matlamat 4 (pendidikan berkualiti: UGGp mempromosi geowarisan dan geodiversiti kepada orang ramai dari semua peringkat umur termasuk komuniti tempatan dan pelancong), Matlamat 5 (kesaksamaan gender: UGGp membangunkan koperasi wanita dan menggalakkan pemerkaasan wanita dalam setiap programnya), Matlamat 8 (pekerjaan yang sesuai dan pembangunan ekonomi: perkongsian dan rangkaian memupuk pelbagai aktiviti ekonomi yang mampan dalam dan sekitar UGGp), Matlamat 11 (bandar dan masyarakat mampan: UGGp dapat mempertingkatkan kelestarian dan daya tahan bukan sahaja dalam kalangan komuniti malah juga pelancong), Matlamat 12 (penggunaan dan pengeluaran bertanggungjawab: UGGp meningkatkan gaya hidup mampan yang menjadikan kawasan semakin mampan dan berdaya tahan), Matlamat 13 (tindakan iklim: UGGp boleh memberikan bukti penting tentang perubahan iklim dan membangkitkan perhatian orang ramai dengan sejarah bumi yang kaya selama 4.5 bilion tahun) dan Matlamat 17 (perkongsian untuk matlamat: UGGps juga mewujudkan perkongsian kolaboratif dalam kalangan komuniti tempatan dan pihak berkepentingan serta membina rangkaian global untuk berkongsi

pengetahuan dan amalan terbaik untuk memulihara dan melindungi warisan).

UGGp menghasilkan produk khas geopelancongan (Hose, 1995; Newsome dan Dowling, 2010). Geopelancongan adalah satu bentuk pelancongan yang baharu berdasarkan persekitaran geologi. Geopelancongan ditakrifkan sebagai pelancongan berilmu yang memfokuskan kepada geologi dan landskap sesuatu kawasan sebagai asas untuk memupuk pembangunan pelancongan yang mampan. Ia bermula dengan pemahaman tentang persekitaran abiotik (bukan hidup) untuk membina kesedaran yang lebih besar tentang persekitaran biotik (hidup) tumbuhan dan haiwan serta persekitaran budaya manusia pada waktu dahulu dan sekarang. Hasilnya, geopelancongan menawarkan satu bentuk pelancongan mampan baharu yang lebih holistik berbanding ekopelancongan (Lee dan Jayakumar, 2021) walaupun ekopelancongan telah berada di pasaran lebih daripada 30 tahun. UGGp telah memperkenalkan pelbagai produk pelancongan yang kesemuanya berkait dengan geologi sesebuah geopark. Jadual 3 menyenaraikan senarai produk yang terdapat dalam geopelancongan geopark UGGp yang jelas memberikan penekanan kepada komuniti setempat untuk menyertai peluang ekonomi dan memahami kepentingan pemuliharaan.

Jadual 3 Produk Geopelancongan

PRODUK	PRODUK GEOPARK
1. Geologi	Geotapak, Georintis, Geogaleri, Geomuzium, <i>Geostation</i> , Geopemuliharaan
2. Biologi	Biotapak, Biorintis, Geobiorintis, BioGeorintis, Galeri, Muzium, Geodiversiti
3. Sejarah	Geomonumen, <i>GeoHistorySite</i> , Galeri, Muzium, Geowarisan
4. Geoarkeologi	<i>Geocivilization</i> , <i>Geoprehistory</i> , <i>GeoArchaeoSite</i> , Galeri, Muzium
5. Budaya dan Komuniti	<i>Geoparkian</i> , Geokomuniti, Geoaktiviti, <i>Geotour</i> , <i>Geofood</i> , <i>Geohouse</i> , <i>Geogift</i> , <i>Geocraft</i> , <i>Geocafe</i> , Geofestival, Geokarnival, <i>Geoschool</i> , <i>Geopartner</i> , Sahabat Geopark, Rakan Geopark, <i>Geoambassador</i> , Galeri, Muzium

Peranan dan komitmen komuniti adalah sangat penting dalam sesebuah UGGp. UNESCO (2018) melaporkan kejayaan sesebuah tempat atau lokasi UGGp menjadi produk pelancongan yang berjaya dan terpelihara secara lestari adalah ditentukan oleh komitmen komuniti setempat. Eropah terutamanya telah mengambil peluang industri geopelancongan ini secara maksima dan telah menjadi sumber ekonomi utama negara mereka dan juga komuniti setempat (Walsh 1992; Ashworth dan Larkham, 1994).

Malaysia memulakan agenda UGGp dengan Langkawi pada 2007. Jadual 4 menunjukkan kejayaan industri pelancongan Langkawi selepas menjadi UGGp. Secara

umumnya, kehadiran pelancong didapati terus meningkat setiap tahun selepas menjadi UGGp pada 2007 (2.3 juta dengan pendapatan per kapita RM3.6 juta) sehingga 2019 (sebelum pandemik Covid-19) mencapai 3.9 juta pelancong dengan pendapatan per kapita RM7.3 juta, iaitu peningkatan sebanyak 103% pendapatan per kapita.

Jadual 4 Jumlah kehadiran pelancong ke Langkawi UGGp (sumber komunikasi dengan LADA)

Jumlah Pelancong	Domestik	Antarabangsa	Jumlah Pelancong (Pendapatan Per Kapita, RM)
2004 (sebagai Pulau Pelancongan dan Pulau Bebas Cukai sejak 1987)	2,050,282	129,347	2,179,629 (3,406,311,554)
2005	1,757,553	77,734	1,835,287 (2,820,174,062)
2006 (diisytihar sebagai Geopark Kebangsaan)	2,084,749	77,188	2,161,937 (3,299,976,061)
2007 (diisytihar sebagai UGGp)	2,236,820	97,542	2,334,362 (3,585,023,990)
2008	2,216,336	86,762	2,303,098 (3,522,424,530)
2009	2,177,814	198,922	2,376,736

			(3,803,456,985)
2010	2,229,778	218,688	2,448,466 (3,939,433,997)
2011	2,554,665	223,404	2,778,069 (4,431,682,399)
2012	2,817,420	241,650	3,059,070 (4,873,246,877)
2013	3,054,521	359,870	3,414,391 (5,578,086,004)
2014	3,218,050	382,461	3,600,511 (5,886,729,207)
2015	3,180,611	443,538	3,624,149 (6,015,543,797)
2016	1,442,943 (+ 962,588- tidak bermalam)	1,228,988	3,634,519 (6,220,434,672)
2017	1,556,528 (+ 766,655- tidak bermalam)	1,355,975	3,679,158 (6,689,168,471)
2018	1,569,617 (+ 518,818- tidak bermalam)	1,540,516	3,628,951 (7,161,931,839)
2019	1,576,487 (+ 809,399- tidak bermalam)	1,538,440	3,924,326 (7,285,558,477)
2020	1,199,946 (+ 241,069- tidak bermalam)	363,541	1,804,556 (2,959,623,539)

2021	722,266 (+ 367,058- tidak bermalam)	4,613	1,093,937 (1,227,943,945)
2022 (25 Disember 2022)	2,450,698	58,676	2,509,374 (3,782,704,581)

Melihat kepada kejayaan Langkawi dan tapak UGGp di seluruh dunia yang telah menjadi produk pelancongan yang lestari dan memberi impak ekonomi secara terus kepada komuniti setempat, maka Kerajaan Malaysia menubuhkan Jawatankuasa Pelaksana Geopark pada 2013 agar dapat memulakan kerja-kerja secara rasmi merangkumi kerja mengumpul maklumat lokasi atau kawasan yang berpotensi dan mengenal pasti sistem pengurusan. Akhirnya pada 2015, Kabinet Malaysia telah meluluskan penubuhan Jawatankuasa Geopark Kebangsaan di bawah Ketua Setiausaha Kementerian Tenaga dan Sumber Asli pada ketika itu. Format pengurusan yang diperkenalkan adalah bermula sebagai Geopark Kebangsaan terlebih dahulu kemudiannya setelah bersedia baharulah dicalonkan untuk menjadi UGGp. Untuk menjadi Geopark Kebangsaan, jawatankuasa pencalonan kawasan yang hendak dicalonkan perlu memaklum dan menyerahkan dosir (*dossier*) pencalonan kepada Jawatankuasa Pelaksana. Jawatankuasa Pelaksana bertanggungjawab untuk melakukan penilaian berdasarkan dosir dan mempersembahkan keputusan penilaian kepada jawatankuasa Geopark Kebangsaan sebelum diluluskan. Format penilaian adalah menggunakan borang yang sama seperti penilaian untuk peringkat UGGp bagi memastikan

mutu penilaian. Penilaian semula juga sama mengikut format UGGp iaitu empat tahun sekali.

Jadual 5 menunjukkan senarai geopark terkini negara selepas usaha terancang Kerajaan Malaysia. Setiap geopark mesti mempunyai geotapak dan komuniti setempat yang secara tidak langsung mempunyai tapak sejarah dan budaya yang tersendiri. Namun tidak semua geopark mempunyai kepelbagaian jenis hutan dan tapak geoarkeologi. Kelebihan ini menjadikan Jerai Geopark unik kerana mempunyai empat kategori hutan khatulistiwa dan hutan bakau serta terdapat bukti tapak geoarkeologi tamadun terawal di Asia Tenggara.

Jadual 5 Geopark di Malaysia

NO	A	B	UGGp	C	BIOTAPAK
A*	Langkawi Geopark	2006	2007* *	-	Hutan Khatulistiwa Hutan Bakau
1	Jerai Geopark	2017, 2021***	-	Tapak Tamadun	Hutan Khatulistiwa Hutan Bakau
2	Geopark Lembah Kinta	2017, 2022***-	-	-	Hutan Khatulistiwa
3	Kinabalu Geopark	2019	2023 ⁺	-_-	Hutan Khatulistiwa
4	Lenggong Geopark	2021	-	Tapak Prasejarah	Hutan Khatulistiwa
5	Labuan Geopark	2021	-	-	Hutan Khatulistiwa Hutan Bakau

6	Sarawak Delta Geopark	2022	-	-	Hutan Khatulistiwa Hutan Bakau
7	Gombak- Hulu Langat Geopark	2022	-	-	Hutan Khatulistiwa
8	Stong Geopark	2022	-	-	Hutan Khatulistiwa

A: Nama Geopark

B: Kebangsaan

C: Tapak++ Geoarkeologi

*Langkawi menjadi Geopark Kebangsaan dan UGGp sebelum penubuhan Jawatankuasa Geoapark Kebangsaan

** Langkawi telah dinilai setiap 4 tahun dan berjaya

*** Jerai dan Kinta telah melalui penilaian semula

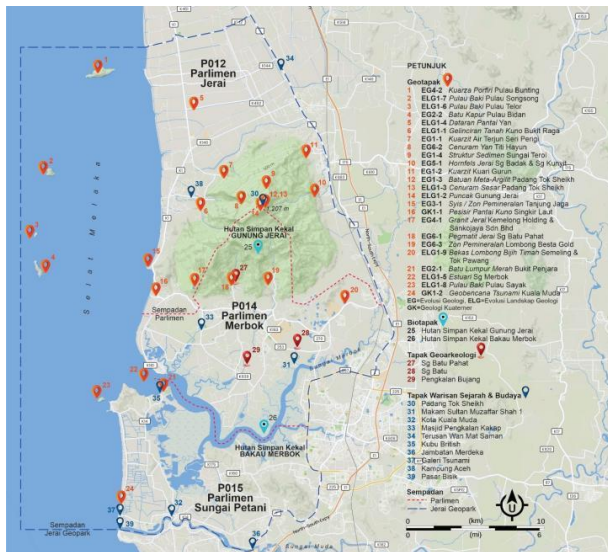
+ Kinabalu telah dinilai menjadi UGGp dan keputusannya pada awal 2023

++ Berdasarkan rekod *dossier*

Berdasarkan kejayaan UGGp di seluruh dunia sebagai satu program pembangunan lestari yang memenuhi lapan daripada 17 SDGs, maka laporan situasi Jerai Geopark ini adalah sangat penting untuk mengetahui tahap terkini selepas lima tahun diisytihar menjadi Geopark Kebangsaan agar ianya boleh berjaya pada masa hadapan atau sekurang-kurangnya seperti Langkawi UGGp.

Jerai Geopark

Jerai telah diisytihar menjadi Geopark Kebangsaan pada 2017 (Peta 1). Jerai Geopark berkeluasan 816km² yang melibatkan dua daerah iaitu Kuala Muda di selatan dan Yan di utara Gunung Jerai dan terletak dalam tiga parlimen iaitu Jerai (P012), Merbok (P014) dan Sungai Petani (P015). Jerai layak mendapat pengiktirafan sebagai Geopark Kebangsaan kerana mempunyai nilai elemen geologi yang tinggi yang telah mula terbentuk sejak 550 juta tahun dahulu (Mokhtar dan Ibrahim, 2019). Hanya tiga lokasi di Malaysia yang mempunyai batuan setua ini iaitu Machincang (Formasi Machincang) di Langkawi, Grik (Formasi Papulut) di Perak dan Jerai.



Peta 1: Jerai Geopark

Jerai Geopark telah berjaya menyenaraikan 24 geotapak dengan tujuh daripadanya berada di Parlimen

Merbok (Jadual 6). Rintisan antara ketujuhnya merupakan georintis antara geotapak. Geotapak dan georintis merupakan produk geopelancongan utama Jerai Geopark. Kesemua lokasi geotapak telah dipasang panel maklumat tentang geologi keseluruhan, geologi geotapak serta sumbangan dan kepentingan geotapak berkenaan.

Jadual 6 Tujuh geotapak Jerai Geopark di Parlimen Merbok dan kaitannya dengan warisan biologi, sejarah dan budaya yang terdapat di lokasi yang sama

Bil	Geotapak	Warisan Geologi	Warisan Biologi	Warisan Sejarah Dan Budaya
1.	EF1-3: Batuan metaargilit Padang Tok Sheikh (Formasi Jerai)	i. mewakili batuan tertua negara (550 juta), ii. mempunyai bukti hidupan dalam bentuk fosil surihan, iii. landskap rata berketinggian 1150 m membentuk seperti lantai dan mempunyai pandangan indah di sekelilingnya.	Biosfera hutan gunung Ericaceous	Lokasi permulaan dan penyebaran Islam di Kedah. Nama Tok Sheikh diambil sempena nama pendakwah Islam Yaman; Sheikh Abdulah Al-Qumairi yang telah mengislamkan raja pemerintah Maharaja Debar Raja yang memerintah Kataha ketika itu. Memulakan sistem kesultanan Islam pertama negara pada 1136, dengan gelaran Sultan Muzaffar

				Shah 1 dan menukar nama Kataha kepada Kedah Darul Aman
2.	EG6-1: Pegmatit Jerai, Sungai Batu Pahat (rejahan lewat)	Antara bukti pegmatit terbesar negara ii. bukti adanya rejahan lewat 200 juta tahun dahulu yang membawa bersama mineral eksotik, iii. bukti rejahan awal-granit pada 250 juta tahun dahulu, iv. landskap granit Sg Batu Pahat	Biosfera hutan <i>dipterocarp</i> tanah rendah di sekitaran Sg Batu Pahat	i. Terletak dalam kawasan Kompleks Percandian Bukit Batu Pahat, ii. Lokasi Muzium Arkeologi Lembah Bujang, iii. Lokasi Candi 8, candi agama Hindu abad ke 12 hingga 13 Masihi. Juga menjadi lokasi rekonstruksi semula Candi 16 (asal Kampung Pendi), Candi 21 (asal Pengkalan Bujang) dan Candi 50 (asal Kampung Bendang Dalam). Candi 16 sebuah candi Hindu abad ke-11 Masihi,

				Candi 21 sebuah candi Buddha abad ke 9 hingga 10 Masihi dan Candi 50 ialah candi Hindu abad ke 12 hingga 13 Masihi. iv. terdapat kesan potongan batuan granit untuk pembinaan candi
3.	EG6-3: Zon pemineralan Lombong Besta Gold (masih aktif), Sungai Tupah (rejahan lewat)	i. perlombongan bijih besi hematit dan magnetit yang masih aktif, ii. zon pemineral dengan jalur bijih yang jelas, iii. bukti pemineralan akibat cairan magma bermula 250 juta tahun dahulu	-	Membuktikan banyaknya bijih besi di kawasan ini yang telah mula dieksplorasi sejak 788 Sebelum Masihi

4.	ELG1-2: Puncak Gunung Jerai (landskap)	<p>i. Puncak tertinggi 1,217m, yang terdiri daripada batuan Quarziti.</p> <p>ii. Landskap indah daripada puncak gunung</p>	Biosfera hutan gunung Ericaceous	<p>i. Dikenali sebagai Puncak Kedah yang menjadi petunjuk perjalanan maritim semasa perdagangan awal ii. Di puncak ini dibina sebuah monumen dikenali sebagai Candi 5 pada abad ke 12 Masihi yang dikatakan berfungsi sebagai menara kawalan</p>
5.	ELG1-3: Cenuram sesar Padang Tok Sheikh (tektonik)	Bukti ada berlakunya sesar yang menyebabkan batuan yang lebih lembut terhakis dan runtuh membentuk cenuram berpandangan indah	Biosfera hutan gunung Ericaceous	-

6.	ELG1-5: <i>Estuari</i> Sungai Merbok (landskap)	<p>i. <i>Estuari</i> Sg. Merbok ialah muara yang lebar yang dipengaruhi oleh pasang-surat air laut</p> <p>ii. Pernah 5 kali lebih lebar daripada sekarang</p> <p>iii. Landskap muara yang indah</p>	i. Hutan bakau	<p>i. Sejarah mengenalinya sebagai Teluk Kedah- satu muara yang lebar</p> <p>ii. Lokasi dan saiz telah menjadikannya tempat pilihan perhentian kapal perdagangan</p>
7.	ELG1-9: Bekas lombong bijih timah Semeling-Tok Pawang	<p>i. bekas lombong bijih timah,</p> <p>ii. bukti bijih plaser di dalam aluvium yang berasal daripada dalam pegmatit</p> <p>ii. Landskap tasik bekas lombong yang indah</p>	-	Sejarah perlombongan terbesar Kedah 1946-1964.

Keistimewaan Jerai Geopark di Parlimen Merbok berbanding parlimen lain adalah dilengkapkan (Jadual 7) mempunyai dua biotapak (hutan khatulistiwa; Hutan Simpan Kekal Gunung Jerai dan hutan bakau; Hutan Simpan Kekal Bakau Merbok), tiga tapak geoarkeologi (Kompleks Percandian Bukit Batu Pahat, Kompleks Percandian Pengkalan Bujang dan Kompleks Arkeologi Sungai Batu) dan tiga tapak warisan sejarah yang penting (Padang Tok Sheikh, Makam Sultan Muzaffar Shah 1 dan Masjid Pengkalan Kakap).

Jadual 7 Biotapak, Tapak Geoarkeologi dan Tapak Warisan Sejarah Jerai Geopark dalam Parlimen Merbok

Produk	Tapak	Keistimewaan
1. Biotogi	i. Hutan Simpan Bakau Merbok	i. Seluas lebih 3,000 hektar yang telah diwartakan sebagai Hutan Simpan Kekal Merbok sejak 1951. ii. Ekspedisi saintifik 2015 merekodkan 39 spesies sebenar dan 25 spesies bersekutu yang meletakkan Merbok sebagai lokasi yang mempunyai terbanyak spesies bakau di dunia. iii. Dicitikan dominan bakau Minyak dan bakau Lenggadai. Merbok juga subur dengan tiga daripada enam bakau perepat dunia iaitu

		<p>Perepat Merah, Putih dan Gedabu. Menjadi rekod pertama penemuan bakau Perepat Paya dan Bakau Dungun.</p> <p>iv. Masih mempunyai spesies terancam pada peringkat dunia iaitu Bakau Berus Mata Buaya, Bakau Orange, Bakau Dungun, Bakau Kurma Laut, Bakau Perepat Paya dan Pedada.</p> <p>v. Merekodkan lapan spesies mamalia, reptilia, cicak, buaya, biawak, 13 spesies amfibia, 80 spesies burung, 30 spesies burung hijrah, 100 spesies ikan dan 8 spesies udang.</p>
	<p>ii. Hutan Simpan Kekal Gunung Jerai</p>	<p>i. Seluas lebih 8,000 hektar sebagai hutan simpan kekal sejak 1953.</p> <p>ii. Mendedahkan 4 kategori hutan khatulistiwa daripada permukaan - 305m (hutan <i>dipterocarp</i> tanah rendah), 305-672 (hutan <i>dipterocarp</i> bukit), 672-1,067 (hutan dipterokarp pergunungan) dan 1,067-1,217m (hutan gunung Ericaceous).</p> <p>iii. Merekodkan 205 spesies tumbuhan tinggi, 164 spesies tumbuhan rendah, 143 spesies paku pakis, 83 spesies anggerik dan 25 spesies cendawan.</p> <p>iv. Merekodkan sebanyak 21 spesies penyengat, 27 spesies anai-anai, 11 spesies riang-riang, 57 spesies rama-rama, 12 spesies pepatung,</p>

		54 spesies burung, 36 spesies mamalia kecil dan spesies katak istimewa yang ditemui pertama kali di Jerai dengan nama <i>Rana Monjerai</i> .
2. Geoarkeologi	i. Kompleks Percandian Bukit Batu Pahat	<p>i. Lokasi Muzium Arkeologi Lembah Bujang</p> <p>ii. Candi 8, candi agama Hindu abad ke-12 – 13 Masihi.</p> <p>iii. Juga menjadi lokasi rekonstruksi semula Candi 16 (asal Kampung Pendi), Candi 21 (asal Pengkalan Bujang) dan Candi 50 (asal Kampung Bendang Dalam). Candi 16 sebuah candi Hindu abad ke-11 Masihi, Candi 21 sebuah candi Buddha abad ke-9 – 10 Masihi dan Candi 50 ialah candi Hindu abad ke-12 – 13 Masihi.</p> <p>iv. terdapat kesan potongan batuan granit untuk pembinaan candi di Sungau Batu Pahat</p>
	ii. Kompleks Percandian Pengkalan Bujang	<p>i. Candi 19, candi Hindu, abad ke-9 Masihi</p> <p>ii. Candi 22, candi Buddha, abad ke-9 – 10 Masihi</p> <p>iii. Candi 23, candi Hindu, abad ke-12 Masihi</p>

	iii. Kompleks Arkeologi Sungai Batu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Tapak peleburan besi, sejak 788 Sebelum Masihi ii. Monumen jeti / pelabuhan sejak 582 Sebelum Masihi iii. Monumen syahbandar, sejak 487 Sebelum Masihi iv. Monumen ritual, sejak 110 Masihi
3. Sejarah	i. Padang Tok Sheikh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Lokasi permulaan dan penyebaran Islam di Kedah. ii. Nama Tok Sheikh diambil sempena nama pendakwah Islam Yaman; Sheikh Abdulah Al-Qumairi yang telah mengislamkan raja pemerintah Maharaja Debar Raja yang memerintah Kataha ketika itu. iii. Memulakan sistem kesultanan Islam pertama negara pada 1136, dengan gelaran Sultan Muzaffar Shah 1 dan menukar nama Kataha kepada Kedah Darul Aman
	ii. Makam Sultan Muzaffar Shah 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Makam Sultan Kedah pertama yang beragama Islam (1136) dan merupakan raja memerintah ke-9 daripada susur galur Merong Mahawangsa. Pusat pemerintahan di Istana Bukit Meriam ii. Mangkat pada 27 Julai 1179 dan dikebumikan di Sungai Batu.
	iii. Masjid Pengkalan Kakap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Masjid tertua di Jerai Geopark. Dibina pada 1880-an ii. Senibina ada empat segi, berbumbung dua tingkat, mempunyai 3 pintu, 4 tiang seri, beranda yang disokong tiang bulat.

Maka, sejak diisytihar 2017 sebagai industri pelancongan, Parlimen Merbok telah dilengkapkan produknya secara holistik di bawah penjenamaan Jerai Geopark, iaitu produk geologi (Jadual 4) dan produk biologi, geoarkeologi serta sejarah (Jadual 5). Jerai Geopark dirancang akan menjadi UGGp UNESCO pada 2025. Warisan bakaunya sedang dalam perancangan untuk dicalonkan sebagai tapak MAB UNESCO. Tapak arkeologi Sungai Batu yang mendedahkan bukti tamadun awal Asia Tenggara telah diiktiraf menjadi Tapak Warisan Kebangsaan pada 2012 dan kini dalam usaha untuk dicalonkan sebagai WHS UNESCO. Pengisytiharan oleh UNESCO akan menambahkan nilai pelancongan ketiga-tiga tapak tersebut seperti yang ditunjukkan oleh Langkawi UGGp, tapak MAB Bukit Bendera dan tapak WHS Lenggong, di samping memastikan pemuliharaannya. Gabungan ketiga-tiga dalam satu kawasan akan menjadikan Parlimen Merbok mempunyai produk pelancongan ikonik yang tiada di kawasan lain.

METODOLOGI KAJIAN

Analisis situasi Parlimen Merbok ini telah mula dibincangkan semasa lawatan APPGM-SDG ke tapak Kompleks Arkeologi Sungai Batu pada 12 Mei 2022. Perbincangan pada masa tersebut telah dicadangkan agar tumpuan diberikan kepada aspek warisan untuk analisis situasi di Parlimen Merbok.

Skop kajian ini akan memberikan tumpuan kepada warisan Jerai Geopark yang terdapat dalam Parlimen Merbok. Sehubungan itu, fokus utama kajian adalah untuk mengetahui situasi semasa selepas lima tahun diisytihar

menjadi Geopark Kebangsaan dengan tujuan untuk mengenal pasti hubungan geokomuniti dan geopelancongan terkini, serta menentukan strategi dan panduan untuk memperkasakan inisiatif UGGp di Jerai Geopark pada masa hadapan. Data tentang Jerai Geopark dan UGGp diperoleh daripada kajian literatur manakala data geokomuniti diperoleh melalui borang kaji selidik. Kedua-dua data akan digabungkan dalam analisis SWOT dan TOWS untuk mendapatkan interpretasi akhir dalam bentuk cadangan dan panduan strategi ke arah yang sepatutnya sebagai sebuah geopark.

Pada 2021, bersama Mohd Amin Ali, seorang pelajar PhD di USM yang baharu sahaja selesai mengumpulkan data lapangan (temubual, borang soal selidik, kajian rintis dan borang kajian sebenar) di bawah tajuk “Pemasaran Pelancongan Warisan di Daerah Kuala Muda, Kedah”. Objektif kajian beliau adalah i) mengenal pasti nilai produk pelancongan warisan di daerah Kuala Muda, ii) menentukan tahap pengetahuan komuniti, iii) mengenal pasti tahap kesediaan komuniti, dan iv) menentukan hala tuju pemasaran pelancongan warisan di daerah Kuala Muda.

Kajian sebenar Mohd Amin Ali (2022) melibatkan 674 responden yang terdiri daripada komuniti dan agensi dalam ketiga-tiga parlimen Jerai Geopark. Memandangkan kajian ini hanya memberi tumpuan kepada responden komuniti yang tinggal di Jerai Geopark dalam Parlimen Merbok, maka hanya 462 borang soal selidik responden sahaja yang terlibat (Jadual 8). Responden mewakili semua kategori tanpa mengira jantina, umur dan pekerjaan. Komuniti ini

termasuklah ibu/ bapa tunggal, warga emas, orang kelainan upaya, belia dan nelayan. Memandangkan mereka telah 5 tahun berada dalam Jerai Geopark yang telah diisytihar dan di war-warkan sebagai produk geopelancongan, maka mereka akan dinilai dari segi tahap pengetahuan tentang pelancongan warisan dan kesediaan mereka untuk menjadikan Parlimen Merbok sebagai produk geopelancongan.

Jadual 8 Data responden untuk analisis situasi Jerai Geopark Parlimen Merbok

Kategori Responden	Bilangan
Ibu/bapa tunggal	124
Warga emas	150
Orang Kelainan Upaya (OKU)	57
Belia	116
Nelayan	15
JUMLAH	462

Data emperikal daripada 462 borang soal selidik responden akan dianalisis menggunakan kaedah SWOT (*Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities* dan *Threats*) dan TOWS (*Threats, Opportunities, Weakness* dan *Strength*). Analisis SWOT memainkan peranan penting untuk mengenalpasti tanda aras dalam menambah baik strategi pengurusan, pemasaran, produk dan perkhidmatan di samping persediaan terhadap sebarang aspek cabaran dan kemungkinan. Analisis TOWS (*Threats, Opportunities, Weakness* dan *Strengths*) pula adalah analisis lanjutan hasil daripada analisis SWOT yang membantu mencari dan

memadankan Kekuatan dengan Peluang dan Ancaman dengan Kelemahan. Ia melengkapkan analisis SWOT dengan menambahkan hubungan antara faktor dalaman dan luaran yang membolehkan tindakan diambil daripada hasil analisis.

Analisis SWOT adalah kaedah analisis untuk membantu mengenal pasti realiti situasi semasa dan perniagaan geopelancongan di geopark. SWOT merupakan singkatan kepada kekuatan (*S-Strength*), kelemahan (*W-Weakness*), peluang (*O-Opportunities*) dan ancaman (*T-Threat*) yang merupakan satu kaedah intuitif yang mudah, bersifat komprehensif dan sistematik dalam menjelaskan elemen-elemen di atas, serta perbandingan antara setiap elemen tersebut (Long *et al.*, 2022). Kekuatan (S) dan Kelemahan (W) dikira sebagai faktor dalaman yang boleh dikawal, boleh dikembangkan dan bertambah baik mengikut kepentingan, manakala Peluang (O) dan Ancaman (T) pula merupakan faktor di luar kawalan perniagaan geopelancongan yang memerlukan persediaan tertentu agar mampu bertindak memanfaatkan peluang atau menangani ancaman sekiranya berlaku.

Tujuan utama analisis TOWS pula adalah untuk mengurangkan ancaman, memanfaatkan peluang, mengeksploitasi kekuatan dan menghilangkan kelemahan. TOWS yang strategik bukan sahaja boleh melengkapkan butiran SWOT malah dapat membantu untuk membuat keputusan tentang hala tuju keseluruhan. Perbezaan besar antara TOWS dan SWOT adalah hubungan antara faktor dalaman dan luaran, hubungan antara keduanya dari aspek kesan dan pengaruh antara satu sama lain (Jadual 9).

Hubungan Kekuatan dan Peluang (S-O) memfokuskan bagaimana mengeksploitasi kekuatan untuk bertindak balas terhadap peluang yang berpotensi dalam pasaran manakala hubungan Kekuatan dan Ancaman (S-T) adalah untuk mengkaji cara kekuatan boleh digunakan untuk mengurangkan atau menghapuskan ancaman kepada perniagaan geopelancongan dan dalam beberapa kes melihat bagaimana ancaman boleh diubah kepada peluang. Untuk Kelemahan dan Peluang (W-O) pula melihat bagaimana peluang boleh menghapuskan kelemahan yang menjadi pertimbangan yang paling sukar sementara Kelemahan dan Ancaman (W-T) pula menyerlahkan bagaimana kelemahan boleh memainkan, membangunkan atau meningkatkan ancaman perniagaan geopelancongan. TOWS digunakan kerana mudah difahami dan lengkap, menyediakan analisis yang baik tentang isu dalaman dan luaran, ia memberi tumpuan kepada positif dan negatif dan membawa kepada tindakan untuk memperbaiki kedudukan semasa.

Jadual 9 Penentuan Strategi dalam analisis SWOT/TOWS

Matriks SWOT/TOWS	Kekuatan (S)	Kelemahan (W)
Peluang (<i>Opportunities</i>)	Strategi SO: Menggunakan kekuatan (S) serta memanfaatkan peluang (O)	Strategi WO: Menangani kelemahan dengan memanfaatkan peluang
Ancaman (<i>Threats</i>)	Strategi ST: Menggunakan strategi bagi mengelakkan ancaman	Strategi WT: Meminimalkan kelemahan dan mengelakkan ancaman

KAJIAN LITERATUR

Fokus utama literatur untuk analisis situasi adalah tentang warisan di Parlimen Merbok. Sehubungan itu, tumpuan utama diberikan kepada literatur tentang semua jenis warisan yang terdapat di parlimen ini. Memandangkan telah ada produk warisan Jerai Geopark sejak 2017 maka rujukan utama ialah buku terbitan USM “Jerai Geopark: Warisan Geologi, Geoarkeologi dan Biologi” yang disunting oleh Mokhtar dan Ibrahim (2019) dan buku “Laporan Akhir Pelan Tindakan Pembangunan Warisan Jerai Geopark” yang disediakan oleh PLANMalaysia dan Bahagian Perancang Ekonomi Negeri Kedah (2020).

Buku “Jerai Geopark: Warisan Geologi, Geoarkeologi dan Biologi” dihasilkan sempena pengisytiharan dan pemasyuran Jerai menjadi Geopark Kebangsaan. Seperti mana tajuknya buku ini mengetengahkan semua warisan geologi, biologi, geoarkeologi dan budaya yang terdapat dalam keluasan 816km² yang secara langsung menjadi produk pelancongan. Buku ini juga membincangkan tentang tahap pemuliharaan, pendidikan awam tentang geopark, konsep pelancongan lestari Jerai Geopark serta geopark dan masyarakat.

Buku “Laporan Akhir Pelan Tindakan Pembangunan Warisan Jerai Geopark” pula merupakan proposal pembangunan lestari Jerai Geopark sehingga 2030 berdasarkan buku “Jerai Geopark: Warisan Geologi, Geoarkeologi dan Biologi”. Perbincangan dalam buku ini meliputi prospek sedia ada dan cadangan pembangunan,

pelan tindakan pembangunan, kaedah pelaksanaan projek dan program pembangunan, garis panduan perancangan dan pembangunan, dan diakhiri dengan tentang Sistem Maklumat Geografi (GIS) Jerai Geopark.

Data daripada kedua-dua buku ini membekalkan maklumat Kekuatan (*S-Strength*) Jerai Geopark untuk analisis SWOT dan TOWS. Data kekuatan juga diperolehi daripada laporan penilaian pertama (Laporan Jawatankuasa Penilaian Jerai Geopark, 2017) dan laporan penilaian semula (Laporan Jawatankuasa Penilaian Semula Jerai Geopark, 2021). Kedua-dua laporan penilaian juga membekalkan maklumat Kelemahan (*W- weakness*).

Fokus kedua ialah data Mohd Amin Ali (2022) yang berkaitan dengan hasil kajian tentang pemasaran pelancongan warisan di daerah Kuala Muda, Kedah. Kajian soal selidik beliau dibahagikan kepada 4 bahagian iaitu A- demografi responden, B- 11 soalan tentang tahap pengetahuan komuniti mengenai pelancongan warisan, C- 16 soalan tentang kesediaan komuniti dan D- ulasan bebas.

Fokus ketiga kajian literatur adalah terhadap laporan UNESCO yang dikeluarkan setiap tahun tentang kekuatan dan kelemahan aktiviti geopelancongan dan perkaitannya dengan komuniti yang boleh dirujuk di laman sesawang UNESCO. Setiap tahun UNESCO mengadakan konvensyen khas untuk memantau kelestarian pelancongan warisan di tapak WHS, UGGp dan juga MAB. Contohnya Jadual 15 (UNESCO, 2018) menunjukkan perkara yang berkait terus dengan komuniti setempat dan peratus tapak yang terkesan

hasil konvensyen UNESCO di Bahrain pada 2018 yang mengakibatkan industri pelancongan warisannya tidak lestari, iaitu kelemahan yang berlangsung yang berkait terus dengan komuniti. Jadual 10 menunjukkan isu tertinggi (74% tapak) didapati tidak melibatkan komuniti dalam pelan pengurusan, diikuti oleh pembangunan perumahan (32% tapak) komuniti yang di luar kawalan, banyak berlaku pencerobohan komuniti ke tapak (25% tapak), pelancongan oleh komuniti di luar kawalan (22% tapak), penguatkuasaan lemah (20% tapak), pertukaran fungsi tanah komuniti (17% tapak) luar kawalan, pembangunan infrastruktur seperti jalan raya kampung dan paip (16% tapak), modul insan (11% tapak) yang tidak melibatkan komuniti, tadbir urus (11% tapak) yang tidak melibatkan komuniti dan bajet kewangan (11% tapak) yang tidak mengambil kira hal ehwal yang berkait dengan komuniti. Kesemua ini dikesan akibat tahap pengetahuan atau kefahaman komuniti dan kesediaan mereka masih rendah dan diabaikan dalam pembangunan pelancongan warisan di tapak-tapak berkenaan (UNESCO, 2018). Perkara ini jelas dan menjadi kayu ukur kepada pengalaman UNESCO dalam menguruskan tapak WHS, UGGp, dan MAB (UNESCO, 2018) yang menunjukkan bahawa kejayaan sesebuah tempat atau lokasi warisan menjadi produk pelancongan yang berjaya dan terpelihara secara lestari adalah ditentukan oleh komitmen komuniti setempat.

Jadual 10 Laporan hasil konvensyen UNESCO 2018 yang mencatatkan sebanyak 10 isu utama yang timbul di tapak UGGp yang berkaitan dengan komuniti setempat

Bil	Perkara	Peratus (%) Tapak yang terkesan
1.	Pelan pengurusan	74
2.	Perumahan	32
3.	Aktiviti haram (pencerobohan)	25
4.	Kesan pelancongan luar kawalan	22
5.	Aspek kawalan undang-undang yang lemah	20
6.	Pertukaran fungsi tanah	17
7.	Perancangan pembangunan infrastruktur tidak terancang	16
8.	Modul insan	11
9.	Tadbir Urus	11
10.	Bajet kewangan	11

Fokus keempat kajian literatur ialah rujukan kepada contoh UGGp yang telah melaksanakan model perancangan strategik SWOT/TOWS sebagai kaedah untuk membantu membuat keputusan serta menentukan strategi jangka pendek dan panjang, serta cara untuk mencapai keputusan penting tentang isu dan masalah yang timbul. Antara rujukan tapak-tapak UGGp yang menggunakan SWOT untuk pelan strategik dan pembangunan pelancongan warisan yang lestari ialah Luochuan Loess National Geopark (Li *et al.*, 2010) dan Yimengshan Geopark (Cai *et al.* 2019) di China, Geopark Merangin Jambi di Indonesia (Wibowo *et al.* 2019), "Litoral del Biobío" Mining Geopark project di Chile (Ferraro *et al.* 2020),

dan tapak geopark Uzundere di Turki (Özgeriş & Karahan, 2021). Analisis SWOT didapati mampu memberikan gambaran lengkap situasi di sesebuah kawasan geopark, serta kelemahan dan kekuatan pelancongan sebagai faktor dalaman dan peluang dan ancaman sebagai faktor luaran yang boleh mengganggu sektor ini (Kalantari *et al.*, 2011).

ANALISIS, KEPUTUSAN DAN PERBINCANGAN

Analisis kajian ini menggunakan data asas daripada kajian literatur dan data kajian lapangan. Jadual 11, 12 dan 13 adalah data daripada kajian lapangan (Mohd Amin Ali, 2022). Jadual 11 menunjukkan statistik terhadap 11 soalan bahagian B (tahap pengetahuan), Jadual 12 untuk bahagian C (kesediaan komuniti) dan Jadual 13 untuk bahagian D (komen bebas) yang telah dijawab oleh 462 responden yang menetap di Parlimen Merbok. Data kajian soal selidik ini menggambarkan kekuatan dan kekurangan selepas lima tahun Jerai Geopark menjadi Geopark Kebangsaan. Ianya menyerlahkan perkaitan komuniti setempat dan niat pelaksanaan Jerai Geopark sebagai produk geopelancongan. Data statistik ini akan diguna dan dibincangkan dalam analisis SWOT dan TOWS.

Hanya 73% sahaja gabungan komuniti merupakan ibu/ bapa tunggal, warga emas, OKU, belia dan nelayan memahami maksud pelancongan warisan walaupun telah diisytihar sejak lima tahun yang lalu. Ini mempengaruhi nilai statistik yang hanya 70% mengetahui jenis dan 66% mengetahui lokasi pelancongan warisan yang terdapat di Parlimen Merbok. Oleh kerana kefahaman yang rendah

tentang pelancongan warisan secara am, maka didapati statistik juga rendah yang mengetahui tentang produk warisan geologi (60%), arkeologi (63%) dan biologi (55%) yang akhirnya hanya memberikan 60% yang mengetahui tentang pelancongan ikonik. Peratus yang tinggi hanya tentang memahami maksud pakej pelancongan (80%). Untuk 3 soalan terakhir yang berkait dengan pelaksanaan pembangunan, didapati statistiknya juga rendah tentang pengetahuan mengenai prasarana (60%), promosi (61%) dan agenda pemasaran (61%).

Penilaian semula Jerai Geopark mendapati isu ini berlaku kerana kurangnya program promosi, kesedaran dan pendidikan awam yang berterusan dan berjadual dilaksanakan kepada komuniti. Oleh kerana itu Jerai Geopark sangat memerlukan Pelan Pengurusan Geokomuniti diwujudkan segera.

Jadual 11 Statistik 462 responden tentang tahap pengetahuan pelancongan warisan di Parlimen Merbok (Mohd Amin Ali, 2022)

Tahap pengetahuan tentang Pelancongan Warisan di Parlimen Merbok	% untuk Skala Likert 4 (tahu) dan 5 (sangat mengetahui)
1: Mengetahui maksud pelancongan warisan	73%
2: Mengetahui jenis pelancongan warisan yang terdapat di Parlimen Merbok	70%
3: Mengetahui tapak lokasi pelancongan warisan di Parlimen Merbok	66%

4: Mengetahui Parlimen Merbok mempunyai produk pelancongan warisan geologi	60%
5: Mengetahui Parlimen Merbok mempunyai produk pelancongan warisan arkeologi	63%
6: Mengetahui Parlimen Merbok mempunyai produk pelancongan warisan biologi	55%
7: Mengetahui maksud pelancongan ikonik	60%
8: Mengetahui maksud pakej pelancongan	80%
9: Tahap pembangunan prasarana (kemudahan) pelancongan warisan	60%
10: Tahap promosi pelancongan warisan	61%
11: Agenda pemasaran Parlimen Merbok dalam pembangunan pelancongan warisan	61%

Aspek kesediaan komuniti (Jadual 12) menunjukkan hampir kesemua item bernilai lebih 80% yang menunjukkan komuniti ibu/ bapa tunggal, warga emas, OKU, belia dan nelayan di Parlimen Merbok bersedia dan menyokong pembangunan geopelancongan.

Jadual 12 Statistik 462 responden tentang kesediaan komuniti di Parlimen Merbok (Mohd Amin Ali, 2022)

A	B
1: Parlimen Merbok sesuai dijadikan destinasi produk pelancongan warisan	88%
2: Kerajaan negeri sewajarnya terlibat dalam membangunkan pelancongan warisan Parlimen Merbok	92%
3: Perlu penglibatan Jabatan Mineral dan Geosains (Kedah/Perlis/Pulau Pinang) untuk membangunkan	79%

tapak pelancongan warisan geologi (geotapak) di Parlimen Merbok	
4: Perlu penglibatan Jabatan Perhutanan Semenanjung Malaysia (Kedah) untuk membangunkan tapak pelancongan warisan biologi (biotapak) di Parlimen Merbok	81%
5: Perlu penglibatan Jabatan Warisan Negara untuk membangunkan tapak pelancongan warisan arkeologi (geoarkeologi) di Parlimen Merbok	77%
6: Parlimen Merbok sewajarnya membangunkan pelancongan warisan dengan menyediakan pakej yang menggabungkan kesemua produk ikonik dan produk sampingan	79%
7: Menyediakan prasarana papan informasi (tunjuk arah dan iklan) dalam Parlimen Merbok	89%
8: Terdapat keperluan untuk membina prasarana mercu tanda/ pintu gerbang menuju ke Parlimen Merbok	87%
9: Terdapat keperluan untuk menaik taraf prasarana (tempat parkir, tandas, surau dan wakaf) di setiap tapak pelancongan warisan	91%
10: Kawasan pelancongan warisan perlu dipastikan bersih	92%
11: Kemudahan prasarana penginapan yang selesa sewajarnya disediakan	92%
12: Terdapat cenderahati disediakan dalam bentuk makanan tradisi dan kraftangan ikonik	85%
13: Komuniti diberi kursus pemandu pelancong dalam bidang pelancongan warisan anjuran kementerian	84%
14: Tahap promosi pelancongan warisan Parlimen Merbok perlu dipertingkatkan	90%

15: Kerajaan sewajarnya memberikan keutamaan kepada komuniti untuk menguruskan pelancongan warisan Parlimen Merbok	88%
16: Perlu saluran peruntukan khas secara tetap daripada pihak kerajaan negeri kepada Parlimen Merbok untuk pemasaran pelancongan warisan	86%

A: Kesediaan Komuniti di Parlimen Merbok
B: % untuk Skala Likert 4 (bersetuju) dan 5 (sangat bersetuju)

Jadual 13 menunjukkan komen bebas yang dicatatkan oleh 462 responden yang kebanyakannya memberikan komen positif seperti mencadangkan lebih banyak promosi diadakan, meningkatkan produk dan kualiti, membanyakkan infrastruktur, perlu komitmen bersama dan membuka peluang perniagaan.

Jadual 13 Maklum balas ulasan bebas bertulis 462 responden (Mohd Amin Ali, 2022)

Bil	Ulasan/ Komen
1.	Perlu banyak promosi di sosial media.
2.	Banyakkan produk pelancongan
3.	Perlu lebih banyak promosi
4.	Promosi dan hebahan yang berterusan di media-media sosial dan perincian-perincian pelancongan
5.	Tingkatkan pelancongan di Parlimen Merbok
6.	Jika semua pihak berganding bahu serta menggembelng tenaga, Parlimen Merbok semestinya dapat menjadi kawasan pelancongan warisan bertaraf antarabangsa

7.	Memberi pendidikan di peringkat sekolah
8.	Perlukan lebih informasi yang meluas
9.	Pihak berkuasa perlu lebih aktif terlibat dalam usaha untuk memperkenalkan pelancongan warisan ini kepada orang ramai
10.	Mewujudkan pelancongan warisan yang terbaik
11.	Harap ada tarikan pelancong
12.	Jangan lupa buka peluang perniagaan
13.	War-warkan di sosial media
14.	Kekalkan tradisi warisan dan tambah baik infrastruktur
15.	Memperluaskan skop pelancongan mengikut arus semasa
16.	Tambah baik infrastruktur di tempat pelancongan
17.	Mantap

Data asas daripada kajian literatur dan kajian lapangan akan dianalisis menggunakan kaedah SWOT dan TOWS untuk mengetahui situasi semasa dan merancang hala tuju Jerai Geopark.

Analisis SWOT

Analisis SWOT melibatkan faktor dalaman dan faktor luaran (Khayyati *et al*, 2014). Faktor dalaman ialah mengenal pasti ciri Kekuatan (*S-Strength*) dan Kelemahan (*W-Weakness*) manakala faktor luaran terdiri daripada elemen Peluang (*O-Opportunities*) dan Ancaman (*T-Threats*). Analisis ini digunakan untuk menentukan strategi bagi meningkatkan kecekapan atau menambah baik situasi.

Faktor Dalaman: melibatkan Kekuatan dan Kelemahan yang terdapat di Jerai Geopark dalam Parlimen

Merbok sejak ianya diiktiraf menjadi Geopark Kebangsaan pada 2017. Kekuatan dan Kelemahan sesebuah geopark adalah bergantung kepada keupayaannya memenuhi 19 kriteria untuk menjadi sesebuah geopark yang telah disediakan oleh pihak UNESCO (Jadual 14). Penilaian semula pada setiap empat tahun juga berdasarkan 19 kriteria ini malah mesti ada penambahbaikan dilakukan untuk setiap satu kriteria.

Jadual 14 Kekuatan (S) dan Kelemahan (W) Jerai Geopark di Parlimen Merbok

Kriteria Penilaian Geopark	Kekuatan Jerai Geopark di Parlimen Merbok: 2017-2022 (daripada Laporan Penilaian 2017; Mokhtar dan Ibrahim, 2019; Laporan Penilaian Semula 2021)	Kelemahan Jerai Geopark di Parlimen Merbok 2017- 2022 (daripada Laporan Penilaian 2017; Laporan Penilaian Semula 2021; Borang Soal Selidik Komuniti, 2021)
1. Maklumat Umum	Telah dilengkapkan dengan keluasan, populasi, pengurus (nama, jawatan, e-mel, no. tel), ada laman sesawang (URL) dan media sosial sendiri	(i) Analisis tahap pengetahuan komuniti menunjukkan 20% - 45% masih tidak pasti, tidak tahu dan sangat tidak tahu, dan (ii) Analisis tahap kesediaan komuniti menunjukkan 8% - 23% masih tidak pasti, tidak bersetuju dan sangat tidak bersetuju.
2. Peta Kawasan Geopark	Jelas sempadan 816 km ²	Sama seperti (I)
3. Penambahbaikan yang dilakukan berdasarkan kepada cadangan penilaian lepas	Telah membuat penambahbaikan daripada semua komen dan cadangan penilaian kali pertama	Sama seperti (I)

4. Geowarisan dan Pemuliharaan/ Pemeliharaan	Jelas mempunyai geotapak bertaraf kebangsaan dan dalam pemuliharaan di bawah akta sedia ada	(i) Sama seperti (I) (ii) Belum mempunyai Pelan Pengurusan Penyelidikan dan Pemuliharaan
5. Kedampakan	Telah menyediakan panel maklumat, papan tanda, taburan logo yang meluas, risalah, penerbitan, laman web, media sosial serta telah mempunyai galeri di Jeti Semeling.	(i) Sama seperti (I) (ii) Perlu penambahan yang lebih meluas (iii) Penggunaan dwibahasa masih belum meluas.
6. Kemudahan dan Infrastruktur	Telah memulakan pembangunan kemudahan dan infrastruktur serta telah menyediakan pelan tindakan pembangunan 2019-2030	(i) Sama seperti (I) (ii) Perlu penambahan kemudahan dan infrastruktur yang lebih banyak dan meluas
7. Maklumat, Pendidikan dan Penyelidikan	Telah menyediakan maklumat yang difahami oleh orang awam	(i) Sama seperti (I) (ii) Perlu penambahan aktiviti kesedaran dan pendidikan awam
8. Warisan Semula Jadi	Jelas mempunyai biotapak 4 kategori hutan khatulistiwa dan hutan bakau dan	(i) Sama seperti (I) (ii) Perlu penambahan aktiviti kesedaran dan pendidikan awam tentang biotapak

	dalam pemuliharaan di bawah akta sedia ada	
9. Warisan Budaya (Warisan Ketara: Arkeologi)	Jelas mempunyai tapak geoarkeologi yang merupakan tapak tamadun terawal Asia Tenggara dan dalam pemuliharaan di bawah akta sedia ada	(i) Sama seperti (I) (ii) Perlu penambahan aktiviti kesedaran dan pendidikan awam tentang tapak geoarkeologi
10. Warisan Budaya yang lain	Jelas mempunyai 3 tapak sejarah yang penting dan dalam pemuliharaan di bawah akta sedia ada	(i) Sama seperti (I) (ii) Perlu penambahan aktiviti kesedaran dan pendidikan awam tentang tapak sejarah
11. Penglibatan dalam Topik Berkenaan Perubahan Iklim dan Bencana Alam	Telah ada bukti yang dikesan dan direkodkan tentang sejarah geobencana	(i) Sama seperti (I) (ii) Perlu penambahan aktiviti kesedaran dan pendidikan awam tentang geobencana
12. Pengurusan	Telah diwujudkan pengurusan Unit Jerai Geopark dan bajet perbelanjaan	(i) Masih belum mempunyai pengurusan sendiri, oleh itu Unit Jerai Geopark sedia ada menggunakan staf Majlis Perbandaran Sungai Petani (ii) Masih belum mempunyai bajet khusus

		(iii) Masih belum mempunyai Pelan Pengurusan Kewangan
13. Aktiviti Pendidikan	Telah dimulakan	(i) Sama seperti (I) (iii) Perlu penambahan aktiviti kesedaran dan pendidikan awam yang lebih menyeluruh
14. Geopelancongan	Telah dimulakan dan memberikan impak positif. Telah mempunyai geoguide sendiri.	(i) Sama seperti (I) (ii) Perlu penambahan aktiviti kesedaran dan pendidikan awam tentang geopelancongan (iii) Belum dianjurkan secara berpakej (iv) Belum mempunyai Pelan Pengurusan Perniagaan Geopelancongan
15. Polisi Pembangunan Lestari	Telah menyediakan Pelan Tindakan Pembangunan Jerai Geopark 2021-2030	(i) Sama seperti (I) (ii) Perlu penambahan aktiviti kesedaran dan pendidikan awam tentang perancangan pembangunan Jerai Geopark
16. Perkongsian (<i>Partnership</i>)	Telah mempunyai perkongsian (i) Peringkat sekolah- sahabat Jerai Geopark	(i) Sama seperti (I) (ii) Perlu penambahan dan lebih meluas kategori sahabat dan rakan kongsi

	(ii) Peringkat perniagaan - rakan kongsi Jerai Geopark	(iii) Perlu diwujudkan kategori Duta Jerai Geopark
17. Penyertaan Berkesan Komuniti Tempatan dan Orang Asli/Asal	Telah dimulakan pendidikan dan kesedaran awam.	(i) Sama seperti (I) (ii) Perlu penambahan aktiviti kesedaran dan pendidikan awam yang lebih menyeluruh tentang geopark, geotapak dan geopelancongan (iii) Belum mempunyai Pelan Pengurusan Geokomuniti
18. Jaringan (<i>Network</i>)	Telah ada jaringan dengan kesemua Geopark Kebangsaan melalui <i>Malaysian Geopark Network</i>	Belum mempunyai jaringan dengan Geopark UGGP kecuali Langkawi
19. Perdagangan Bahan Geologi	Telah ada aktiviti kuari granit dan perlombongan bijih besi sebelum menjadi Geopark Kebangsaan. Di bawah kawalan Jabatan Mineral dan Geoasains.	-

Analisis faktor dalaman daripada borang soal selidik komuniti menunjukkan bahawa ujian tahap pengetahuan tentang pelancongan warisan di Parlimen Merbok terhadap 462 responden mendapati purata untuk setiap soalan adalah antara 55% - 80% merekodkan skor 5 (sangat mengetahui) dan skor 4 (tahu) manakala untuk Bahagian C- kesediaan komuniti di Parlimen Merbok pula memberikan purata untuk setiap soalan adalah antara 77% - 92% merekodkan skor 5 (sangat setuju) dan skor 4 (bersetuju). Ini secara umumnya adalah memuaskan. Namun ini menunjukkan masih ada 20% - 45% untuk Bahagian B yang tidak pasti, tidak tahu dan sangat tidak tahu, dan 8% - 23% untuk Bahagian C yang tidak pasti, tidak bersetuju dan sangat tidak bersetuju. Oleh itu, untuk mencapai tahap pemasaran pelancongan warisan Parlimen Merbok yang baik dan lestari, lebih banyak aktiviti promosi, pendidikan dan kesedaran awam serta pembangunan prasarana yang terancang perlu dilaksanakan.

Faktor luaran: melibatkan elemen Peluang (O) dan Ancaman (T). Peluang (*O-Opportunities*) ialah mengenal pasti faktor luaran seperti peluang berpotensi yang dapat membantu dalam meningkatkan lagi keuntungan geopelancongan, meningkatkan permintaan berdasarkan sohor kini (*trending*) semasa dan jangka panjang pasaran agar perniagaan geopelancongan dapat dikembangkan dan bertapak lebih kukuh.

Ancaman (*T-Threats*) pula ialah mengenal pasti aspek-aspek luaran yang boleh membawa impak negatif seperti geobencana yang berlaku secara semula jadi seperti banjir

atau akibat manusia sendiri seperti perubahan mengejut polisi atau pelbagai lagi ancaman terhadap kemajuan perniagaan geopelancongan sedia ada.

Berdasarkan; pertamanya tentang kejayaan tapak-tapak UGGp seluruh dunia (Ding *et al.*, 2020; Orus dan Urqui, 2020), keduanya produk yang ada di Jerai Geopark yang bertaraf dunia (Mokhtar dan Ibrahim, 2019) dan yang ketiga tentang lapan SDGs yang telah diiktiraf oleh UNESCO (UNESCO 2017, 2018) maka Peluang (O) Jerai Geopark adalah sangat tinggi untuk membantu membasmi kemiskinan (SDG 1), menyediakan pendidikan berkualiti (SDG 4), memberikan kesaksamaan gender (SDG 5), menyediakan peluang pekerjaan yang sesuai dan pembangunan ekonomi (SDG 8), menggalakkan pertumbuhan bandar dan masyarakat mampan (SDG 11), melaksanakan penggunaan dan pengeluaran bertanggungjawab (SDG 12), berkait terus dengan perubahan iklim dan tindakan (SDG 13) dan melaksanakan kaedah perkongsian untuk matlamat (SDG 17).

Sebagaimana yang direkodkan oleh Ding *et al.* (2020); Orus dan Urqui (2020;) dan UNESCO (2017, 2018) untuk UGGp, maka Ancaman (T) utama kepada sesebuah geopark ialah mesti mempunyai governans yang mengurus dengan melaksanakan pengurusan bersama (*co-management*) yang holistik serta mengutamakan komuniti setempat dalam semua hal. Oleh itu Jerai Geopark mesti mempunyai sebuah tadbir urus (governans) yang khas selari dengan agenda UGGp untuk membolehkan ianya menguruskan sebuah perniagaan geopelancongan yang lestari.

Sehubungan itu, Jadual 15 menyenaraikan ringkasan faktor luaran (Peluang dan Ancaman) yang dikenalpasti di Jerai Geopark berdasarkan kenyataan umum di atas.

Jadual 15 Faktor luaran di Jerai Geopark di Parlimen Merbok

Peluang	Ancaman
<p>- Mendapat pelaburan khusus daripada pihak kerajaan negeri Kedah, Persekutuan dan juga swasta dalam agenda pembangunan perniagaan geopelancongan yang lestari</p>	<p>- Pengurusan peringkat negeri dan negara yang tidak memahami konsep Geopark yang memerlukan satu governans khusus untuk pentadbiran Jerai Geopark bersama bajet kewangan khas</p>
<p>- Menjadikan Jerai Geopark di Parlimen Merbok sebagai lokasi pelancongan warisan ikonik negara kerana ia satu-satunya parlimen yang mempunyai produk geotapak, biotapak dan tapak geoarkeologi tamadun awal bertaraf dunia</p>	<p>- Pengurusan peringkat negeri dan negara yang tidak memahami konsep Geopark yang boleh membangunkan sesebuah kawasan seperti Parlimen Merbok secara lestari dan menjadi sumber ekonomi utama berasaskan geopelancongan</p>
<p>- Mengutamakan sumber ekonomi Parlimen Merbok berasaskan geopelancongan yang memerlukan Pelan Pengurusan Pembangunan yang memfokuskan kepada geotapak, biotapak, tapak geoarkeologi tamadun awal dan budaya</p>	<p>- Aktiviti pembangunan oleh pelbagai agensi negeri, negara dan swasta yang mengabaikan agenda geopark dengan tidak mengambil kira pemuliharaan geotapak, biotapak, tapak geoarkeologi tamadun awal dan budaya</p>

<p>- Mewujudkan model keusahawanan yang bersepadu berasaskan warisan dalam kalangan komuniti setempat dan membantu isu kemiskinan dan penghijrahan</p>	<p>Risiko bencana alam – banjir, tsunami, tanah runtuh dan aliran pusingan</p>
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Analisis SWOT berkaitan faktor Kekuatan, Kelemahan, Peluang dan Ancaman di Jerai Geopark menunjukkan potensi dan cabaran sebenar yang boleh memberi kesan baik atau buruk terhadap perniagaan geopelancongan. Analisis SWOT di atas merupakan langkah pertama dalam memperoleh maklumat dan gambaran sebenar kedudukan perniagaan agar dapat merangka strategi yang selaras dengan arah tuju berdasarkan realiti perniagaan dan pasaran. Begitu juga dengan faktor luaran seperti potensi (Peluang) dan gangguan (Ancaman) dalam skop industri dan pasaran yang boleh memberi kesan baik dan buruk perniagaan, produk, perkhidmatan atau reputasi profesionalisme. Maka analisis SWOT ini telah memberikan situasi semasa Jerai Geopark.

Analisis TOWS

Berdasarkan kepada dapatan analisis SWOT di atas, maka analisis situasi dilengkapi dengan analisis TOWS yang membantu mencari dan memadankan Kekuatan dengan Peluang dan Ancaman dengan Kelemahan. Tujuan utama analisis TOWS adalah untuk mengurangkan ancaman, memanfaatkan peluang, mengeksploitasi kekuatan dan menghilangkan kelemahan. Ia melengkapi analisis SWOT dengan menambahkan hubungan antara faktor dalaman

dan luaran yang dapat membantu untuk membuat keputusan tentang hala tuju keseluruhan. Oleh kerana itu, TOWS digunakan untuk menyediakan analisis yang baik tentang isu dalaman dan luaran serta memberi tumpuan kepada positif dan negatif dan membawa kepada tindakan untuk memperbaiki kedudukan semasa.

Strategi Ofensif/ kompetitif (SO): ialah untuk melihat hubungan Kekuatan dan Peluang (S-O) dengan memfokuskan bagaimana mengeksploitasi kekuatan untuk bertindak balas terhadap peluang yang berpotensi dalam pasaran (Jadual 16). Secara jelas kekuatan yang ada di Parlimen Merbok ialah mempunyai produk geopelancongan yang bertaraf dunia kerana dalam satu lokasi terdapat produk geotapak, biotapak, tapak geoarkeologi tamadun awal dan budaya. Apabila dibandingkan dengan kejayaan tapak UGGp yang lain, Parlimen Merbok sangat berpotensi dalam menjadikan geopelancongan sebagai sumber ekonomi utama yang akan dapat meningkatkan taraf hidup komunitinya. Oleh kerana itu, Jerai Geopark sangat memerlukan komitmen governans dan komunitinya dalam merancang dan membangunkan selaras dengan contoh yang telah diberikan oleh UNESCO dalam pelaksanaan UGGp. Sebagai contohnya, Langkawi UGGp walaupun tanpa bukti arkeologi telah berjaya membangun bersama komuniti dalam agenda geopelancongan kerana telah ditadbir urus dengan mantap oleh LADA. Walaupun Jerai Geopark telah mempunyai Pelan Tindakan Pengurusan 2021-2030 namun masih belum dilengkapkan sepenuhnya governans yang khusus untuk menguruskannya, Pelan Pengurusan

Kewangan, Pelan Pengurusan Geokomuniti dan Pelan Pengurusan Perniagaan Geopelancongan.

Jadual 16 Hubungan Kekuatan dan Peluang

Kekuatan Jerai Geopark di Parlimen Merbok: 2017- 2022 (daripada Laporan Penilaian 2017; Mokhtar dan Ibrahim, 2019; Laporan Penilaian Semula 2021)	Peluang Jerai Geopark di Parlimen Merbok
<p>Telah dilengkapi dengan keluasan, populasi, pengurus (nama, jawatan, e-mel, no. tel), ada laman sesawang (URL) dan media sosial sendiri</p>	<p>Mendapat pelaburan khusus daripada pihak kerajaan negeri Kedah, Persekutuan dan juga swasta dalam agenda pembangunan perniagaan geopelancongan yang lestari.</p> <p>Sangat berpotensi menjadi produk geopelancongan bertaraf dunia kerana dilengkapi produk biotapak, tapak geoarkeologi dan budaya yang mantap dan unik</p> <p>Menjadikan Jerai Geopark di Parlimen Merbok sebagai lokasi pelancongan warisan</p>
<p>Jelas sempadan 816 km²</p>	
<p>Telah membuat penambahbaikan daripada semua komen dan cadangan penilaian kali pertama</p>	
<p>Jelas mempunyai geotapak bertaraf kebangsaan dan dalam pemuliharaan di bawah akta sedia ada</p>	
<p>Telah menyediakan panel maklumat, papan tanda, taburan logo yang meluas, risalah, penerbitan, laman web, media sosial serta telah mempunyai galeri di Jeti Semeling.</p>	
<p>Telah memulakan pembangunan kemudahan dan infrastruktur serta telah menyediakan pelan tindakan pembangunan 2019-2030</p>	
<p>Telah menyediakan maklumat yang difahami oleh orang awam,</p>	

Jelas mempunyai biotapak 4 kategori hutan khatulistiwa dan hutan bakau dan dalam pemuliharaan di bawah akta sedia ada	<p>ikonik negara kerana ia satu-satunya parlimen yang mempunyai produk geotapak, biotapak dan tapak geoarkeologi tamadun awal bertaraf dunia</p> <p>Mengutamakan sumber ekonomi Parlimen Merbok berasaskan geopelancongan yang memerlukan Pelan Pengurusan Pembangunan yang memfokuskan kepada geotapak, biotapak, tapak geoarkeologi tamadun awal dan budaya</p> <p>Mewujudkan model keusahawanan yang bersepadu berasaskan warisan dalam kalangan komuniti setempat dan membantu isu kemiskinan dan penghijrahan</p>
Jelas mempunyai tapak geoarkeologi yang merupakan tapak tamadun terawal Asia Tenggara dan dalam pemuliharaan di bawah akta sedia ada	
Jelas mempunyai 3 tapak sejarah yang penting dan dalam pemuliharaan di bawah akta sedia ada	
Telah ada bukti yang dikesan dan direkodkan tentang sejarah geobencana	
Telah diwujudkan pengurusan Unit Jerai Geopark dan bajet perbelanjaan	
Telah dimulakan	
Telah dimulakan dan memberikan impak positif. Telah mempunyai geoguide sendiri.	
Telah menyediakan Pelan Tindakan Pembangunan Jerai Geopark 2021-2030	
Telah mempunyai perkongsian Peringkat sekolah- sahabat Jerai Geopark dan Peringkat perniagaan - rakan kongsi Jerai Geopark	

Telah dimulakan pendidikan dan kesedaran awam.	
Telah ada jaringan dengan kesemua Geopark Kebangsaan melalui <i>Malaysian Geopark Network</i>	
Telah ada aktiviti kuari granit dan perlombongan bijih besi sebelum menjadi Geopark Kebangsaan. Di bawah kawalan Jabatan Mineral dan Geoasains.	

Strategi Diversifikasi (ST): ialah untuk melihat hubungan Kekuatan dan Ancaman (S-T) dengan mengkaji cara kekuatan boleh digunakan untuk mengurangkan atau menghapuskan ancaman kepada perniagaan geopelancongan dan dalam beberapa kes melihat bagaimana ancaman boleh diubah kepada peluang. Strategi ini berfokus kepada kekuatan dalaman dan ancaman luaran (Jadual 17).

Sebagaimana yang berlaku setiap kali dalam konvensyen UNESCO mengenai pemantauan tapak UGGp, didapati tahap pengetahuan tentang konsep Geopark dalam semua peringkat pengurusan, governans dan komuniti menjadi punca kepada kelemahan sesebuah geopark. Oleh itu, segala kekuatan yang ada di Jerai Geopark sepatutnya dijadikan tunjang pembangunan kawasan untuk mengurangkan ancaman. Ini hanya boleh berlaku jika tahap pengetahuan dan kefahaman tentang Geopark dapat dipertingkatkan di semua lapisan pengurusan, governans dan komuniti. Oleh itu, lebih banyak program pendidikan dan kesedaran awam serta promosi yang tersusun dan terancang perlu dilaksanakan. Pelan Pengurusan Geokomuniti dan Pelan Pengurusan Perniagaan Geopelancongan perlu diwujudkan segera.

Jadual 17 Kekuatan dan Ancaman

Kekuatan Jerai Geopark di Parlimen Merbok: 2017- 2022 (daripada Laporan Penilaian 2017; Mokhtar dan Ibrahim, 2019; Laporan Penilaian Semula 2021)	Ancaman Jerai Geopark di Parlimen Merbok
Telah dilengkapi dengan keluasan, populasi, pengurus (nama, jawatan, e-mel, no. tel), ada laman sesawang (URL) dan media sosial sendiri	Pengurusan peringkat negeri dan negara yang tidak memahami konsep Geopark yang memerlukan satu governans khusus untuk pentadbiran Jerai Geopark bersama bajet kewangan khas Pengurusan peringkat negeri dan negara yang tidak memahami konsep Geopark yang boleh membangunkan sesebuah kawasan seperti Parlimen Merbok secara lestari dan menjadi sumber ekonomi utama berasaskan geopelancongan
Jelas sempadan 816 km ²	
Telah membuat penambahbaikan daripada semua komen dan cadangan penilaian kali pertama	
Jelas mempunyai geotapak bertaraf kebangsaan dan dalam pemuliharaan di bawah akta sedia ada	
Telah menyediakan panel maklumat, papan tanda, taburan logo yang meluas, risalah, penerbitan, laman web, media sosial serta telah mempunyai galeri di Jeti Semeling.	
Telah memulakan pembangunan kemudahan dan infrastruktur serta telah menyediakan pelan tindakan pembangunan 2019-2030	
Telah menyediakan maklumat yang difahami oleh orang awam,	

Jelas mempunyai biotapak 4 kategori hutan khatulistiwa dan hutan bakau dan dalam pemuliharaan di bawah akta sedia ada	<p>Aktiviti pembangunan oleh pelbagai agensi negeri, negara dan swasta yang mengabaikan agenda geopark dengan tidak mengambil kira pemuliharaan geotapak, biotapak, tapak geoarkeologi tamadun awal dan budaya</p> <p>Risiko bencana alam – banjir, tsunami, tanah runtuh dan aliran puing</p>
Jelas mempunyai tapak geoarkeologi yang merupakan tapak tamadun terawal Asia Tenggara dan dalam pemuliharaan di bawah akta sedia ada	
Jelas mempunyai 3 tapak sejarah yang penting dan dalam pemuliharaan di bawah akta sedia ada	
Telah ada bukti yang dikesan dan direkodkan tentang sejarah geobencana	
Telah diwujudkan pengurusan Unit Jerai Geopark dan bajet perbelanjaan	
Telah dimulakan dan memberikan impak positif. Telah mempunyai geoguide sendiri.	
Telah menyediakan Pelan Tindakan Pembangunan Jerai Geopark 2021-2030	
Telah mempunyai perkongsian Peringkat sekolah- sahabat Jerai Geopark dan Peringkat perniagaan - rakan kongsi Jerai Geopark	
Telah dimulakan pendidikan dan kesedaran awam.	

Telah ada jaringan dengan kesemua Geopark Kebangsaan melalui <i>Malaysian Geopark Network</i>	
Telah ada aktiviti kuari granit dan perlombongan bijih besi sebelum menjadi Geopark Kebangsaan. Di bawah kawalan Jabatan Mineral dan Geoasains.	

Strategi “Overview” (WO): ialah untuk melihat hubungan Kelemahan dan Peluang (W-O) iaitu bagaimana peluang boleh menghapuskan kelemahan yang menjadi pertimbangan yang paling sukar (Jadual 18). Dalam strategi ini, penilaian dibuat dengan melihat kelemahan dalaman dan peluang luaran.

Peluang Jerai Geopark untuk berjaya seperti Langkawi UGGp dan tapak-tapak UGGp lain sangat berpotensi besar. Potensi ini memerlukan komitmen pengurusan dan komuniti yang tinggi untuk menyerlahkannya dan mengurangkan sedikit demi sedikit kelemahan yang masih ada.

Jadual 18 Kelemahan dan Peluang

Kelemahan Jerai Geopark di Parlimen Merbok 2017- 2022 (daripada Laporan Penilaian 2017; Laporan Penilaian Semula 2021; Borang Soal Selidik Komuniti, 2021)	Peluang Jerai Geopark di Parlimen Merbok
<p>(1) Maklumat Umum: Analisis tahap pengetahuan komuniti menunjukkan 20% - 45% masih tidak pasti, tidak tahu dan sangat tidak tahu, dan Analisis tahap kesediaan komuniti menunjukkan 8% - 23% masih tidak pasti, tidak bersetuju dan sangat tidak bersetuju.</p>	<p>Mendapat pelaburan khusus oleh pihak kerajaan negeri Kedah, Persekutuan dan juga swasta dalam agenda pembangunan perniagaan geopelancongan yang lestari Sangat berpotensi menjadi produk geopelancongan bertaraf dunia kerana dilengkapi produk biotapak, tapak geoarkeologi dan budaya yang mantap dan unik</p> <p>Menjadikan Jerai Geopark di Parlimen Merbok sebagai</p>
<p>Peta Kawasan Geopark: Sama seperti (I)</p>	
<p>Penambahbaikan yang dilakukan berdasarkan kepada cadangan penilaian lepas: Sama seperti (I)</p>	
<p>Geowarisan dan Pemuliharaan/ Pemeliharaan: Sama seperti (I) dan Belum mempunyai Pelan Pengurusan Penyelidikan dan Pemuliharaan</p>	

<p>Kedampakan: Sama seperti (I), Perlu penambahan yang lebih meluas dan Penggunaan dwi bahasa masih belum meluas.</p>	<p>lokasi pelancongan warisan ikonik negara kerana ia adalah satu-satunya parlimen yang mempunyai produk geotapak, biotapak dan tapak geoarkeologi tamadun awal bertaraf dunia</p> <p>Mengutamakan sumber ekonomi Parllimen Merbok berasaskan geopelancongan yang memerlukan Pelan Pengurusan Pembangunan yang memfokuskan kepada geotapak, biotapak, tapak geoarkeologi tamadun awal dan budaya</p>
<p>Kemudahan dan Infrastruktur: Sama seperti (I) dan perlu penambahan kemudahan dan infrastruktur yang lebih banyak dan meluas</p>	
<p>Maklumat, Pendidikan dan Penyelidikan: Sama seperti (I) dan Perlu penambahan aktiviti kesedaran dan pendidikan awam</p>	
<p>Warisan Semula Jadi: Sama seperti (I) dan Perlu penambahan aktiviti kesedaran dan pendidikan awam tentang biotapak</p>	
<p>Warisan Budaya (Warisan Ketara: Arkeologi): Sama seperti (I) dan Perlu penambahan aktiviti kesedaran dan pendidikan awam tentang tapak geoarkeologi</p>	
<p>Warisan Budaya yang lain: Sama seperti (I) dan Perlu penambahan aktiviti kesedaran dan pendidikan awam tentang tapak sejarah</p>	
<p>Penglibatan dalam Topik Berkenaan Perubahan Iklim dan Bencana Alam:</p>	

<p>Sama seperti (I) dan Perlu penambahan aktiviti kesedaran dan pendidikan awam tentang geobencana</p>	<p>Mewujudkan Model keusahawanan yang bersepadu berasaskan warisan di kalangan komuniti setempat dan membantu isu kemiskinan dan penghijrahan</p>
<p>Pengurusan: Masih belum mempunyai pengurusan tersendiri di mana Unit Jerai Geopark sedia ada menggunakan staf Majlis Perbandaran Sungai Petani, Masih belum mempunyai bajet khusus dan Masih belum mempunyai Pelan Pengurusan Kewangan</p>	
<p>Aktiviti Pendidikan: Sama seperti (I) dan perlu penambahan aktiviti kesedaran dan pendidikan awam yang lebih menyeluruh</p>	
<p>Geopelancongan: Sama seperti (I), Perlu penambahan aktiviti kesedaran dan pendidikan awam tentang geopelancongan, belum dianjurkan secara berpakej dan belum mempunyai Pelan Pengurusan Perniagaan Geopelancongan</p>	
<p>Polisi Pembangunan Lestari: Sama seperti (I) dan Perlu penambahan aktiviti kesedaran dan pendidikan awam tentang perancangan pembangunan Jerai Geopark</p>	
<p>Perkongsian (<i>Partnership</i>):</p>	

Sama seperti (I), Perlu penambahan dan lebih meluas kategori sahabat dan rakan kongsi. Dan Perlu diwujudkan kategori Duta Jerai Geopark	
Penyertaan Berkesan Komuniti Tempatan dan Orang Asli/Asal: Sama seperti (I), Perlu penambahan aktiviti kesedaran dan pendidikan awam yang lebih menyeluruh tentang geopark, geotapak dan geopelancongan dan belum mempunyai Pelan Pengurusan Geokomuniti	
Jaringan (<i>Network</i>): Belum mempunyai jaringan dengan Geopark UGGP kecuali Langkawi	
Perdagangan Bahan Geologi: Ada perdagangan bahan geologi dan dalam kawalan Jabatan Mineral dan Geosains	

Strategi Defensif (WT): ialah untuk melihat hubungan Kelemahan dan Ancaman (W-T) bagi menyerlahkan bagaimana kelemahan boleh memainkan, membangunkan atau meningkatkan ancaman perniagaan geopelancongan (Jadual 19). Strategi ini bertujuan mengurangkan kerentanan kepada geopelancongan dengan melihat kepada kelemahan dan ancaman yang wujud.

Secara jelas Jadual 19 menunjukkan jika ancaman ini dibiarkan tanpa diambil tindakan untuk mengatasinya maka sudah pasti semua kelemahan yang tersenarai tidak dapat dipulihkan untuk menjadi Kekuatan sepenuhnya. Begitulah juga sebaliknya di mana jika setiap kelemahan dibiarkan berterusan maka sudah pasti ianya menjadi ancaman besar kepada perniagaan geopelancongan Jerai Geopark di Parlimen Merbok

Jadual 19 Kelemahan dan Ancaman

Kelemahan Jerai Geopark di Parlimen Merbok 2017- 2022 (daripada Laporan Penilaian 2017; Laporan Penilaian Semula 2021; Borang Soal Selidik Komuniti, 2021)	Ancaman Jerai Geopark di Parlimen Merbok
(1) Maklumat Umum: Analisis tahap pengetahuan komuniti menunjukkan 20% - 45% masih tidak pasti, tidak tahu dan sangat tidak tahu, dan Analisis tahap kesediaan komuniti menunjukkan 8% - 23% masih tidak pasti, tidak bersetuju dan sangat tidak bersetuju.	Pengurusan peringkat negeri dan negara yang tidak memahami konsep Geopark yang memerlukan satu governans khusus untuk pentadbiran Jerai Geopark bersama bajet kewangan khas
Peta Kawasan Geopark: Sama seperti (I)	
Penambahbaikan yang dilakukan berdasarkan kepada cadangan penilaian lepas:	

Sama seperti (I)	<p>Pengurusan peringkat negeri dan negara yang tidak memahami konsep Geopark yang boleh membangunkan sesebuah kawasan seperti Parlimen Merbok secara lestari dan menjadi sumber ekonomi utama berasaskan geopelancongan</p> <p>Aktiviti pembangunan oleh pelbagai agensi negeri, negara dan swasta yang mengabaikan agenda geopark dengan tidak mengambil kira pemuliharaan geotapak, biotapak, tapak</p>
Geowarisan dan Pemuliharaan/ Pemeliharaan: Sama seperti (I) dan Belum mempunyai Pelan Pengurusan Penyelidikan dan Pemuliharaan	
Kedampakan: Sama seperti (I), Perlu penambahan yang lebih meluas dan Penggunaan dwi bahasa masih belum meluas.	
Kemudahan dan Infrastruktur: Sama seperti (I) dan perlu penambahan kemudahan dan infrastruktur yang lebih banyak dan meluas	
Maklumat, Pendidikan dan Penyelidikan: Sama seperti (I) dan Perlu penambahan aktiviti kesedaran dan pendidikan awam	
Warisan Semula Jadi: Sama seperti (I) dan Perlu penambahan aktiviti kesedaran dan pendidikan awam tentang biotapak	
Warisan Budaya (Warisan Ketara: Arkeologi): Sama seperti (I) dan Perlu penambahan aktiviti kesedaran dan pendidikan awam tentang tapak geoarkeologi	
Warisan Budaya yang lain:	

<p>Sama seperti (I) dan Perlu penambahan aktiviti kesedaran dan pendidikan awam tentang tapak sejarah</p>	<p>geoarkeologi tamadun awal dan budaya Risiko bencana alam – banjir, tsunami, tanah runtuh dan aliran puing</p>
<p>Penglibatan dalam Topik Berkenaan Perubahan Iklim dan Bencana Alam: Sama seperti (I) dan Perlu penambahan aktiviti kesedaran dan pendidikan awam tentang geobencana</p>	
<p>Pengurusan: Masih belum mempunyai pengurusan tersendiri di mana Unit Jerai Geopark sedia ada menggunakan staf Majlis Perbandaran Sungai Petani, Masih belum mempunyai bajet khusus dan masih belum mempunyai Pelan Pengurusan Kewangan</p>	
<p>Aktiviti Pendidikan: Sama seperti (I) dan Perlu penambahan aktiviti kesedaran dan pendidikan awam yang lebih menyeluruh</p>	
<p>Geopelancongan: Sama seperti (I), Perlu penambahan aktiviti kesedaran dan pendidikan awam tentang geopelancongan, belum dianjurkan secara berpakej dan belum mempunyai Pelan Pengurusan Perniagaan Geopelancongan</p>	

<p>Polisi Pembangunan Lestari: Sama seperti (I) dan Perlu penambahan aktiviti kesedaran dan pendidikan awam tentang perancangan pembangunan Jerai Geopark</p>	
<p>Perkongsian (<i>Partnership</i>): Sama seperti (I), Perlu penambahan dan lebih meluas kategori sahabat dan rakan kongsi. Dan Perlu diwujudkan kategori Duta Jerai Geopark</p>	
<p>Penyertaan Berkesan Komuniti Tempatan dan Orang Asli/Asal: Sama seperti (I), Perlu penambahan aktiviti kesedaran dan pendidikan awam yang lebih menyeluruh tentang geopark, geotapak dan geopelancongan dan belum mempunyai Pelan Pengurusan Geokomuniti</p>	
<p>Jaringan (<i>Network</i>): Belum mempunyai jaringan dengan Geopark UGGP kecuali Langkawi</p>	
<p>Perdagangan Bahan Geologi: Ada perdagangan bahan geologi dan dalam kawalan Jabatan Mineral dan Geosains</p>	

CADANGAN PENAMBAHBAIKAN

Kejayaan UGGp sebagai agenda pembangunan lestari yang memenuhi 7 SDGs seperti yang direkodkan oleh UNESCO (2017, 2018), Ding *et al.* (2020) serta Orus dan Urqui (2020) mendedahkan mesti mempunyai satu pasukan pengurusan atau governans yang mantap yang mengutamakan pengurusan bersama (*co-management*) dan memfokuskan penglibatan komuniti setempat.

Dasar sistem governans sesebuah geopark wajib mempunyai wakil komuniti, staf wanita dan ahli geologi dalam struktur pentadbirannya. Mengurus secara holistik berpandukan Pelan Pengurusan Pembangunan, Pelan Pengurusan Kewangan, Pelan Pengurusan Penyelidikan dan Pemuliharaan, Pelan Pengurusan Perniagaan Geopelancongan dan Pelan Pengurusan Geokomuniti.

Sejak 2017, Jerai Geopark diuruskan oleh seorang pegawai pembangunan masyarakat Majlis Perbandaran Sungai Petani (MPSP) yang dilantik oleh Bahagian Perancangan Ekonomi Negeri Kedah (BPEN). Ini menunjukkan Jerai Geopark masih belum mempunyai satu pasukan pengurusan khas dan secara langsung belum mempunyai bajet kewangan khas. Ini telah menyebabkan pergerakan pembangunan perniagaan geopelancongan di Jerai Geopark agak perlahan walaupun telah diisytihar sejak lima tahun yang lalu. Walaupun telah mempunyai Pelan Tindakan Pembangunan Jerai Geopark 2021-2030 namun didapati kesemua pelan yang lain masih belum tersedia. Oleh kerana itu, disarankan kerajaan negeri Kedah perlu

mengambil tindakan segera untuk menubuhkan satu unit governans khas untuk menguruskan Jerai Geopark.

Subtopik cadangan penambahbaikan ini membawa tiga contoh UGGp yang telah berjaya menjadikan agenda geopark sebagai agen pembangunan lestari. Contoh pertama ialah UGGp Itoigawa di Jepun (Jadual 20) yang diuruskan oleh *Itoigawa Geopark Council* yang sentiasa mementingkan tahap pengetahuan komuniti dan pemain industri geopelancongannya dengan melaksanakan sekurang-kurangnya 7 kursus pendek (90 minit hingga 6 jam) dan 4 kursus yang lebih panjang (7 jam hingga 3 hari) setiap tahun (Lee dan Jayakumar, 2021), sehinggakan 80% penduduknya didapati menghargai landskap geologi mereka serta gembira tinggal di Itoigawa. Daerah Kotaki di Itoigawa boleh dijadikan contoh bagaimana *Itoigawa Geopark Council* menguruskan 70% komunitinya adalah warga emas (lebih 65 tahun) yang dilatih untuk bertanggungjawab menjadi pemandu pelancong dalam lawatan berpandu ke Geotapak Kotakigawa Jade George dan juga menjaga geotapak daripada diceroboh. Mereka juga membuka restoran, gerai cenderamata, kolam memancing dan kawasan pertanian di pergunungan yang boleh dilawati. Takenouchi *et al.* (2018) merekodkan peningkatan pelancong setiap tahun di daerah ini. Pada 2019, UGGp Itoigawa merekodkan pendapatan 418 milion JPY (sekitar RM14 juta) yang menunjukkan peningkatan 3 kali ganda berbanding 2015 (tarikh mula sebagai UGGp).

Jadual 20 UGGp Itoigawa, Jepun

UGGp Itoigawa, Honshu, Jepun	Geotapak	Peranan Komuniti	Geofood utama	Goeaktiviti
<p>Governans: <i>Itoigawa Geopark Council</i></p> <p>GGN pada 2010, UGGp pada 2015, sebagai UGGp pertama di Jepun -Keseluruhan bandar tepi laut, Itoigawa dengan penduduk sekitar 41,000 (2021)</p> <p>Menganugerahkan <i>Geopark Master</i> setiap tahun kepada seorang yang paling berjaya</p>	<p>24 geotapak</p> <p>Mewujudkan tema kepada geotapak yang dikumpulkan dalam tiga tema sebagai agenda promosi geopelancongan, iaitu Geotapak Jed (geotapak yang berkaitan dengan batu permata jed), Geotapak Garis Tektonik</p>	<p>Menguruskan geotapak</p> <p>Menyediakan kemudahan lawatan berpandu</p> <p>Menjual barangan dan kraftangan tempatan seperti batu permata jed</p>	<p><i>Itoigawa Black Yakisoba</i> (mi goreng yang dicampur dengan dakwat hitam sotong)</p> <p><i>GeoDon Rice Bowls</i> (campuran beras dengan bahan masakan dan jenis alkohol daripada 24 geotapak)</p>	<p>Mendaki, berbasikal, penjejakan salji, bermain ski, berenang, menyelam dan aktiviti snorkeling.</p> <p>Festival Geopark Itoigawa setiap tahun.</p> <p>Aktiviti praktikal (<i>hands-on</i>) budaya- menanam padi, pembuatan sushi dan kraftangan</p>

<p>menjalankan geopelancongan dan boleh meletakkan sijil dilokasi perniagaan mereka</p> <p>Mempunyai dua pusat sehenti- Fossa Magna Museum dan GeoStation GeoPal yang dilengkapi dengan muzium geopark dan menganjurkan pelbagai aktiviti ceramah, bengkel dan menyediakan gerai cenderamata termasuk menjual penerbitan yang berkaitan</p>	<p>Himekawa, Itoigawa – Shizuoka (geotapak yang berkaitan bukti geologi tektonik) dan Geotapak Fossa Magna dan Pergunungan (geotapak yang berkaitan landskap indah)</p>			
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Contoh kedua UGGp yang telah berjaya ialah UGGp Pulau Jeju, Korea Selatan (Jadual 21) yang diuruskan oleh *Jeju Special Self-Governing Province*. Pendidikan awam tentang konsep dan program geopark merupakan program utama dan berterusan yang dilaksanakan di UGGp ini. Kampung Suwolbong di Jeju boleh dijadikan contoh bagaimana memajukan sebuah kampung nelayan melalui program Geopark. Kampung ini adalah kampung yang paling miskin sebelum menjadi UGGp dengan penduduk terdiri daripada 40 keluarga. Strategi bermula dengan menjadikan Suwolbong sebagai salah satu geotapak dan diwujudkan georintis khas Georintis Suwolbong. *Jeju Special Self-Governing Province* mengadakan program khas Festival Suwolbong di georintis ini setiap tahun. Daripada tiada langsung pelancong mengunjungi kampung miskin ini kini berubah dengan kehadiran pelancong tidak kurang 300,000 orang setiap tahun sejak menjadi UGGp (Takenouchi *et al.*, 2018) dan kampung ini telah menjadi kampung yang sangat ceria. Lee dan Jayakumar (2021) merekodkan 4.5 juta pelancong mengunjungi Jeju pada 2002, 5.4 juta pada 2007, 7.5 juta pada 2010 meningkat kepada 13.6 juta pada 2015 (tahun pengisytiharan sebagai UGGp) dan terus meningkat kepada 15.2 juta pelancong pada 2019. Juga direkodkan sejak 2015, Jeju UGGp telah mewujudkan lebih 250,000 peluang pekerjaan dalam geopelancongan (Lee dan Jayakumar, 2021).

Jadual 21 UGGp Pulau Jeju, Korea Selatan

UGGp Pulau Jeju, Korea Selatan	Geotapak	Peranan Komuniti	Geofood utama	Goeaktiviti
<p>Governans: <i>Jeju Special Self-Governing Province</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GGN pada 2010, UGGp pada 2015, sebagai UGGp pertama di Korea Selatan -Keseluruhan pulau dengan penduduk sekitar 696,657 (2019) <p>-Pusat sehenti di <i>Sanqingshan Geopark Museum</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jeju juga mempunyai tapak UNESCO <i>Biosphere Reserve (Jeju Island Biosphere Reserve)</i> (2002) dan tapak 	<p>25 geotapak dan 6 georintis</p>	<p>Menguruskan geotapak</p> <p>Menyediakan kemudahan lawatan berpandu</p> <p>Menjual barangan dan kraftangan tempatan</p>	<p><i>Seongsan-Ilchulbong Tuff Cone Muffin</i> (mufin terbalik seperti gunung vulkanik)</p> <p><i>Seogwipo Layer Shell Fossil Madeleine</i> (kuih seperti bahu yang berbentuk fosil kerang)</p>	<p>Mendaki, berbasikal, berenang, menyelam, aktiviti snorkeling, pelayaran kapal dan kapal selam</p> <p>Festval Geopark Pulau Jeju setiap tahun</p> <p>Mewujudkan aktiviti <i>Geohomes</i> (Aktiviti <i>hands-on</i> budaya dipenginapan)</p> <p><i>GeoGift</i> (daripada bahan disekitar</p>

<p>WHS Semulajadi <i>Jeju Volcanic Island and Lava Tubes</i> (2007). Juga mempunyai 2 tapak UNESCO warisan tidak ketara <i>Jeju Chilmeoridang Yeongdeunggut</i> (2009) dan <i>Culture of Jeju Haenyeo (women divers)</i> (2016), lima tapak Ramsar <i>Mulyeongari-oreum Ramsar Site</i> (2006), <i>Muljangori-oreum wetland</i> (2008), <i>1100 Altitude Wetland</i> (2009), <i>Dongbaekdongsan</i> (2011) dan <i>Sumeunmulbaengdui Ramsar Site</i> (2015)</p>			<p><i>Suwolbong sponge cake</i> (kek khas geotapak Suwolbong)</p>	<p>pulau), <i>GeoHouse</i> (penginapan) dan memperkenalkan <i>geopartnership</i> (rakan kongsi-kini telah ada 21 rakan kongsi).</p>
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Contoh ketiga UGGp yang telah berjaya ialah Dong Van Karst Plateau UGGp, Vietnam (Jadual 22) yang juga merupakan UGGp pertama Vietnam. Ianya melibatkan 4 daerah dengan 17 kumpulan etnik dengan separuh daripada penduduknya hidup di bawah paras kemiskinan. Tujuan utama kerajaan Vietnam menjadikan kawasan ini sebagai UGGp adalah untuk membasmi kemiskinan penduduknya melalui geopelancongan di kawasan perbukitan batu kapur dan ini menyebabkan program promosi dan kesedaran awam tentang geopark dilakukan secara berterusan di UGGp ini. Lee dan Jayakumar (2021) merekodkan peningkatan kedatangan pelancong pada 2010 iaitu seramai 301,000 pelancong kepada 1.4 juta pelancong pada 2019 dengan pendapatan meningkat dari 13.3 juta USD (2010) kepada 56.5 juta USD (2019).

Jadual 22 Dong Van Karst Plateau UGGp, Vietnam

UGGp Dong Van Karst Plateau	Geotapak	Peranan Komuniti	Geofood utama	Goeaktiviti
<p>Governans: Dong Van Karst Plateau UGGp <i>Office</i></p> <p>GGN pada 2010, UGGp pada 2015, sebagai UGGp pertama di Vietnam</p> <p>Pusat Sehenti di Ha Giang</p> <p>Keseluruhan lembah dan perbukitan batu kapur dengan</p>	45 geotapak	<p>Menguruskan geotapak</p> <p>Menyediakan kemudahan lawatan berpandu</p> <p>-menjual barangan dan kraftangan tempatan</p>	<p><i>Amaranth seed cake</i> (kek istimewa Dong Van Karst Plateau)</p> <p><i>Phong Huong mint honey</i> (madu lebah istimewa)</p>	<p>Mendaki, teroka gua, bersampan, berkanu, ,berkuda</p> <p>Festival Geopark Dong Van Karst Plateau setiap tahun</p> <p>Aktiviti budaya di penginapan bersama hidangan minuman alkohol tradisi</p> <p>Melaksanakan pelancongan eko (sungai, gunung, hutan), agro</p>

<p>penduduk sekitar 280,000 (2019)</p>				<p>(pertanian teres dan sawah padi), legasi (<i>Lung Cu flag tower</i> dan <i>Vuong family's palace</i>) dan pelancongan budaya di kampung etnik.</p> <p>Pasar minggu 17 kumpulan etnik (makanan, kraf)</p> <p>135 sesi perbincangan setahun dengan kumpulan 17 etnik bersama festival, ritual dan persembahan</p>
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Setelah mempunyai governans khas maka Jerai Geopark boleh menumpukan kepada pembangunan kawasan di Parlimen Merbok dengan pendekatan lapan SDGs yang telah diiktiraf UNESCO sebagaimana yang terlaksana di ketiga-tiga UGGp di atas (Jadual 23).

Jadual 23 Pendekatan 8 SDGs di Jerai Geopark seperti yang terlaksana di UGGp Langkawi, Malaysia, Itoigawa, Jepun, Pulau Jeju, Korea Selatan dan Dong Van, Vietnam

Bil	Lapan (8/17) SDGs yang dipenuhi oleh UGGp yang diiktiraf oleh UNESCO	Cadangan untuk Jerai Geopark
1.	Matlamat 1: Tiada Kemiskinan	Menyediakan segera Pelan Pengurusan Perniagaan Geopelancongan dan Pelan Pengurusan Geokomuniti yang berfokus kepada setiap kategori komuniti di Parlimen Merbok untuk membuka peluang pelbagai aktiviti ekonomi dan pekerjaan dalam geopelancongan yang mampan sesuai untuk kumpulan komuniti yang berkenaan
2.	Matlamat 4: Pendidikan berkualiti	Mempromosi geowarisan dan geodiversiti kepada orang ramai dari semua peringkat umur termasuk komuniti tempatan dan

		pelancong melalui program kesedaran dan pendidikan awam yang berterusan dan tersusun sepanjang tahun.
3.	Matlamat 5: Kesaksamaan gender	Jerai Geopark wajib memastikan ada staf wanita dalam pasukan pengurusannya dan membangunkan koperasi, persatuan wanita serta menggalakkan pemerksaan wanita dalam setiap program dan agendanya.
4.	Matlamat 8: Pekerjaan yang sesuai dan pembangunan ekonomi	Pelaksanaan program geopark UGGp sepenuhnya di Jerai Geopark akan dapat melonjak peluang pekerjaan dan pembangunan ekonomi kawasan.
5.	Matlamat 11: Bandar dan masyarakat mampan	Jerai Geopark perlu menekankan kepada pembangunan teknologi hijau yang mampu mempertingkatkan kelestarian dan daya tahan bukan sahaja dalam kalangan komuniti malah juga pelancong
6.	Matlamat 12: Penggunaan dan pengeluaran bertanggungjawab	Program geopark akan membawa aktiviti kehidupan dan penggunaan alam yang lestari. Komuniti dengan kefahaman yang tinggi tentang program ini akan boleh meningkatkan gaya hidup mampan yang akan menjadikan kawasan Parlimen Merbok berdaya tahan

7.	Matlamat 13: Tindakan iklim	Pendidikan dan kesedaran awam tentang sejarah bumi, perubahan iklim dan geobencana perlu diberikan penekanan oleh Jerai Geopark. Sejarah tanah runtuh, gelongsoran tanah, aliran puing dan banjir yang pernah berlaku di Jerai Geopark perlu dititik beratkan dalam perancangan pembangunan kawasan dan komuniti setempat.
8.	Matlamat 17: Perkongsian untuk matlamat	Jerai Geopark perlu memastikan semua kategori perkongsian dan jaringan seperti Sahabat Jerai Geopark, Rakan Kongsi Jerai Geopark, rangkaian peringkat Geopark Kebangsaan dan dengan UGGp adalah sentiasa aktif dan saling berkongsi pengetahuan dan amalan terbaik untuk memulihara dan melindungi warisan, serta memajukan industri geopelancongan yang lestari secara kolektif.

KESIMPULAN

Jerai Geopark telah berjaya memenuhi keperluan 19 kriteria sebagai Geopark Kebangsaan yang menjadi elemen kekuatannya dalam analisis SWOT. Elemen kekuatan utama Jerai Geopark di Parlimen Merbok ialah mempunyai tiga produk ikonik geologi, arkeologi tamadun awal dan biologi yang merupakan satu pakej produk perlancongan yang tiada di kawasan parlimen lain.

Analisis soal selidik kepada 462 responden mendapati 55%-85% berada dalam tahap mengetahui dan sangat mengetahui tentang pelancongan warisan dan 77%-92% berada dalam tahap setuju dan sangat bersetuju Parlimen Merbok menjalankan geopelancongan. Statistik komuniti ini adalah memuaskan. Data 19 kriteria sebagai Geopark Kebangsaan juga menonjolkan beberapa kelemahan penting walaupun sudah 5 tahun menjadi Geopark Kebangsaan iaitu masih belum mempunyai governan dan modal insan khas, tiada lagi Pelan Pengurusan Kewangan, Pelan Pengurusan Penyelidikan dan Pemuliharaan, Pelan Pengurusan Geokomuniti dan Pelan Pengurusan Perniagaan Geopelancongan. Kelemahan ini pula didokong oleh data soal selidik komuniti yang mendapati hanya sekitar 55%-61% sahaja komuniti mengetahui Jerai Geopark Parlimen Merbok mempunyai 3 produk ikonik.

Empat elemen peluang dan empat elemen ancaman adalah disesuaikan dengan laporan pemantauan UNESCO terhadap tapak UGGp dengan keadaan di Jerai Geopark. Apabila dijalankan analisis TOWS, hubungan kekuatan dan

peluang menunjukkan Jerai Geopark sangat memerlukan komitmen governan dan komunitinya dalam merancang dan membangunkan selaras dengan contoh yang telah diberikan oleh UNESCO dalam pelaksanaan UGGp. Hubungan kekuatan dan ancaman pula menyarankan agar segala kekuatan yang ada di Jerai Geopark sepatutnya dijadikan tunjang pembangunan kawasan untuk mengurangkan ancaman. Ini hanya boleh berlaku jika tahap pengetahuan dan kefahaman tentang Geopark dapat dipertingkatkan di semua lapisan pengurusan dan komuniti. Oleh itu, lebih banyak program pendidikan dan kesedaran awam yang tersusun dan terancang perlu dilaksanakan.

Analisis hubungan kelemahan dan peluang mendapati peluang Jerai Geopark untuk berjaya seperti Langkawi UGGp dan tapak-tapak UGGp lain adalah sangat berpotensi besar. Potensi ini memerlukan komitmen pengurusan dan komuniti yang tinggi untuk menyerlahkannya dan mengurangkan sedikit demi sedikit kelemahan yang masih ada. Analisis kelemahan dan ancaman pula mendapati jika ancaman ini dibiarkan tanpa diambil tindakan untuk mengatasinya maka sudah pasti semua kelemahan yang tersenarai tidak dapat dipulihkan untuk menjadi kekuatan sepenuhnya. Begitulah juga sebaliknya yang mana jika setiap kelemahan dibiarkan berterusan maka sudah pasti ianya menjadi ancaman besar kepada perniagaan geopelancongan. Sehubungan itu, analisis situasi semasa ini telah berjaya mengenalpasti hala tuju Jerai Geopark yang mesti segera mewujudkan governan dan modul insan khas Jerai Geopark di samping menyediakan Pelan Pengurusan Kewangan, Pelan Pengurusan Penyelidikan dan Pemuliharaan serta Pelan

Pengurusan Perniagaan Geopelancongan. Data analisis komuniti pula menunjukkan Jerai Geopark sangat memerlukan Pelan Pengurusan Geokomuniti untuk memastikan agenda perniagaan geopelancongan akan berjaya dan dapat membantu menjadi sumber ekonomi utama Parlimen Merbok.

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Chapter 4

LOCALISATION OF SDG BY GRASSROOTS MINORITIES IN PARIT BUNTAR, PERAK

Dr Teo Sue Ann

ABSTRACT

This case study examines mangrove deforestation in Malaysia, primarily those located in the districts of Bagan Tiang and Tanjung Piandang in Parit Buntar, Perak. With the SDGs Principle of Leaving No One Behind, this case study demonstrates the concerted efforts of the local stakeholders, to prevent the destruction of mangrove forests by the state government and private industrial companies. Their lived experience, rationales, and strategies reflect how mangrove deforestation directly affects the environment that they rely on for their livelihood. The ethnographic data for this case study was primarily derived from subsequent interviews and focus group discussions (FGDs) post-issue mapping by the All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia for SDG (APPGM-SDG). This present study identifies the various initiatives undertaken by the political representatives of these districts as well as NGOs and the local minority fishers to conserve the mangrove forest and prevent its destruction by state-supported economic expansion.

INTRODUCTION

Malaysia is home to the world's sixth largest mangrove forest, after Indonesia, Brazil, Australia, Mexico, and Nigeria. Of the 37% of global mangrove forests found in Asia, Malaysia's accounts for 12% (Islam, Idris, Bhuiyan, Ali, Abdullah, & Kamal, 2022). Mangrove forests are considered permanent forest reserves (PFRs), namely, protection forest reserves, domestic forest reserves, mangrove forest reserves (MFRs), virgin jungle reserves (VJR), and wildlife reserves. The state of Sabah is home to Malaysia's largest mangrove forests followed by the state of Sarawak and Peninsula Malaysia.

Extant studies published in the last two decades predicted that mangroves deforestation may crest 60% by 2030 (Adame, Connolly, Turschwell, Lovelock, Fatoyinbo, Lagomasino, Goldberg, Holdorf, Friess, Sasmito, & Sanderman, 2021). For instance, Primavera (1997, p. 816) revealed that shrimp farming causes more economic harm than good as it destroys the ecosystem of mangrove forests. Meanwhile, scientists have discovered that the size of Malaysian mangrove forests has been decreasing at a rate of 1% annually since the 1990s largely due to anthropogenic activities; such as aquaculture, agriculture, deforestation, and urban land use (Zhila, Hossain, & Rozainah, 2014); with aquaculture causing the largest depletion of mangrove forests in Peninsular Malaysia (Mazni & Asmawi, 2016; Sarmin, Mohd Hasmadi, Pakhriazad, & Khairil, 2016).

This chapter examines mangrove depletion as highlighted by local fishers in Parit Buntar, Perak. It is widely

believed that the Perak state government and other authorities have marginalised the issue of deforestation and its impact on local fishers as the size of Parit Buntar's mangrove forests is smaller than that of Setiu and Matang in Terengganu or Tumpat in Kelantan. Mazni and Asmawi (2016) stressed the importance of resident awareness and participation in the rehabilitation of mangrove forests in Kuala Selangor, however, the case study of Parit Buntar demonstrates the efficacy of utilising effective institutions (SDG 16) and developing reciprocal partnerships (SDG 17) to conserve mangrove forests.

The case study also demonstrates the agential role of grassroots in the localisation of the SDGs. The United Nations (UN) defines localising as *'the process of defining, implementing, and monitoring strategies at a local level for achievable global, national, and subnational sustainable goals and targets'* (UNDP, 2014). Malaysian studies opine that policymakers and other stakeholder must collaborate to successfully localise the SDGs at a grassroots level (Shahizan, Siti Nurani, & Suzana, 2021). The present case study supports this opinion by demonstrating the importance of effective partnerships between national- and state-level policymakers and local NGOs and minority grassroots to localise the SDGs.

The minority grassroots of this present study were the approximately 4000 fishers of Malay ethnicity living in Bagan Tiang and Tanjung Piandang. Although there is mainstream discourse on the impinging of Malay-Muslim majoritarian rights in Malaysia, hasty assumptions should not be made on issues of discrimination and marginalisation of racial

minorities. As such, this present study primarily examined minority grassroots to underscore the importance of the leave no one behind principle of the United Nations' (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The two main objectives of this case study are to highlight: (1) how the grassroots localised the SDGs via their efforts to safeguard their environment and livelihood and (2) the significant importance of better institutions (SDG 16) and collaboration (SDG 17) between state governments, the private sector, and grassroots to ensure sustainable development at local levels.

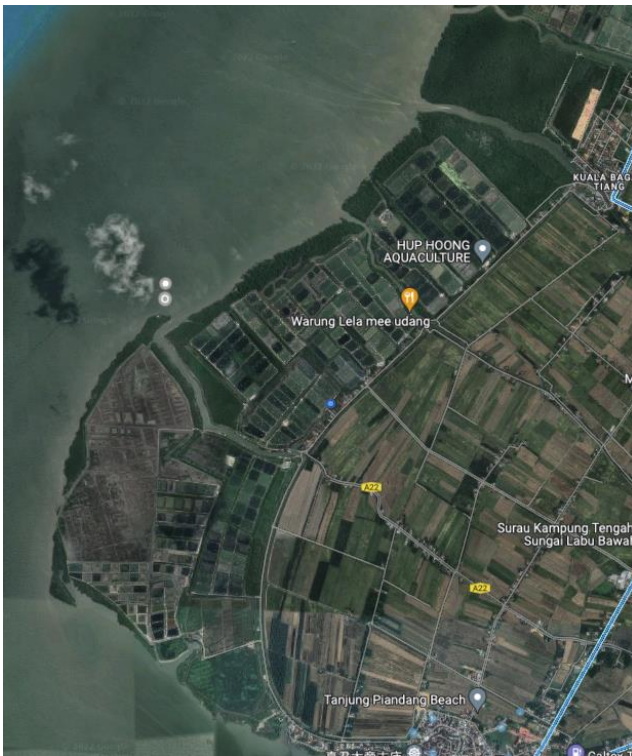
RESEARCH METHODS

The mangrove forests of Parit Buntar was one of the sites that All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia (APPGM)-SDG researchers visited during their three-day issue mapping excursion in Parit Buntar in 2022. Developing an issue map was the first phase of the APPGM-SDG's SDG localisation initiative, after which mangrove deforestation in the area was examined. Focus group discussions (FGDs) regarding mangrove deforestation were then conducted with the local fishers, the state assemblyman, and local NGOs. Therefore, this present study presents data from the issue mapping excursion and FGDs with the stakeholders; namely, Sahabat Alam Malaysia (SAM), a representative of the local fishermen, female fishers, and the state assemblyman. One of the limitations of this present study was that it did not involve other essential stakeholders; specifically, the Perak state government and the aquaculture industry. As the APPGM-

SDG attempts to establish partnerships between all the stakeholders, efforts to engage with the aquaculture industry and the Perak state government will be increased.

The APPGM-SDG researchers recorded the audio of all of the FGDs with the informed consent of the participants. These recorded discussions were then transcribed verbatim, translated from Bahasa Malaysia to English, and used as the citations and transcripts seen later in this present study. The original Bahasa Malaysia transcripts are provided in the footnotes for further reference.

STUDY AREA BACKAMPUNGROUND



Source: Google map (accessed 4 January 2023).

This case study involved the fishing communities living between two rivers in Parit Buntar; namely, Sungai Kota and Sungai Betul; whose surrounding areas are Bagan Tiang and Tanjung Piandang. The Parit Buntar's parliamentary constituency falls under the jurisdiction of the Kerian district. According to the statistical data of Perak's local plan, Parit Buntar has the highest population density in the district, with paddy fields, palm oil estates, aquaculture, livestock, and vegetables cultivation as its primary economic activities. In terms of land use, more than 35% of the land is used for agriculture, while 25% is paddy fields, 17% is forest, and only 1% is used for aquaculture activities.

As part of Perak's local development plan for Perak 2040, the state government has adopted a "smart growth" concept that prioritises robust community engagement, mixed land use, diverse housing, and transportation and development in existing neighbourhoods. As such, the state government has decided to further enhance Parit Buntar's economic activities; primarily its paddy and palm oil production and aquaculture.

Bagan Tiang and Tanjung Piandang had the lowest population densities between 2010 and 2020. Their growth rates were also the lowest due to their rural settings. As seen in Figure 1, aquaculture activities are conducted in the coastal areas of Sungai Kota and Sungai Betul. It is, therefore, safe to assume that the aquaculture industry is one of the most popular aquaculture activities in Parit Buntar and uses a significant amount of its land (Rancangan Struktural Negeri Perak, 2016).

As the Perak state government has prioritised Parit Buntar's aquaculture activities, there are only a few discussions on mitigation plans for other local economic activities. During their fieldwork in Parit Buntar, the APPGM-SDG researchers met with minority fishers who have earned a living from Sungai Kota and Sungai Betul for over two generations. They discovered that, despite being a minority, the fishers had made multiple attempts through various channels to highlight the implications of extensive aquaculture activities to the relevant government agencies. Nevertheless, the government remains ignorant of how the exploitation of the mangrove forest in Bagan Tiang and Tanjung Piandang affect their livelihoods. A fisherperson representative stated that there were, at least, four jetties located along Bagan Tiang, with around 4000 fishers living in these areas.

In line with the SDGs' LNOB principle, the APPGM-SDG researchers engaged with local stakeholders post-issue mapping, which provided useful insights into the detrimental environmental effects of Parit Buntar's aquaculture economy and its negative effects on the daily income of minority.

THE IMPLICATION OF THE AQUACULTURE ECONOMY TO THE LOCAL FISHERS

The unsustainable aquaculture activities of Parit Buntar have both catalytic and spill over effects on the fishers of Bagan Tiang and Tanjung Piandang; namely, the vicious cycle of aquaculture ponds and, possibly, ongoing illegal fishing activities. Therefore, the destruction of the mangrove forest

is only one of the many side effects of aquaculture that affect marine life in the waters of Parit Buntar. This section examines the fishers and SAM's views on the effects of Parit Buntar's aquaculture industry.

During an FGD, the SAM representative spoke of the correlation between multiple fishery issues:

"...we, coastal fishers, have been affected by illegal trawlers for a long time. These trawlers catch many trash fish, juvenile fish, which they then process into feed..."¹⁴ (FGD with the SAM representative, Bagan Tiang, 22 August 2022).

According to the SAM representative, there is a clear chain of the cause and effects of unsustainable fishing practices. Furthermore, even though illegal trawlers threaten the livelihoods of small-scale and minority fishers, aquaculture companies benefit from illegal trawlers as the trash fish that they catch are fed to the prawns in their aquaculture ponds.

During the three-day issue mapping excursion, the APPGM-SDG researchers discussed the issue of trespassing and illegal fish trawlers with approximately 50 fishers from

¹⁴ Translate from: "...kita sekian lama, nelayan-nelayan pantai terhimpit dengan pencerohon pukot tunda. Pukat tunda hasil dia kebanyakan *trash fish*, ikan belum matang, ikan yang belum matang ni dia akan proses untuk dijadikan makanan kepada ikan-ikan baja..."

Kuala Sungai Burung in Parit Buntar on 19 February 2022. According to the fishers, trespassing and illegal fish trawlers have been an ongoing issue for over 20 years. One fisherperson said:

“Now they [illegal trawlers] have more advanced methods. They use Apollo trawlers that can pull the trawlers faster. One catch can haul as much as 50 Kampung” (FGD with the fishers of Pelantar Kuala Burung and Kuala Kurau, Parit Buntar, 19 February 2022).

As Apollo trawlers are designated for deep sea zone (Zone C) and illegal to use in the shallow waters closer to shore (Zones A and B), the fishers of Zones A and B believed that a lack of enforcement has emboldened the fishers from Zone C to intrude their zones. Such trespasses decrease the amount of fish that fishers in Zones B and C can catch, which directly threatens their source of income.

The high volume of fish that illegal trawlers catch often included smaller fishes, which become “trash fish” that is sold as aquaculture feed. According to the SAM representative:

“An NGO bought trash fish from a market and categorised them. They discovered that there are about 111 to 120 juvenile fish in every kilo of fish feed. If we just let these juvenile fish grow, we wouldn't need aquaculture. The country would never have worry about sourcing fish. In short,

we'd be rich in fish.”¹⁵ (FGD with the SAM representative, Bagan Tiang, 22 August 2022).

According to the SAM representative, Parit Buntar's aquaculture industry is unsustainable as it negatively affects local fishers and jeopardises the state's and country's food security in the long term.

Although SAM and the fishers of Bagan Tiang and Tanjung Piandang recognise the threat of these ongoing unsustainable fishery activities, the Perak state government does not. The APPGM-SDG researchers felt a sense of urgency and helplessness amongst the fishers of Bagan Tiang and Tanjung Piandang from their first encounter with them as the authorities ignore their complaints. According to another SAM representative, the fishers are aware that the state government has gazetted a large portion of Bagan Tiang to be an aquaculture zone as part of its Local Plan. In their opinion, the destructive decisions of the state government and their unsustainable development plan have destroyed the ecosystem and polluted the riverbanks of Bagan Tiang and Tanjung Piandang. According to this SAM representative,

¹⁵ Translate from: “Setiap 1 kilo ikan baja ni, ikan-ikan yang boleh menjadi dewasa ni, ada yang kira 111, ada yang kira 120 ekor, ada NGO buat kira, dia beli trash fish di pasar, dia duk kira, ni ikan apa ni ikan apa... kalau dibiarkan ikan ni dewasa kita tak perlu akuculture tak perlu dah, sumber stok negara tak perlu bimbang dah, pendek kata kita mewah dengan ikan.”

“Studies indicate that prawn farming ponds can only last ten years. The land 'dies' [becomes unsuitable for aquaculture] over time and the amount of prawns produced would decrease with every passing year. This is because they have to use chemicals to clean the ponds, which often affects the prawn production.”¹⁶ (Excerpt from the interview of the SAM representative, Bagan Tiang, 23 August 2022).

When the land is deemed "dead", the owners of these aquaculture ponds abandon the "dead" land and seek out a fresh piece of land to build new ponds and continue their business. These pond owners often do not own the pieces of land upon which their aquaculture businesses are run but rent them instead. In the case of Bagan Tiang and Tanjung Piandang, the landowners are the Perak state government. Furthermore, the industry and the authorities are aware of the destruction wrought by the aquaculture industry and pollution it causes.

Although the aquaculture industry is temporary and mobile in nature, the negatively effects of its effluents on the surrounding rivers and the environment remain. The fishers have relayed their concerns over the untreated wastewater

¹⁶ Translate from: “Tapi kalau mengikut kajian pun sebenarnya 10 tahun sahaja kolam udang ni boleh bertahan, lama lama tanah tu akan mati. Pengeluaran udang akan berkurang tiap tahun. Perlu guna chemical untuk Pelepas sisa. Kalau ikukan pada kajian, selepas 10 tahun production akan berkurang...”

from the prawn ponds to their state assemblyman, who states that he has represented the fishers and highlighted the issue at state assemblies. However, according to the assemblyman, even though the state government has announced that they will implement a standard procedure for all aquaculture businesses, to ensure that they do not directly release untreated pond wastewater into the rivers, there are no laws with which to penalise uncooperative aquaculture businesses. Nevertheless, state government agencies claim that, even if the industry decides not to adhere to the standard procedure that the state government sets, the act of releasing untreated pond wastewater into rivers is punishable by law. According to the state assemblyman, he has accompanied the Department of Environment (DOE) to test river water near prawn farming ponds. He stated:

"I went with the DOE to collect water samples. They (the ponds) just release the wastewater into the tributary. Based on the murkiness and foul smell and with our naked eyes, we could tell that it was chemical waste. Even though the tests confirmed the presence of pollutants, no action could be taken [by the DOE] due to a loophole in the federal enforcement act. There is no law to penalise the aquaculture industry."¹⁷ (Excerpt

¹⁷ Translated from: ". I pergi dengan JAS ambil sample air, sisa yang baru dia orang tengah buang, direct terus ke anak sungai. Dengan kelikatan, bau, dari mata kasar kita boleh menilai ini adalah sisa

*from the interview of the state assemblyman,
Bagan Tiang, 23 August 2022)*

As the pollution caused by aquaculture ponds cannot be penalised by law, the state assemblyman believes that the industry will continue to release wastewater into the rivers and pollute it. Furthermore, according to him, these aquaculture products are not for domestic consumption.

"I asked the Department of Fisheries [DoF], what percentage of Malaysian aquaculture products is allocated for domestic consumption? Apparently, not more than 10%."¹⁸ (Excerpt from the interview of the state assemblyman, Bagan Tiang, 23 August 2022).

However, the state assemblyman may be misinformed. According to Witus and Leong (2016), there are a series of policies and laws to ensure the sustainable development of Malaysia's aquaculture industry. These policies and regulations were designed with awareness of the environmental damage that the aquaculture industry causes and intended to control them. For instance, four National Agro-Food Policies (NAFPs) have been implemented between

bahan kimia. Sample diambil, tapi tak boleh ambil apa apa Tindakan. Disebabkan kelemahan dari sudut akta penguatkuasaan alam sekitar di peringkat federal. Industri akuakulture tiada satu akta yang boleh dikenakan caj pada pengusaha."

¹⁸ Translate from: "Saya tanya pada Jab Perikanan, berapa percent penggunaan untuk domestic, no more than 10%."

1984 to 2020. The NAFPs were established to spur the growth of the aquaculture sector and to optimally use natural resources to maximise profits via imports and exports (Witus & Leong, 2016, p. 152). Of the eight NAFPs that have been implemented, one emphasises managing and utilising water and land to yield sustainable and optimised output (ibid.).

The country has also enacted five laws that protect and preserve the environment while developing the aquaculture industry; namely, the Fisheries Act 1985 (Act 317), Environmental Quality Act 1974 (Act 127), Environment Protection Enactment 2002, Sabah Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Enactment 2003, and the Natural Resources and Environment (Amendment) Ordinance 2005 (ibid.). Act 317, notably, is empowered to stipulate fishery strategies that are legally binding and mandatory for all industry players. Furthermore, although these fishery strategies may not specifically be for the aquaculture industry, they may include environmental protection measures that are sustainable and prevent industry players from destroying ecosystems. Therefore, these five laws and the four of NAFPs indicate that Malaysia has a holistic and sustainable method for aquaculture development. However, as the APPGM-SDG's issue mapping exercises revealed, implementing and enforcing them are a different question.

According to the DOE and the DoF, despite the aforementioned policies and laws, the degradation of Bagan Tiang and Tanjung Piandang's mangrove forests are beyond their jurisdiction. Therefore, there is a glaring discrepancy in the bureaucratic system. More worryingly, both these

departments as well as the state assemblyman were unaware of it. Even though the state assemblyman recognised the urgent need to prevent the aquaculture industry from further damaging the environment, his lack of awareness has prevented him from actually saving the mangrove forests. This discrepancy in the bureaucratic system, at the expense of the environment, indicates a need to further strengthen the institutional system to achieve the target of SDG 16.7, which is to ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels.

Apart from the environment, these aquaculture-related bureaucratic discrepancies have also caused the local fishers to suffer significant losses in income. During the APPGM-SDG researchers' fieldwork in February 2022, the local fishers showed them the riverbank erosion and mangrove destruction in Bagan Tiang. According to the fishers, approximately 200 hectares of the mangrove forest has been destroyed, however, the remaining mangrove trees on the riverbanks obstruct the view of the land that has been cleared behind them. The fishers alleged that the land was cleared to expand the aquaculture industry and suggested using drones to view the destroyed areas (Figure 14)

Figure 14 Drone view of the remaining of the mangrove forest after the exploitation



Source: Photo taken and shared by the Member of Parliament Parit Buntar during fieldwork (18 February 2022).

One of their interventions involved replanting mangrove trees along the riverbanks of Bagan Tiang to mitigate river bank erosion. This initiative soon expanded to involve fisherwomen who have suffered significant losses as they harvest shellfish for a living, with some even going so far as to recruit their teenage daughters and sons to help in the replanting initiative. Nevertheless, this initiative was too small to noticeably improve the damage done to the vast mangrove forest.

According to the local fishers' representative, the mangrove seedlings were sourced from Sungai Petani in Kedah. These seedlings require eight months to form roots that are strong enough to survive replanting along the riverbank. In acknowledgement of the efforts that the local

fishers have undertaken to mitigate their loss of income, the APPGM-SDG has allocated RM28000 to enable the local fishers to plant 600 more mangrove seedlings along the riverbank of Tanjung Piandang in 2022. However, according to a participant, only some of the seedlings would survive:

"...if even 20% [of the seedlings] survive, it is already good enough. As they [the seedlings] may drop their own seeds in the future. We brought local seedlings as they should have a higher chance [of survival]. However, there are monkeys here that tend to disturb the seedling."¹⁹ (Excerpt from the interview of a local fisherperson, Tanjung Piandang, 23 August 2022).

Despite the low success rate and the time needed for the mangrove seedlings to grow, the local fishers continue to closely collaborate with SAM to support the gargantuan task of replanting mangrove trees. Apart from that, SAM raises awareness of the importance of environmental conservation by inviting youth groups to participate in the local fishers' mangrove replanting initiative.

¹⁹ Translate from: ...kalau hidup 20% pun sudah cukup. Nanti dia ada benih jatuh.... kita bawa local punya, mungkin chances dia tinggi sikit. Kat sini ada monyet (yang mungkin akan merosakkan benih-benih)...

RELATING CROSS-CUTTING THE CASE STUDY TO WITH THE CROSS-CUTTING NATURE OF SDGS

As previously mentioned, this case study stemmed from the issue mapping exercises of the APPGM-SDG. Issue mapping was the first step in localising the SDGs. The noteworthy aspect of the APPGM-SDG localisation process was the direct involvement of the grassroots stakeholders. This case study is an important example of how, by including the grassroots, the APPGM-SDG discovered the agential role that minorities play in localising SDGs. Although the fishers' actions and aspirations may not be considered SDG initiatives, their purpose was to create a sustainable solution that could reverse the damage done to their living environment. Therefore, more local SDG initiatives should be implemented.

The case study, more notably, reveals the cross-cutting nature of the 17 SDGs. The local development plan, which gazetted Bagan Tiang and Tanjung Piandang for aquaculture, reveals that the state government was willing to develop the industry at the expense of the mangrove forest. The overspill effects of mangrove deforestation have affected the river and the livelihoods of the local fishers, who are minorities in these areas. This exemplifies the importance of *SDG 1.b, which is to create sound policy frameworks, at a national, regional, and international level, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication actions.* To that end, the state government must have community dialogues with the locals, regardless of if they are minorities.

According to the state assemblyman, the authorities have never communicated with the local communities:

"I have stressed this [the need for community engagement] twice during the state assembly twice and during private meetings with the SADC [State Agricultural Development Corporation]. Conduct engagement sessions with the fishers first and inform them about the [development] project. Explain that it will develop according to the existing scale. Satisfy both parties. And yet, they have never conducted an engagement session."²⁰ (FGD at the state assemblyman's office, 5 August 2022).

The importance of community engagement, as the state assemblyman proposed, indicates the need for *SDG 16.7, which aims to ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory, and representative decision-making at all levels*, to intertwine with *SDG 17.17, which aims to encourage and promote effective public, public-private, and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships*. This case study also proves that partnerships should include the grassroots, which are often at the receiving end of any of the strategies, policies, and decisions that the authorities make.

²⁰ Translate from: saya tekankan perkara ni 2 kali dalam sidang DUN dan pertemuan peribadi dengan pihak SADC buat dulu sesi engagement dengan nelayan pantai ni dan beritahu projek ini akan membangunkan mengikut skala yang ada, beri kepuasan kepada kedua-dua pihak, tapi tak ada sesi engagement.

Local communities are also aware of the need for better synergy between the different government agencies. According to the fishers' representative, the local development plan contradicts the decisions to gazette land at Bagan Tiang and Tanjung Piandang for aquaculture:

"I noticed a power struggle [between the RT (Local Development Plan) and the DoF] in terms of zoning. The RT says that this is its zone. The RT is based on the Urban Planning Act, which falls under the Town and Country Planning Act. Therefore, forestry zones are under their purview. However, the DoF has gazetted the same areas for aquaculture."²¹(FGD at the state assemblyman's office, 5 August 2022).

Therefore, the ambiguous roles and responsibilities of the government agencies as well as, more importantly, the lack of coordination between them, are a contributing factor in the widespread deforestation of the mangrove forest. As such, many local communities do not think that the local government agencies are governing or protecting their livelihoods to ensure the no one is left behind in the state's

²¹ Translated from: saya nampak dari segi zoning, dia ada macam pertindihan kuasa, dalam RT (Rancangan Tempatan) menyatakan zon dia, RT berdasarkan akta perancang bandar, tertakluk bawah akta perancangan bandar, zoning dia ialah kawasan hutan. Tetapi dalam pada masa yang sama jabatan perikanan telah mengezonekan kawasan tu untuk aquaculture...

development plan. It also reveals that the locals have a significant lack of faith in the local administration.

Due to the cross-cutting nature of the 17 SDGs, the lack of partnerships (SDG17) among the government agencies as well as with the local community in conjunction with the ambiguities and discrepancies in the state government's departments and in decision-making (SDG 16) emphasise the issues highlighted in this case study. For instance, river pollution kills everything in the water (SDG 14) and threatens the livelihoods of the local community (SDG 8). Furthermore, ignoring the protests of the local fishers as well as their political representative in the state assembly, implies that the state government treats dismisses the objections of local minorities and does not treat them equally (SDG 10). Lastly, the rampant deforestation of the mangroves for the sake of aquaculture expansion suggests that the state government's development plan is unsustainable (SDG 11).

RECOMMENDATIONS

As Malaysia's aquaculture industry is lucrative and expanding (Mazuki & Subramaniam, 2005), experts have worked tirelessly to discover methods of sustainably expanding the industry. Therefore, there are methods of growing the aquaculture industry while conserving the mangrove ecosystems in Bagan Tiang, Tanjung Piandang, and other places in Malaysia.

One immediate solution is for industry players to be more abreast with the latest aquaculture methods and

technologies. According to Mazuki and Subramaniam (2005), there are significantly more advanced methods for aquaculture, especially shrimp farming, these days. In the 1960s and 70s, the Malaysian government and the private sector used the shrimp hatcheries method for large-scale seed production. However, this method required extensive excavations to create shrimp ponds in mangrove areas and depended on ocean tides to change the water, the latter of which was counterproductive as these ponds were often plagued by soil quality issue that caused the shrimp to die *en masse* (ibid. p. 51). It was then discovered that levee-type ponds, that do not require excavation, could be constructed outside mangrove areas and a water pumps could be used for water exchange. This method has been used since the 1980s to effectively increase prawn production.

Shrimp farming has advanced since then with the introduction of novel and sustainable technologies; such as biofloc technology (BFT), which was invented in 2013, to the more recent aquamimicry system, which was invented in 2020 (Mohammad *et al.*, 2022). The latter of which, which stimulates the growth of phyto- and zooplankton populations, has been employed in Thailand, Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Brunei, China, Ecuador, Egypt, India, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Singapore, Sri Lanka, the USA, and Vietnam (Zeng *et al.*, 2020).

A long-term solution is to enforce laws and regulations that decrease the environmental degradation that the aquaculture industry causes. As previously mentioned, Malaysia already has policies that protect the

environment and benefit the aquaculture industry. Therefore, transparent and accountable institutional systems are paramount to effectively implement these policies. It is also essential for all government agencies and departments to understand their roles and responsibilities in regulating laws and regulations on the ground.

Lastly, partnerships with the grassroots must be established and strengthened. The APPGM-SDG was only able to highlight the unsustainable nature of aquaculture and discuss its economic and environmental effects because the local fishers highlighted the issue of mangrove deforestation. Therefore, this case study demonstrates how grassroots can be significant stakeholders in the localisation of SDGs.

CONCLUSION

This case study is based on the APPGM-SDG's examination of the initiatives of the minority local fishers in Parit Buntar to conserve and preserve their mangrove forest. Post-issue mapping, follow-up investigations revealed the concerted efforts of the local fishers, their political representative, and local NGOs.

Each of these parties were motivated by their own agendas. For instance, SAM aimed to advocate protecting the environment from further damage by the aquaculture industry, the local fishers took matters into their own hands to protect their river-based livelihoods, and the state assemblyman was fulfilling his mandate to protect the social and economic interests of his voters. Even though the

strategies were not based on the aspiration of the SDGs, they were formulated for social, economic, and environmental sustainability at the local level.

The fundamental principle of the SDGs is LNOB. This case study exemplifies the importance of this principle. Even though the deforestation of the mangrove forests in Bagan Tiang and Tanjung Piandang only affect the minority fishers, it reveals the crucial need for state government institutions that are just and fair to all levels of society. It also demonstrates how multi-stakeholder engagements require the participation of grassroots in local development planning in order to be effective and to benefit communities at both the local and state levels.

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Chapter 5

ISU PEMBANGUNAN SOSIOEKONOMI MASYARAKAT ORANG ASLI: KAJIAN KES DI RPS PASIK, GUA MUSANG, KELANTAN

Dr Wan Suzita Wan Ibrahim

ABSTRAK

Pihak kerajaan telah melaksanakan pelbagai projek pembangunan sosioekonomi yang melibatkan pelbagai agensi dan swasta di kawasan perkampungan Orang Asli. Namun begitu, matlamat untuk meningkatkan sosioekonomi Orang Asli tidak tercapai sepenuhnya kerana terdapat ketidaksefahaman antara Orang Asli dengan pelbagai pihak terutama dalam meningkatkan projek pembangunan sosioekonomi agar tidak mengganggu budaya asal mereka. Justeru itu, kajian ini telah dilakukan di perkampungan Orang Asli, RPS Pasik bagi mengkaji isu sosioekonomi yang sering berlaku dalam kalangan Orang Asli. Metodologi yang digunakan dalam kajian ini adalah secara kualitatif iaitu temubual secara mendalam (*in -depth interview*) bersama Tok Batin dan 25 orang wakil penduduk kampung dari suku kaum Temiar dan Senoi. Mereka terdiri daripada golongan yang berpengalaman dan telah lama melibatkan diri dalam aktiviti ekonomi serta menjana sumber ekonomi keluarga. Manakala analisis melibatkan analisis setempat (*situational analysis*) dan dokumen kerajaan. Hasil kajian mendapati,

sosioekonomi penduduk tempatan masih di tahap sederhana kerana masih meneruskan aktiviti ekonomi 'sara hidup' dan traditional. Manakala pembangunan sosial telah dinikmati namun masih memerlukan penambahbaikan serta terdapat beberapa faktor dalaman dan luaran yang menjadi halangan untuk mereka terlibat dengan lebih aktif dalam pembangunan sosioekonomi. Kajian ini membentangkan cadangan-cadangan agar isu pembangunan sosioekonomi dapat diatasi dan dapat memberi peluang kepada mereka untuk meningkatkan sumber pendapatan masyarakat Orang Asli pada masa akan datang.

PENGENALAN

Rancangan Penempatan Semula Pasik (RPS) atau *Resettlement Indigenous People* telah ditubuhkan pada 2007 di Gua Musang seluas 4,400 ekar. Matlamat penubuhan RPS ini adalah untuk memastikan kesejahteraan hidup masyarakat Orang Asli dan meningkatkan sumber ekonomi serta sosial termasuk dalam pendidikan dan kesihatan dalam kalangan masyarakat Orang Asli di Gua Musang. RPS Pasik melibatkan penduduk berasal dari kampung Gemala, Gua Musang dan Kampung Bering. Pos RPS Pasik yang mempunyai 11 buah kampung yang terdiri dari kampung Pasik, Simpang, Bering, Bering Lama, Ayong, Serai, Belaj, Perwer, Sugi A dan B, Lumbang dan Bayor. Jumlah penduduk keseluruhan di RPS Pasik adalah seramai 1,321 orang dengan 696 orang ialah lelaki dan 635 orang pula wanita. Manakala, majoriti bangsa ialah Temiar dan Senoi. Kebanyakan mereka bekerja sendiri dan tumpuan aktiviti ekonomi utama penduduk adalah pertanian seperti mencari sumber hutan seperti rotan,

manakala kerja sampingan seperti mendulang emas, menoreh getah dan menyumpit. Aspek kemudahan sosial Orang Asli adalah ditahap sederhana dan beberapa kemudahan asas seperti jalan raya, bekalan air bersih dan elektrik masih perlu diperkukuhkan. Justeru itu, proses penilaian terhadap isu sosioekonomi amat diperlukan untuk memberi faedah yang positif kepada golongan masyarakat Orang Asli di Pasik.

Cabaran terhadap pembangunan manusia telah mula diketengahkan semenjak Rancangan Malaysia Ketujuh (RMKe-7) pada tahun 1996-2000 dengan strategik pembangunan ke arah meningkatkan pembangunan seimbang antara fizikal dan sosioekonomi negara. Namun, sering berlaku ketidakseimbangan dalam pembangunan terutama dalam pencerobohan tanpa kawalan ke atas kawasan yang didiami oleh masyarakat peribumi yang seringkali membawa kepada kemerosotan hidup masyarakat tersebut (Salleh, 1995; World Commission on Dam, 2000; Johansen, 2003; Green & Raygorodetsky, 2010; Aiken & Leigh, 2011; Feiring, 2013). Malah, masyarakat Orang Asli yang ditempatkan semula sering kali berhadapan dengan isu kehilangan hak ke atas tanah adat yang menjadi punca kepada kemerosotan sosioekonomi dan budaya asal mereka (Hess & Fenrich, 2017; Cooke et al., 2017; Walker & Simmons, 2018) seperti yang berlaku ke atas puak Munduruku di Brazil (Hess & Fenrich, 2017; Gebara, 2018; Walker & Simmons, 2018), etnik Brou di Laos (Manorom, Baird, & Shoemaker, 2018), komuniti Embera-Katio di Colombia (Egre & Senecal, 2003) dan Kenyah di Borneo (Abdullah, 2009).

Oleh itu, salah satu teras utama dalam merealisasikan pembangunan komuniti di Malaysia adalah menyediakan keperluan asas dan pembangunan ekonomi terancang seperti yang diperuntukkan dalam Rancangan Fizikal Negara, Pelan Rancangan Tempatan dan Rancangan Malaysia Kedua Belas (RMKe-12), 2021-2025. Program pembangunan yang dilaksanakan memberi kesan menyeluruh kepada masyarakat termasuk masyarakat Orang Asli (Mohd Nur Syafaat & Seow Ta Wee, 2015). Namun begitu, secara umumnya masyarakat ini masih ketinggalan berbanding masyarakat Malaysia yang lain terutama dalam pembangunan sosioekonomi Orang Asli. Golongan ini hanya mula mendapat perhatian khusus menerusi Rancangan Malaysia keempat (RMKe-4) yang dilancarkan pada tahun 1981, apabila pihak kerajaan telah memperkenalkan program yang dikenali sebagai Rancangan Pengumpulan Semula (RPS) Orang Asli pada tahun 1983. Sehubungan itu, kajian ini bertujuan untuk mengkaji isu sosioekonomi dan membincangkan keupayaan pembangunan kehidupan masyarakat Orang Asli di Pasik, Gua Musang.

KAJIAN LITERATUR

Seiring dengan perkembangan ekonomi dan pembangunan dunia, Malaysia juga tidak terlepas daripada mengalami proses modenisasi komuniti termasuk dalam penyelidikan pembangunan sosioekonomi terhadap masyarakat Orang Asli. Pembangunan sosioekonomi merujuk kepada kemudahan masyarakat, perkhidmatan, rangkaian kumpulan dan masyarakat memenuhi keperluan sosial mereka. Berdasarkan kajian lepas mendapati tahap

pembangunan sosial dan ekonomi masyarakat Orang Asli mula mendapat perhatian sejak Kajian Separuh Penggal, Rancangan Malaysia Ketujuh (RMKe-7), 1996-2000. Program yang dilaksanakan terhadap masyarakat Orang Asli dapat dibahagikan kepada tiga program utama iaitu Program Kesihatan, Program Latihan dan Program Pembangunan Sosioekonomi yang terdiri daripada tiga program utama iaitu Program Penempatan Tersusun yang melibatkan program kecil seperti Program Pengumpulan Semula (RPS), Pengambilan Balik Tanah dan Kerja Ukur dan Penyusunan Semula Kampung (PSK) (Jabatan Hal Ehwal Orang Asli Malaysia, 2004). Namun, pembangunan prasarana sosial dan ekonomi tidak semuanya dapat dikecapi oleh semua golongan masyarakat terutama masyarakat Orang Asli (Siti Nor et al. 2012).

Pembangunan didefinisikan sebagai suatu kebaikan yang membawa kepada kualiti kehidupan yang lebih baik kepada individu dan masyarakatnya. Pembangunan juga merupakan satu proses yang menuju ke arah pertumbuhan yang dapat mengubah keadaan atau situasi sesuatu kawasan atau masyarakat (Rohana Yusof 2006). Manakala, Orang Asli didefinisikan dalam Perlembagaan Malaysia di bawah Perkara 160 (2) sebagai Orang Asli Semenanjung Tanah Melayu adalah “mana-mana orang yang bapanya ialah anggota kumpulan etnik Orang Asli, yang bercakap bahasa Orang Asli dan lazimnya mengikut cara hidup Orang Asli dan adat dan kepercayaan Orang Asli, dan termasuk seorang keturunan’ (Akta Orang Asli 134, 1984; seksyen 3 (a). Selain itu, sosioekonomi merupakan perubahan persekitaran manusia yang melibatkan kesihatan, pendidikan,

kemudahan asas dan ekonomi setempat (Nicholas, 2000; Siti Nor et al. (2012). Berdasarkan persepsi masyarakat kini, mereka dikatakan masyarakat Sakai yang tinggal di dalam hutan dan masih lagi meneruskan gaya hidup primitif. Mereka juga dikatakan tidak mempunyai agama yang khusus dan tiada peraturan hidup dan dianggap sebagai bodoh dan tidak mahu menerima kemajuan, malah ada yang mengatakan bahawa masyarakat ini hidup liar dan ganas (Siti Nor et al. 2006).

Di Malaysia, mereka adalah kaum minoriti Semenanjung Malaysia dan mempunyai 3 suku kaum utama iaitu Negrito, Senoi dan Melayu-Proto (Rujuk Jadual 1). Pembahagian ini dibuat berdasarkan kepada perbezaan yang terdapat pada mereka dari segi ciri-ciri fizikal, bahasa dan adat yang diamalkan (Mat Nor, 1996). Setiap tiga suku kaum tersebut terdapat enam etnik suku kaum seperti Temuan, Semai, Jakun, Semelai, Lanoh, Kintak, Jahut dan sebagainya (Colin, 2000). Manakala, jumlah penduduk Orang Asli di Semenanjung Malaysia adalah seramai 31,660,700 orang (2017) sehingga Disember 2022 adalah seramai 178,179 orang (Jabatan Kemajuan Orang Asli, Malaysia 2022). Kajian terhadap Orang Asli telah berlaku sejak abad yang ke-19 dan pengkaji antarabangsa yang sering dikaitkan dalam kajian masyarakat Orang Asli antaranya ialah Anderson (1850), Hole (1888) dan (Gomes 1987), manakala di Malaysia (Shamsul Amri Baharuddin 1972) dan Baharun Azahar (1972). Oleh itu, terdapat pelbagai pendekatan dan penumpuan telah dilakukan terutama dari sudut antropologi, sejarah, geografi, sosial dan ekonomi dengan menggunakan pelbagai bentuk pendekatan kajian yang menyeluruh terhadap

masyarakat Orang Asli (Anderson 1850; Hole 1888; Gomes 1987). Contohnya, kajian Ramlee Abdullah (1993), mendapati keadaan sosial masyarakat Orang Asli dianggap “primitif dengan ekonomi yang berorientasikan ‘cukup hidup’ dan tidak melibatkan ekonomi pasaran. Manakala, kajian Gomes (1987) ke atas masyarakat Orang Asli Semaq Beri mendapati aktiviti-aktiviti ekonomi yang dijalankan oleh mereka adalah bertujuan untuk mendapatkan wang seperti menoreh getah, mencari rotan dan mencari kayu gaharu. Manakala, ekonomi sara diri adalah memancing, memburu binatang dan pertanian. Menurut Gomes dan Anthony (1993) menyatakan, kemunduran pembangunan sosioekonomi dan peminggiran masyarakat Orang Asli hari ini adalah berpunca daripada pentadbiran kolonialisme yang dibawa oleh pihak inggeris terdahulu di Tanah Melayu.

Jadual 23 Masyarakat Orang Asli di Semenanjung Malaysia mengikut suku kaum 2022.

Kumpulan	Negrito	Senoi	Melayu-Proto
Suku Kaum	Kensui	Temiar	Temuan
	Kintak	Semai	Semelai
	Lanoh	Semaq Beri	Jakun
	Jahai	Che Wong	Orang Kanak
	Menderik	Jahut	Orang Kuala
	Batek	Mah Meri	Orang Seletar
Jumlah	18		

Sumber: Jabatan Kemajuan Orang Asli, 2022

Namun begitu, berdasarkan kajian-kajian yang terdahulu mendapati telah wujud kesedaran dalam

masyarakat Orang Asli mengenai kepentingan pembangunan sosioekonomi secara tidak langsung. Pembangunan yang dijalankan ke atas mereka merangkumi aspek kemudahan, keperluan asas dan infrastruktur seperti jalan raya serta ekonomi yang berbentuk sara hidup. Senario ini bukan hanya berlaku di Malaysia tetapi turut berlaku di negara barat yang mempunyai penduduk peribumi. Menurut Hunter (2005) kajian terhadap masyarakat pribumi di Australia menyatakan bahawa masyarakat ini mengalami diskriminasi sosial yang cukup ketara terutama dalam kegiatan ekonomi, kemahiran dan penyediaan infrastruktur yang memaksa mereka hidup dalam serba kekurangan. Manakala Lorenzo Cherubini (2013) dalam kajian terhadap masyarakat Pribumi di Kanada, mendapati masyarakat tersebut telah mengalami sedikit pembangunan dalam kehidupan mereka terutama dalam aspek infrastruktur sosial seperti jalan raya dan ekonomi. Hal tersebut jelas dalam kajian yang dijalankan oleh Shamsul Amri Baharuddin, 1972 ke atas Orang Asli Senoi - Semai di Pos Telanok, Pahang (Shamsul Amri Baharuddin 1972). Baharun Azahar (1972) dan Hasan Mat Noor (2000), menyatakan masyarakat Orang Asli di Parit Gong Negeri Sembilan di situ terlibat dalam ekonomi pasaran kesan daripada pembangunan yang telah dirancangkan oleh kerajaan. Beliau merumuskan bahawa masyarakat tersebut terlibat dalam ekonomi yang bersifat nasional (permintaan dan penawaran) yang melibatkan upah, jualan produk dan tidak melibatkan keuntungan.

Justeru itu, kajian Ramlee Abdullah (1993) menunjukkan corak sosioekonomi masyarakat Orang Asli secara umumnya mengamalkan cara hidup yang primitif

atau 'cukup hidup', corak ekonomi yang bermatlamatkan sara diri dan memperoleh sumber pendapatan, kurang penglibatan dalam arena politik dan masih hidup dalam keciciran dalam banyak aspek kehidupan. Pandangan yang sama turut dikongsi oleh Seow Ta Wee (2015) yang mengkaji masyarakat Orang Asli di Kampung Peta, Johor. Beliau menyatakan bahawa walaupun pihak kerajaan menyediakan bantuan kepada Orang Asli, namun ia masih belum memenuhi keperluan penduduk kerana prasarana sosial dan sumber ekonomi tidak diurus dengan baik. Oleh itu, keadaan tersebut tidak banyak berubah sehingga kini termasuklah di RPS Pasik, Gua Musang.

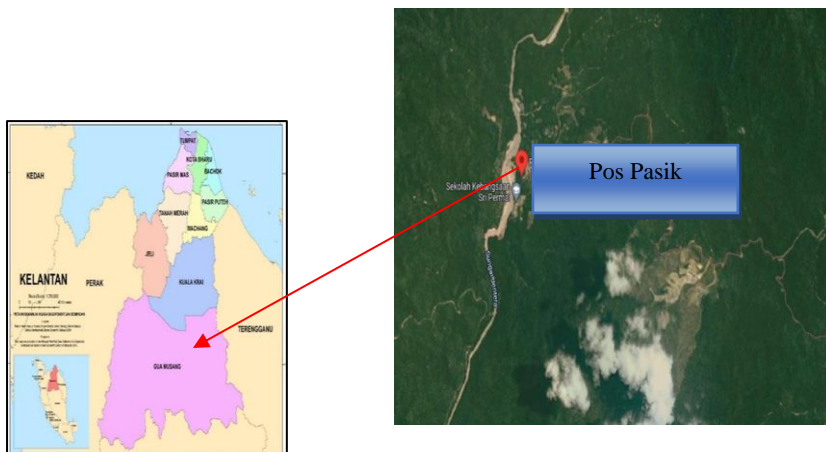
METODOLOGI DAN KAWASAN KAJIAN

Kajian ini menggunakan kaedah penyelidikan secara kualitatif menerusi analisis situasi (*transcribe* Gua Musang) dan analisis kandungan dokumen kerajaan berdasarkan profil perkampungan, sosial serta ekonomi (JAKOA 2022). Manakala teknik kajian lain adalah temu bual secara mendalam (*in-depth interview*) bersama komuniti Orang Asli suku kaum Temiar dan Senoi di RPS Pasik, Gua Musang. Tujuan teknik ini digunakan untuk pengkaji mendapat maklumat secara pemerhatian dan temubual berdasarkan pengalaman, pengetahuan, reaksi dan idea pemikiran daripada responden secara eksplisit dan berterusan (Zahrah Mokhtar 2001, Patan 1990, Coffee & Atkinson 1996). Manakala data yang dianalisis secara kualitatif adalah berbentuk nominal yang mana data yang diperolehi akan dianalisis semula di akhir penyelidikan (Bailey 1982). Responden terdiri daripada petani, pemuda, Tok Batin dan

Jawatankuasa Kemajuan dan Keselamatan Kampung (JKKK) di kampung tersebut. Pemilihan responden dalam kalangan Orang Asli adalah menggunakan kumpulan fokus yang berumur 35 hingga 65 tahun ke atas. Teknik ini adalah bersifat fleksibel dan membolehkan penyelidik menghuraikan perkara yang difikirkan oleh responden (Merriem 1998). Pemilihan golongan ini dibuat berdasarkan pengalaman mereka dalam sosioekonomi di penempatan RPS Pasik, Gua Musang.

Analisis awal data kajian dilakukan adalah melalui proses profil komuniti yang mempunyai maklumat tentang demografi, komuniti dan dinamik sosioekonomi. Profil ini amat diperlukan untuk memberi gambaran terperinci tentang komuniti tersebut (Newman et al., 2006). Temubual antara responden amat diperlukan untuk mendapat reaksi dan sebarang maklumat untuk menggambarkan situasi sosioekonomi sebenar dalam komuniti Orang Asli kampung di RPS Pasik, Gua Musang. Manakala, analisis kandungan dokumen dilihat prestasi projek libatsama antara pihak pemegang taruh dan responden di kawasan perkampungan tersebut.

Rajah 1 Peta Kawasan Kajian



Sumber: Diubahsuai dari Rancangan Fizikal Negara 1,2008

HASIL PERBINCANGAN KAJIAN

Terdapat dua dapatan yang utama dalam kajian ini yang mana diperoleh daripada analisis dokumen kerajaan yang membincangkan demografi kawasan, penduduk dan persekitaran. Manakala, kajian kes ini adalah berdasarkan maklumat secara mendalam bersama responden suku kaum Temiar dan Senoi di RPS Pasik, Gua Musang.

Profil Perkampungan

Sejarah Penubuhan Rancangan Penempatan Semula masyarakat Orang Asli Pasik (RPS Pasik) atau *Resettlement Indigenous People* telah ditubuhkan pada 2007 di Gua Musang. Matlamat penubuhan RPS ini adalah untuk memastikan kesejahteraan hidup masyarakat Orang Asli dan meningkatkan sumber ekonomi serta sosial termasuk dalam bidang pendidikan dan kesihatan dalam kalangan

masyarakat Orang Asli di Gua Musang. RPS Pasik terletak dalam jajahan Gua Musang, mukim Bertam dan di bawah DUN Nenggiri dengan seluas 4,400 ekar. Perpindahan ini melibatkan penduduk berasal dari kampung Gemala, Gua Musang dan Kampung Bering. Pos RPS Pasik mempunyai 11 buah kampung yang terdiri dari kampung Pasik, Simpang, Bering, Bering Lama, Ayong, Serai, Belaj, Perwer, Sugi A dan B, Lumbang dan Bayor. Jumlah penduduk keseluruhan di RPS pasik adalah seramai 1,321 orang yang mana sebanyak 696 orang adalah lelaki dan 635 orang wanita. Manakala, majoriti bangsa ialah Temiar dan Senoi. Klasifikasi perkampungan adalah kawasan pedalaman yang mana jarak perkampungan dari jalan utama adalah sejauh 75 km. RPS Pasik ini diketuai oleh 2 orang Tok Batin iaitu Asem Bin Along (KampungPasik) dan Anjang Bin Rangget. Manakala pengerusi Jawatankuasa Pembangunan Komuniti Orang Asli (JPKOA) diketuai oleh Mohd Sani Bin Natiman (Rujuk jadual 2).

Jadual 24 Profil Perkampungan Orang Asli RPS Pasik, Gua Musang 2022

BIL	Nama Kampung	KIR	Bilangan Jantina		Jumlah	Bangsa	Anutan Agama	
			L	P			Islam	Jumlah
1.	Pasik/Beta	73	162	150	312	Temiar	Islam	147
2.	Bering	22	60	60	120	Senoi	-	
3	Perwer	32	70	59	129	-		
4	Simpang	17	50	43	93	-		
5	Sugi (a)	15	96	95	191	-		
	Sugi (B)	28	-	-	-	-		
6	Ayong	28	62	65	127	-		
7	Serai	19	50	45	95	-		
8	Belaj	11	29	20	49	-		
9	Being lama	27	60	53	113	-		
10	Bayor	13	32	30	62	-		
11	Lumbung	8	15	15	30	-		
	Jumlah	293	686	635	1,321		Islam	147

Sumber: Jabatan Orang Asli, Gua Musang, 2019 & 2022

Analisis keseluruhan latar belakang profil perkampungan RPS Pasik adalah berdasarkan data yang diperolehi daripada Jabatan Kemajuan Orang Asli (JAKOA). Data mendapati kebanyakan penduduk adalah beragama Islam dan mempunyai sistem pengurusan perkampungan yang lebih terurus kerana mempunyai Tok Batin dan pihak Jawatankuasa Pembangunan Komuniti Orang Asli untuk bekerjasama bersama dengan pihak kerajaan bagi memenuhi keperluan masyarakat Orang Asli di Pasik, Gua Musang seperti kenyataan di bawah:

....Tok Batin di pasik ada 2 orang, batin Asem dan Anjang..... en sani kita ni pengerusi pembangunan masyarakat dan kalau ada keperluan yang tak cukup bagi tau dia sebab dia ada kenderaan boleh bagi bantuan dan rapat dengan orang kerajaan.....boleh dikatakan dia wakil kamilah...(FGD, Perkampungan Orang Asli, Gua Musang, 27 April 2022)

Sosial

Analisis data dalam aspek kemudahan asas dan infrastruktur mendapati bahawa kemudahan dalam sistem perkhidmatan dan keseimbangan sosial kepada masyarakat Orang Asli adalah tidak memuaskan kerana kedudukan RPS ini berada di kawasan pedalaman dan jauh dari bandar. Kemudahan yang disediakan seperti rumah kediaman, dewan, balai rawatan, surau, tadika, padang bola dan sepak takraw tidak dapat digunakan sepenuhnya oleh belia masyarakat Orang Asli kerana faktor jarak perkampungan yang jauh antara satu sama lain (Rujuk jadual 1). Manakala, kemudahan sekolah

hanya terdapat satu sekolah rendah (Sri Permai) berasrama yang dihuni seramai 214 orang pelajar.

Jadual 25 Kemudahan Sosial Orang Asli RPS Pasik, Gua Musang 2022

Bil	A	B		C					D		
		E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
1.	Pasik/ Beta	200	93	1	1	-	Padang bola	1	O	214	P
2.	Bering	-	-	-	-	1	-	-			
3.	Perwer	-	-	-	-	-	takraw	-			
4.	Simpang	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
5.	Sugi (a)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
	Sugi (B)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
6.	Ayong	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
7.	Serai	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
8.	Belaj	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
9.	Being lama	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
10.	Bayor	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
11.	Lumbang	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
	Jumlah	200	93	11	1	1	2	1	1	214	L

Sumber: Jabatan Orang Asli, Gua Musang, 2022

A: Nama Kampung

B: Rumah Kediaman

C: Kemudahan Asas

D: Kemudahan Sekolah/Asrama OA

E: Melati

F: PBR

G: Dewan

H: Balai Rawatan

I: Surau

J: Sukan

K: Tadika

L: Sekolah Rendah

M: Jum. Pelajar

N: Status Sekolah

O: (Sk. Sri Permai)

P: Asrama

Namun begitu, kemudahan air dan bekalan elektrik tidak dinyatakan dengan terperinci dalam maklumat pihak JAKOA (Unit Data Penyelidikan, Gua Musang, 2022). Perubahan pembangunan sosial merupakan fenomena yang akan berlaku dalam sesebuah masyarakat termasuk Orang Asli di RPS Pasik, Gua Musang yang telah mengalami sedikit perubahan namun masih memerlukan penambahbaikan seperti kenyataan bersama komuniti di bawah.

- **Isu Jalan Perhubungan**

Jalan perhubungan utama adalah jalan raya yang bersifat tanah merah. Hal ini menyebabkan Orang Asli sering berhadapan dengan isu jalan rosak kesan daripada hujan lebat dan keadaan ini menyukarkan mereka untuk menjalankan aktiviti harian seperti kenyataan di bawah:

...jalan keluar nak masuk ke Pasik agak susah sikit.....kalau tak hujan..jalan moleklah sikit tapi kalau hujan memang rosak teruklah...kami nak keluar ke bandar pun terputus..sebab banyak jalan runtuh dan tanah merah...kadang-kadang jalan rosak sebab banyak lori balak dan getah masuk

angkat balak dan getah...kadang-kadang sapa seminggu kami tak boleh keluar. Makan ala kadar dan apa yang ada jah..(FGD, Perkampungan Orang Asli, Gua Musang, 27 April 2022)

- **Kekurangan Bekalan Air Bersih dan Sistem Elektrik**

Sesetengah kawasan pedalaman perkampungan Orang Asli masih mengalami gangguan air, contohnya di Pos Pasik. Sebagai alternatif, mereka terpaksa menggunakan air tandak (air tadahan bukit). Seperti kenyataan di bawah:

... kita sini tak dok air paip kerajaan.....kalau ada pun tak bersih, air berkarat dan paip air lama...lama dah tak tukar..jadi kami guna air tandak saja lah. Minta bantuan ada dengan kerajaan tapi lama sikitlah syarikat air kata, kos tak cukup dan mahal kalu nak tukar paip baru... (FGD, Perkampungan Orang Asli, Gua Musang, 27 April 2022)

Selain itu, masalah bekalan elektrik sering terputus di kampung Pasik Beta, Perver masih berlaku di kawasan kampung-kampung kerana agak jauh pedalaman dan tidak dibaiki sepenuhnya serta memerlukan kos yang tinggi daripada pihak TNB.

- **Isu Hak Milik Tanah**

Isu tanah masih berterusan hingga kini kerana mereka masih belum memiliki tanah secara sah, seperti yang dinyatakan oleh salah seorang responden:

.... kalau ikutkan dari dulu lagi..kami ni tak dok geran lagi..ada juga dengar cerita, pasal tanah kami ni dah bawa ke peringkat atas tapi sekarang ni kami tak tahu sebab dengar

dengar banyak pihak terlibat. Tapi setakat ni tak da lagi yang kes halau kami dari tanah asal.....kami syukur doh tu.....(FGD, Perkampungan Orang Asli, Gua Musang, 27 April 2022)

Walaupun isu ini telah mendapat perhatian daripada pihak NGO dan bantuan JAKOA, namun sehingga kini, pihak Orang Asli masih belum mendapat maklum balas daripada pihak kerajaan dan Jabatan Kemajuan Orang Asli (JAKOA) berhubung perkara ini.

- **Isu Peluang Pekerjaan**

Kesukaran untuk mendapat peluang pekerjaan adalah antara isu dalam kalangan orang muda masyarakat Orang Asli, walaupun mereka berkelulusan tinggi di peringkat ijazah, diploma, sijil kemahiran serta memiliki syarat yang cukup, namun disebabkan berlakunya persaingan menyebabkan anak-anak mereka sering gagal mendapat pekerjaan yang lebih baik. Justeru itu, masih ramai pemuda-pemudi berhasrat untuk tinggal bersama keluarga di kampung. Salah seorang bapa kepada anak yang telah cuba memohon pekerjaan di sektor kerajaan menyatakan:

....anak-anak kami ada yang belajar di IPTA dan lulus sijil kemahiran...tapi anak kami tidak diberi peluang untuk bekerja dalam kerajaan. Pernah anak pakcik dipanggil untuk interview 3 kali untuk jadi guru tapi bila pegi...gagal interview sebab dia kata tak layak. Jadi anak-anak kami patah semangat....dan suka dok dengan kami saja..tak nak keluar dari sini. (FGD, Perkampungan Orang Asli, Gua Musang, 27 April 2022)

Ekonomi

Analisis dalam sektor ekonomi secara keseluruhan mendapati penduduk kampung Orang Asli di RPS Pasik adalah bekerja sendiri dan sara diri. Aktiviti ekonomi yang sering menjadi tumpuan mereka selain aktiviti pertanian adalah mendulang emas, menoreh getah, mencari hasil kayu gaharu, rotan dan menyumpit. Walaupun kemudahan jalan perhubungan adalah tanah merah, namun masyarakat Orang Asli tetap dibantu oleh pihak JAKOA dalam Projek Ladang Masyarakat Orang Asli (PLMOA) seluas 36.30 ekar dalam penanaman getah untuk meningkatkan sektor ekonomi dan menambahkan sumber pendapatan. Selain itu, mereka turut mempunyai dusun seluas 10 ekar untuk menjalankan aktiviti pertanian secara persendirian seperti penanaman pisang, ubi keledek, padi huma dan sebagainya (Rujuk jadual 4).

Jadual 26 Kemudahan Asas & Projek Ekonomi Orang Asli di RPS Pasik, Gua Musang, 2022

BIL	A	B		C		D			E		
		F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
1.	Pasik/ Beta	-	-	-	-	J	tiada	tiada	36.30 P	10 ekar	-
2.	Bering Baru	-	-	-	-		-	-			-
3.	Perwer	-	-	-	-		-	-	P		-
4.	Simpang	-	-	-	-		-	-	P		-
5.	Sugi (a)	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
	Sugi (B)	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-
6.	Ayong	-	-	-	-		-	-	P		-
7.	Serai	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

8.	Belaj	-	-	-	-		-	-			-
9.	Being Lama	-	-	-	-		-	-	P		-
10.	Bayor	-	-	-	-		-	-			-
11.	Lumbang	-	-	-	-		-	-			-
	Jumlah	-	-	-	-	1	-	-		214	-

Sumber: Jabatan Orang Asli Gua Musang, 2022

A: Nama Kampung

B: Bekalan air

C: Elektrik

D: Kemudahan jalan

E: Aktiviti Ekonomi

F: Sungai

G: Perigi

H: TNB

I: Solar

J: Tanah Merah

K: Denai

L: Sungai

M: Getah (hektar)

N: Dusun (ekar)

O: Ternak

P: PLMOA

- **Sumber Hutan**

Pekerjaan sendiri merangkumi penjualan sumber bukan makanan yang diperoleh daripada hutan, contohnya seperti kayu gaharu, nibong, umbut kelapa, dan herba. Berdasarkan maklumat daripada penduduk di RPS Pasik, aktiviti pencarian kayu gaharu menjadi pekerjaan utama penduduk dengan

hasilnya dijual seminggu sekali. Di samping itu, masyarakat Orang Asli juga mencari hasil hutan lain untuk dijadikan sebagai sumber pendapatan sampingan seperti mencari petai untuk dijual, menoreh getah, pertukangan dan sebagainya. Ada juga antara mereka yang tidak menjual hasil hutan tersebut malah dijadikan sumber makanan mereka sehari-hari. Antara hasil hutan yang biasanya menjadi sumber rezeki mereka termasuklah pucuk ubi, rebung, umbut kelapa, sayuran dan sebagainya. Mereka menjadikan sumber hutan sebagai sumber makanan demi mengurangkan bebanan kewangan mereka untuk membeli barangan keperluan seperti kenyataan di bawah;

Gambar 1 Aktiviti Penanaman Pisang, 2022



Sumber: : Lawatan & FDG Jun 2022

.... hasil kami dulu mewah..boleh cari hasil hutan seperti kayu gaharu dan jual dapat hasil lumayan juga. Tapi sekarang kami tak boleh cari sumber pendapat dah...sebab kalau nak masuk hutan kena ada permit daripada Jabatan Perhutanan untuk sekali masuk... (FGD, Perkampungan Orang Asli, Gua Musang, 27 April 2022).

Secara keseluruhannya, pendapatan yang boleh diperoleh oleh masyarakat di sini adalah sekitar RM 500 sebulan bagi sumber-sumber yang mereka peroleh terutama dari Projek Ladang Masyarakat Orang Asli (PLMOA). Namun begitu, menurut penduduk, pada masa ini sumber hutan dan pendapatan telah berkurangan kerana mengalami kepupusan sumber ekonomi akibat kesan daripada kegiatan pembangunan seperti pembalakan dan pelancongan. Walau bagaimanapun, mereka masih meneruskan aktiviti tersebut kerana sumber hutan merupakan kemahiran mereka untuk mendapatkan sumber pendapatan keluarga sejak turun - temurun.

- **Kos Keperluan Asas yang Tinggi**

Analisis secara keseluruhan mendapati Orang Asli tiada sumber pendapatan yang tetap dan ini menyukarkan perbelanjaan harian mereka kerana kos perbelanjaan yang semakin meningkat dan agak mahal. Salah seorang responden berkata:

...kita orang miskin, gaji pun tak dok ..hari-hari cari makan dalam hutan..kalu ada hasil adalah..kalu keluar hutan tak dok hasil..tak doklah.. ada juga kami pinjam dengan kawan-kawan RM30 kadang-kadang nak beli beras.....bayar tu lambat.....(FGD, Perkampungan Orang Asli, Gua Musang, 23 Jun 2022).

Selain pinjaman daripada rakan-rakan, ada juga antara mereka yang terpaksa mengambil upah bekerja di ladang getah dan mengikuti Projek Ladang Masyarakat Orang Asli (PLMOA) yang dianjurkan oleh pihak JAKOA.

- **Modal Tidak Mencukupi**

Maklumat daripada responden menyatakan bahawa mereka tiada halangan dalam aktiviti pertanian. Namun, disebabkan kekurangan modal, kebanyakan daripada mereka tidak dapat meneruskan aktiviti tersebut dalam jangka masa yang lama. Salah seorang responden juga menceritakan tentang pencerobohan binatang liar di kebun mereka:

...kami ni bukan malas...tapi sebab nak tanam pisang atau bekebun sikit-sikit ambil modal juga...barang mahal nak beli. Kalu bekebun kadang-kadang rugi sebab kena kacau dengan binatang liar seperti kera, babi hutan dan gajah pun ada...kalau bulan lepas..habis jagung kami rosak...rugi jah... (FGD, Perkampungan Orang Asli, Gua Musang, 23 Jun 2022).

Tambahan pula, jalan perkampungan mereka agak jauh dan berada di pedalaman. Mereka terpaksa mengambil masa yang lama untuk mendapatkan barangan asas yang diperlukan untuk kegiatan pertanian. Kekangan dari segi sistem pengangkutan yang lemah dan keadaan jalan tanah merah yang kurang baik menyukarkan lagi perjalanan mereka. Selain itu, kebanyakan daripada mereka tiada kepakaran dalam bidang ekonomi dan tidak berpelajaran tinggi. Pandangan ini dikongsi seperti di bawah;

....tak ramai golongan kami yang belajar tinggi..ada sampai darjah 6 dan yang tingkatan 3...jadi ada yang terpaksa buat kerja kebun sahaja lah nak cari makan.....ada juga kursus ekonomi dari pihak JAKOA buat tapi tak ramai yang ikut kerana tidak ada masa sesuai... (FGD, Perkampungan Orang Asli, Gua Musang, 23 Jun 2022).

- **Tiada Tempat Pengumpulan Hasil Pertanian**

Walaupun terdapat penduduk RPS yang masih meneruskan kegiatan pertanian, mereka mengalami masalah tidak ada tempat pengumpulan hasil pertanian. Justeru itu, mereka terpaksa menjual hasil tanaman mereka seperti jagung, cili, sayur kepada orang tengah dengan harga yang terlalu murah dan merugikan petani-petani RPS tersebut. Faktor masa dan cuaca yang tidak menentu juga merupakan punca-punca utama kerosakan hasil pertanian, mengakibatkan kerugian lebih serius dalam kalangan petani-petani Orang Asli RPS. Hasil pertanian mereka juga rosak kerana tidak dijual berpunca seperti kenyataan di bawah:

.... tapi itulah hasil pertanian boleh diloging saja....persaingan juga pada kami. Jadi kita patut ambil peluang ini dengan adakan pusat pengumpulan hasil sayur-sayuran untuk masyarakat kami. Kalau ada pusat macam ini orang ramai tidak perlu berkunjung ke cameron highlands lagi. Kami di RPS Pasik ada juga hasil pertanian. (FGD, Perkampungan Orang Asli, Gua Musang, 27 April 2022).

PERANAN KERAJAAN

Matlamat pelaksanaan pembangunan ekonomi kerajaan yang telah dilaksanakan oleh pihak JAKOA adalah Projek Ladang Masyarakat Orang Asli (PLMOA) termasuk di RPS Pasik, Gua Musang. Projek ini merupakan projek perintis tanaman getah yang berasaskan konsep perladangan dengan upah berinsentif kepada masyarakat Orang Asli dengan tujuan untuk meningkatkan pendapatan dan taraf

hidup masyarakat Orang Asli yang masih dibelenggu dengan isu kemiskinan.

Setelah diperhalusi dengan teliti dari segi polisi dan tindakan yang dilaksanakan oleh pihak JAKOA dalam aspek sosioekonomi, didapati, mereka telah mengalami perubahan dalam aspek corak sosioekonomi kehidupan mereka antaranya, mengadakan sesi dialog bersama pegawai pertanian JAKOA dalam Projek Ladang Masyarakat Orang Asli yang telah dilaksanakan pada tahun 2013, mengikuti kursus dalam perladangan pada tahun 2013 dan penglibatan penanaman projek ubi keledak bersama JAKOA pada 2008 dengan 20 orang peserta untuk membantu menjana pendapatan. Namun begitu, budaya hidup masih dikekalkan terutama makanan dan etika komunikasi dalam masyarakat mereka.

Jika diteliti tidak ada perancangan yang jelas bagi membangunkan masyarakat setempat yang telah dinyatakan dalam Rancangan Tempatan Jajahan Gua Musang, 2007-2020 kerana sebarang pembangunan adalah tertakluk kepada Rancangan Tempatan Daerah Gua Musang, Akta Jabatan Perhutanan Negara (1984) dan Peruntukan Enakmen Tanah Negeri Kelantan (1938). Walaupun perkampungan Orang Asli RPS Pasik, Gua Musang telah diiktiraf oleh Jabatan JAKOA namun, lokasi perkampungan mereka terletak di bawah rezab hutan. Tidak ada sebarang bentuk cadangan yang melibatsama masyarakat Orang Asli sebagai sebahagian dari rakan kongsi untuk membuat keputusan dan memberikan pendapat. Justeru itu, adalah disarankan agar masyarakat setempat khususnya Orang Asli

wajar diberi peluang dan ruang untuk meningkatkan keupayaan masyarakat (*capacity building*), membangunkan infrastruktur fizikal (*physical development*) dan menentukan keperluan bagi memastikan pembangunan sosioekonomi yang dilaksanakan oleh pihak kerajaan dapat memberi manfaat kepada masyarakat dan bersifat mampan.

KESIMPULAN

Sosioekonomi masyarakat Orang Asli di RPS Pasik, Gua Musang masih di tahap sederhana yang mana mereka masih meneruskan aktiviti ekonomi berorientasikan sara hidup dan menggunakan pendekatan tradisional iaitu pertanian, berburu dan berkebun secara kecil-kecilan. Manakala pembangunan sosial yang merangkumi aspek kemudahan, keperluan asas dan infrastruktur seperti jalanraya, surau, sekolah telah mula dinikmati oleh masyarakat tersebut. Namun masih berada pada tahap yang kurang memuaskan. Justeru itu, SDG yang berkaitan – SDG1 (Basmi Kemiskinan), SDG 2 (Sifar Kebuluran), SDG8 (Pekerjaan yang baik dan pertumbuhan ekonomi, SDG9 (Industri, inovasi dan infrastruktur), SDG10 (Ketidaksamaan gender), SDG17 (Kerjasama demi matlamat).

Oleh yang demikian, Kerajaan Pusat, Kerajaan Negeri dan pihak JAKOA yang terlibat perlu membentuk kerjasama erat demi menjaga kepentingan komuniti ini terutamanya dalam pembangunan sosioekonomi. Selain itu, semua pihak perlu menyedari bahawa kawasan ini juga merupakan kawasan penempatan masyarakat Orang Asli yang mana mereka mempunyai hak ke atas tanah mereka. Pengiktirafan

hak tanah perlu dijamin dalam usaha membangunkan kawasan ini. Pemantauan dan penguatkuasaan oleh agensi terlibat perlu ditingkatkan dan satu bentuk gandingan kerjasama pemantauan perlu diselaraskan agar tidak ada agensi yang lepas tangan dalam sebarang bentuk penguatkuasaan. Sebarang bentuk pembangunan komersial yang tidak terkawal perlu dielakkan agar masyarakat Orang Asli berupaya membangun seiring dengan masyarakat Malaysia yang lain. Oleh itu, penambahbaikan masih diperlukan untuk meningkatkan kualiti hidup masyarakat Orang Asli selaras dengan pembangunan negara yang berorientasikan lestari terhadap semua golongan termasuk masyarakat Orang Asli di Malaysia.

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Chapter 6

PERUMAHAN TERBENGGKALAI: SUATU KAJIAN KES PENDUDUK KAMPUNG BUNGA RAYA, SUNGAI BULOH, SELANGOR

Dr Nurfarhana Che Awang

ABSTRAK

Di Malaysia, fenomena projek perumahan terbengkalai semakin meningkat dan sering menjadi polemik pelbagai pihak. Isu ini seolah tiada penyelesaian dan melibatkan pelbagai pihak berkepentingan seperti agensi kerajaan, pihak swasta dan pihak pembeli. Fenomena ini seolah membentuk '*domino effects*' yang akhirnya memberi kesan yang besar terutamanya kepada pihak pembeli kerana mengakibatkan kerugian wang dan masa. Faktornya disebabkan oleh dasar dan undang-undang perumahan negara yang digubal seolah-olah tidak memihak kepada rakyat (pembeli), sebaliknya memihak kepada golongan kapitalis iaitu pemaju perumahan. Kajian kes ini memfokuskan kepada projek perumahan Kampung Bunga Raya yang telah terbengkalai selama 30 tahun. Fokus utama kajian ini adalah apakah faktor-faktor yang menyebabkan projek perumahan Kampung Bunga Raya terbengkalai walaupun pelbagai usaha telah diambil dan dilaksanakan oleh pelbagai pihak. Kajian ini amat penting untuk diterokai kerana isu projek perumahan Kampung Bunga Raya memberi impak yang besar kepada penduduk yang terlibat serta hasil kajian ini dapat mewakili

suara masyarakat terpinggir yang menghadapi isu yang sama di seluruh Malaysia. Oleh itu, hasil dapatan kajian telah menunjukkan bahawa faktor kepada terbengkalainya projek perumahan Kampung Bunga Raya ini berpunca daripada pemanipulasian, penyelewengan, dan penipuan pihak tidak bertanggungjawab terhadap penduduk Kampung Bunga Raya. Maka dengan itu, kajian kes ini merupakan suatu kes yang sangat menarik untuk dikupas dan dikaji dalam menilai apakah isu, kesan, polisi dan implikasi dasar terhadap kes yang terjadi.

PENGENALAN

Projek perumahan terbengkalai merupakan suatu fenomena yang agak membimbangkan terutamanya berlaku di negeri-negeri yang membangun. Hal ini kerana projek perumahan terbengkalai ini membentuk '*dominos effects*' yang akhirnya membawa kepada permasalahan sosioekonomi, alam sekitar dan sebagainya. Isu ini dapat dilihat dalam kajian kes Kampung Bunga Raya ekoran daripada projek pembinaan perumahan terbengkalai sejak hampir 30 tahun terdahulu. Impak kepada projek perumahan terbengkalai ini telah memberi kesan yang besar kepada pelbagai aspek seperti kehilangan kerja, hakisan tanah, tanah runtuh, masalah sosioekonomi, psikologi dan sebagainya. Malahan, undang-undang terhadap projek perumahan terbengkalai turut dilihat tidak dapat melindungi pembeli daripada menjadi mangsa pihak pemaju.

Secara ringkasnya, penduduk Kampung Bunga Raya merupakan penduduk dari kawasan setinggan yang terletak

di Desa Subang Permai, Sungai Buloh, Selangor. Mereka telah berpindah ke Kampung Bunga Raya sejak 29 tahun dahulu. Perpindahan ini melibatkan seramai 118 penduduk yang terdiri daripada majoriti kaum India, 4 orang Melayu dan 1 orang Cina. Kesemua bersetuju untuk berpindah ke Kampung Bunga Raya selepas mencapai kata sepakat dan persetujuan bersama pemaju dan para pemimpin rakyat.

Metodologi kajian kes ini berbentuk kualitatif dengan menggunakan kaedah pengumpulan data melalui empat cara. Kaedah pertama adalah melalui temu bual secara mendalam (*in-depth interview*), kaedah kedua melalui kumpulan tumpu bincang (*focus group discussion, FGD*). Kedua-dua kaedah telah dijalankan oleh sekumpulan penyelidik daripada *All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia-Sustainable Development Goals* (APPGM-SDG). Kaedah ini melibatkan seramai 12 orang penduduk Kampung Bunga Raya sebagai responden. Kaedah ketiga adalah melalui analisis dokumen yang diperolehi daripada sumber kedua seperti internet dan dokumen-dokumen rasmi serta tidak rasmi. Manakala, kaedah keempat adalah melalui pemerhatian lapangan. Gabungan keempat-empat kaedah pengumpulan data ini telah melahirkan triangulasi data dan membentuk keabsahan terhadap kajian kes ini.

Berdasarkan dapatan kajian melalui temubual secara mendalam, analisis dokumen; pemerhatian lapangan serta FGD. Maka, struktur perbincangan kajian kes ini akan dipecahkan kepada tiga bahagian utama. Bahagian pertama akan membincangkan tentang pengenalan, latar belakang atau konteks dan isu yang mendasari kajian kes ini. Bahagian

kedua akan mengupas soal isu perumahan terbelenggu dan maklum balas daripada pihak kerajaan berhubung projek perumahan terbelenggu. Bahagian ketiga, akan membincangkan analisis kajian kes dan polisi yang dicadangkan serta pengaplikasian matlamat pembangunan lestari terhadap kajian yang dilaksanakan. Ketiga-tiga bahagian dalam perbincangan kajian kes ini adalah bertujuan untuk mengenalpasti apakah isu utama permasalahan yang dihadapi oleh peneroka Kampung Bunga Raya, apakah langkah penyelesaian yang dilakukan oleh pihak berkuasa dan apakah polisi rekomenasi yang boleh dilaksanakan dalam menyelesaikan permasalahan projek perumahan terbelenggu yang dihadapi oleh penduduk Kampung Bunga Raya sejak hampir 30 tahun yang lalu.

KONTEKS DAN ISU

Latar masa kajian kes ini bermula tahun 1993. Sebelum tahun 1993, penduduk Kampung Bunga Raya adalah penduduk setinggan di Desa Subang Permai. Apabila pihak kerajaan berhasrat untuk memajukan kawasan penempatan setinggan kepada pembinaan lot-lot perumahan banglo mewah, penduduk setinggan di Desa Subang Permai telah bersetuju untuk berpindah ke penginapan sementara (Rumah Panjang) di Kampung Bunga Raya pada 30 Jun 1994 dengan beberapa syarat dan tawaran yang ditawarkan oleh pihak pemaju. Antara syarat persetujuan adalah penduduk akan menginap di rumah panjang transit di Kampung Bunga Raya selama 18 bulan sementara menunggu projek perumahan kos rendah 'Pangsapuri Seri Bunga Raya' yang dijangka dan dijanjikan akan siap dalam tempoh kurang daripada 2 tahun. Selain itu,

pihak pemaju juga berjanji untuk memberi wang pampasan bernilai RM 7000 kepada setiap keluarga sebagai salah satu syarat persetujuan perpindahan. Pihak penduduk juga dijanjikan bahawa pihak pemaju akan menanggung segala bil utiliti seperti elektrik dan bil air sehingga projek perumahan kos rendah tersebut siap dibina. Persetujuan penduduk turut berlangsung atas dasar kepercayaan kepada pemimpin masyarakat (ketua kampung dan pemimpin parti). Demikian juga, perpindahan yang melibatkan seramai 118 penduduk ini berlaku tanpa sebarang proses dokumentasi atau akur janji daripada pihak pemimpin dan pemaju.

Sehingga kini projek perumahan kos rendah Sri Bunga Raya masih belum siap dibangunkan oleh pihak pemaju seperti dijanjikan menyebabkan penduduk masih kekal di rumah panjang transit di Kampung Bunga Raya walaupun tempoh masa telah berlalu hampir 30 tahun. Penduduk juga menyedari bahawa proses tuntutan wang pampasan adalah sukar kerana proses permohonan harus melalui pihak kedua (*proxies*). Pengurusan wang pampasan ini diletakkan di bawah pengurusan Pihak Berkuasa Tempatan (PBT) iaitu Majlis Bandaraya Shah Alam (MBSA) oleh pihak Pemaju Sinar Fadzilat. Sementara itu, penduduk turut mengalami masalah menyelesaikan tunggakan bil air yang berjumlah RM 29,724.77 dan mereka tidak berkemampuan untuk menampung kos pembayaran bil air tersebut.²² Akibatnya, bekalan air telah dipotong oleh pihak SYABAS dan penduduk

²² Dokumen daripada Pejabat Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri Selangor, Kota Damansara bertarikh 19 Mac 2009 dan juga salinan bil daripada pihak SYABAS bertarikh 19 Mac 2009.

terpaksa meneruskan kehidupan di Kampung Bunga Raya tanpa bekalan air yang bersih.²³

Pada tahun 2004 (selepas sepuluh tahun pemindahan penduduk dari Desa Subang Permai ke Kampung Bunga Raya), projek perumahan banglo mewah di tapak setinggan Desa Subang Permai berjaya disiapkan dan kini didiami oleh bekas-bekas pemimpin parti-parti masyarakat.²⁴ Namun, pemaju Sinar Fadzilat Sdn Bhd mengalami permasalahan aliran tunai yang menyebabkan projek pembinaan perumahan kos rumah rendah Pangsapuri Bunga Raya tidak dapat diteruskan.²⁵ Seterusnya, projek pembinaan Perumahan Kos Rumah Murah Rakyat telah diambil alih oleh pemaju baharu yang dikenali sebagai Unique Creations atas perlantikan pemaju Sinar Fadzilat Sdn Bhd sendiri.²⁶

Namun begitu, pemaju yang mengambil alih projek ini turut berhadapan dengan isu yang sama iaitu tidak dapat membangunkan projek perumahan tersebut, malahan pemaju Unique Creations turut diisytihar bankrap kerana mengalami permasalahan kekurangan aliran modal untuk

²³ Dokumen daripada Pejabat Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri Selangor, Kota Damansara bertarikh 19 Mac 2009 dan juga salinan bil daripada pihak SYABAS bertarikh 19 Mac 2009.

²⁴ Temu bual dengan masyarakat Peneroka Kampung Bunga Raya, 22 Oktober 2022 dan Kenyataan daripada Dokumen Pejabat Ahli Parlimen Pakatan Harapan, Sungai Buloh.

²⁵ Temu bual, FGD dan kenyataan Ahli Parlimen Pakatan Harapan, Sungai Buloh, Selangor, 22 dan 24 Oktober 2022, Selangor.

²⁶ Temu bual dengan Penduduk Kampung Bunga Raya, 23 Mac 2022, Selangor.

menyiapkan projek perumahan ini.²⁷ Melalui kajian ini, didapati bahawa kegagalan pelaksanaan projek perumahan oleh pemaju Unique Creations disebabkan oleh faktor ketidakstabilan dan ketidakutuhan modal daripada pengurusan pihak pemaju.²⁸

Kegagalan pemaju Unique Creations untuk menyiapkan projek perumahan Sri Bunga Raya telah menarik perhatian wakil ahli politik tempatan. Dalam suatu surat daripada pejabat Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri Selangor yang bertarikh 1 Februari 2012, dinyatakan bahawa perkara ini berlaku kerana pihak Pemaju Unique Creations mendapat tender projek perumahan melalui cara yang tidak beretika dan melalui kronisme dengan pihak kerajaan yang memerintah pada ketika itu. Pengamalan rasuah dan budaya kronisme, penyelewengan dana yang tinggi dalam kalangan pihak kerajaan (pemimpin masyarakat India) dan pemaju antara salah satu punca pembinaan rumah kos rendah di Kampung Bunga Raya gagal.²⁹ Bahkan, wujud juga penyelewengan wang pampasan bernilai RM 518,000 yang seharusnya menjadi milik Penduduk Kampung Bunga Raya telah diseleweng oleh pemimpin-pemimpin rakyat dan sehingga kini tiada siapa yang tahu ke mana sejumlah wang tersebut didepositkan. Penglibatan ahli politik dalam isu ini

²⁷ Temu bual, FGD dan kenyataan Ahli Parlimen Pakatan Harapan, Sungai Buloh, Selangor, 22 dan 24 Oktober 2022, Selangor.

²⁸ Kenyataan Surat daripada Pejabat Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri Selangor, Kota Damansara, 1 Februari 2012.

²⁹ Kenyataan Surat daripada Pejabat Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri Selangor, Kota Damansara, 1 Februari 2012.

menyebabkan kehidupan penduduk Kampung Bunga Raya terbiar tanpa sebarang pembelaan daripada pihak kerajaan atau mana-mana pihak.³⁰

Pada tahun 2008, berlaku perubahan landskap politik dan pertukaran kerajaan daripada blok kerajaan kepada blok pembangkang. Perubahan ini sedikit sebanyak telah memberi sinar harapan baharu kepada penduduk Kampung Bunga Raya dalam mendapatkan hak mereka dalam pembinaan projek perumahan terbengkalai. ADUN PKR dan ADUN Parti Sosialis Malaysia melantik pemaju baharu untuk membangunkan kembali projek perumahan kos rendah yang terbengkalai melalui pemaju ECL Management Sdn Bhd. Antara langkah awal yang dilakukan oleh kedua-dua ADUN adalah mengadakan perbincangan dengan kerajaan Negeri Selangor, Lembaga Hartanah Selangor, dan Datuk Bandar Majlis Bandaraya Shah Alam. Namun begitu, walaupun pelbagai usaha telah diambil dan diusahakan oleh pihak ADUN, projek tersebut tetap tidak berjaya dilaksanakan. Kekangan terbesar yang dihadapi oleh pemaju adalah kenaikan harga kos pembinaan yang menyukarkan proses untuk menyiapkan projek. Pihak pemaju terikat dan terpaksa membina dan menjual harga perumahan ini pada tangga harga asal iaitu RM42,000. Selain itu, pemaju juga berhadapan dengan isu wang pampasan bernilai RM 7000

³⁰ Temu bual dengan penduduk Kampung Bunga Raya, 22 Oktober 2022 dan Kenyataan daripada Dokumen Pejabat Ahli Parlimen Pakatan Harapan, Sungai Buloh. Serta kenyataan daripada dokumen surat Tetuan R. Kengadharan & Co Peguambela & Peguamcara pada muka surat 7 dan 8 bertarikh 25 November 2021.

yang telah dijanjikan oleh pihak pemaju terdahulu. Isu ini masih tidak dapat diselesaikan menyebabkan proses menandatangani perjanjian tidak dapat dilaksanakan antara pihak ECL Management dan penduduk.³¹

Isu yang seterusnya yang dihadapi oleh pemaju ECL Management melibatkan tunggakan cukai tafsiran dan cukai tanah yang ditinggalkan oleh pihak pemaju Unique Creations bernilai RM 1.8 juta yang terpaksa ditanggung oleh pihak ECL.³² Isu-isu lain yang terus menyukarkan penyiapan perumahan kos rendah tersebut termasuklah perubahan pelan pembangunan 3 blok kepada 2 blok melalui cadangan baharu, isu pecahan sempadan yang tidak dapat dilaksanakan kerana tiada dokumen atau plan asal sempadan blok dan isu pertindihan hak milik sah tanah antara pihak Pemaju Dania Emas dan individu persendirian turut telah menimbulkan permasalahan kepada pemaju ECL untuk membangunkan projek di Kampung Bunga Raya.

Pada tahun 2016, isu pemilikan hak tanah sah dibangkitkan oleh Tetuan Dania Emas kepada penduduk Kampung Bunga Raya dengan satu surat yang mengatakan bahawa Tetuan Dania Emas adalah pemilik sah yang

³¹ Temu bual dengan penduduk Kampung Bunga Raya, 22 Oktober 2022 dan Kenyataan daripada Dokumen Pejabat Ahli Parlimen Pakatan Harapan, Sungai Buloh.

³² Minit Mesyuarat Pemulihan Projek Perumahan Terbengkalai Bandar Pinggiran Subang Seksyen U5 Pemaju ECL Management Sdn Bhd dan Penyelesaian Isu dari Surat Lembaga Perumahan dan Hartanah Selangor, 13 Disember 2013.

berdaftar di bawah geran tanah bermula daripada lot 1586 sehingga PT 575 Mukim Bukit Raya. Tetuan Dania Emas telah berusaha membantu urusan perpindahan penduduk rumah panjang dengan cubaan memohon Projek Perumahan Rakyat (PPR) di Lembah Subang 2, Petaling Jaya bagi membantu dan menempatkan penduduk Kampung Bunga Raya. Pihak Dania Emas turut berurusan dengan Jabatan Perumahan Kementerian Kesejahteraan Bandar, Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan pada 20 November 2015 untuk membolehkan penduduk Kampung Bunga Raya berdaftar dan dipertimbangkan menerima tawaran untuk menetap di PPR.³³ Namun demikian, penduduk rumah panjang enggan berpindah dan menyebabkan pihak Tetuan Dania Emas menggunakan cara kekerasan dengan mengupah samseng untuk menghalau penduduk daripada berada di tapak tanah milik tetuan Dania Emas. Situasi ini telah menyebabkan penduduk Kampung Bunga Raya hidup dalam keadaan ketakutan.³⁴

Kesan daripada 30 tahun projek terbengkalai telah memberi kesan dari pelbagai sudut kepada penduduk Kampung Bunga Raya. Antaranya meliputi masalah sosial seperti dadah, ekonomi, kesihatan seperti penyakit denggi,

³³ Data surat daripada kenyataan Akhbar Skuad Cakna Sinar @Shahalam

³⁴ Surat Peguam dari R. Kengadharan & Co, pernyataan untuk meminta penghuni Rumah Panjang Berpindah, Salinan kepada Ketua Polis Negara, Kepada Biro Pengaduan Awam (BPA), 25 November 2021, 26 November 2021, 17 November 2021.

chikungunya,³⁵. Ketiadaan sistem pembentungan yang sistematik, banjir kilat, persekitaran kotor, serangan haiwan liar dan haiwan berbisa di kawasan kampung serta nama disenarai hitam oleh pihak bank.³⁶

SOROTAN KAJIAN

Kes projek perumahan terbengkalai penduduk Kampung Bunga Raya bukanlah merupakan satu-satunya kes yang terkesan akibat daripada kelemahan pihak pemaju. Hal ini kerana terdapat kajian yang merekodkan bahawa bermula sejak tahun 1986 Kementerian Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan (KPKT) telah merekodkan bahawa terdapat 126 skim projek perumahan terbengkalai yang diusahakan oleh pihak pemaju swasta.³⁷ Jumlah projek perumahan terbengkalai direkodkan pada masa itu berjumlah 14,568 yang melibatkan seramai 6,834 pembeli yang terkesan. Situasi yang membimbangkan ini terjadi berterusan sehingga ke hari ini, yang mana laporan statistik daripada Bahagian

³⁵ Temu bual dengan Penduduk Rumah Panjang, 22 Oktober 2022, Kampung Bunga Raya.

³⁶ Temu bual dengan masyarakat Peneroka Kampung Bunga Raya, 22 Oktober 2022 dan Borang Temujanji, Rayuan dan aduan Pejabat Ahli Parlimen Subang, 13 Disember 2010.

³⁷ National Property Information Centre. (2019). Residential Property Stock Report. Retrieved from https://napic.jp-ph.gov.my/portal/web/guest/publication?p_p_id=ViewPublishings_WAR_ViewPublishingsportlet&p_p_lifecycle=2&p_p_state=normal&p_p_mode=view&p_p_resource_id=fileDownload&p_p_cacheability=cacheLevelPage&p_p_col_id=column-1&p_p_col_count=1&_ViewP.

Perumahan Negara (NHD) Kementerian Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan (KPKT) mencatatkan jumlah projek perumahan terbengkalai meningkat setiap tahun bermula pada tahun 2013 sehingga tahun 2019.³⁸ Laporan statistik pada tahun 2017 mencatatkan projek perumahan terbengkalai sebanyak 254 unit projek perumahan terbengkalai bersamaan dengan 37.38 peratus daripada jumlah 172,924 keseluruhan unit rumah yang diluluskan.³⁹

Walau bagaimanapun, kes projek perumahan terbengkalai penduduk Kampung Bunga Raya boleh dijadikan batu asas terhadap kajian pengukuran kes perumahan terbengkalai di Malaysia. Ini kerana kes ini merupakan antara kes yang terawal yang direkodkan terjadi di Malaysia terutamanya Selangor. Malahan, ia juga merupakan sebuah kes yang unik yang melibatkan pelbagai isu yang mempengaruhi kegagalan pelaksanaan projek perumahan yang telah berlangsung hampir 30 tahun. Ia merupakan suatu kes yang sangat menarik untuk dikupas dan dikaji dalam menilai apakah isu, kesan, polisi dan implikasi dasar terhadap projek-projek perumahan terbengkalai.

³⁸ Ibid

³⁹National Property Information Centre. (2019). Residential Property Stock Report. Retrieved from https://napic.jp-ph.gov.my/portal/web/guest/publication?p_p_id=ViewPublishings_WAR_ViewPublishingsportlet&p_p_lifecycle=2&p_p_state=normal&p_p_mode=view&p_p_resource_id=fileDownload&p_p_cacheability=cacheLevelPage&p_p_col_id=column-1&p_p_col_count=1&_ViewP.

Menurut laporan daripada Jabatan Perumahan Negara (JPN), sejak tahun 1990 sehingga 2005 memperlihatkan sejumlah 261 projek terbengkalai telah dilaporkan, yang mana telah melibatkan sebanyak 63 projek dengan melibatkan sebanyak 32, 987 projek perumahan yang terbengkalai yang telah menjejaskan sebanyak 22,480 pembeli. Jumlah projek perumahan terbengkalai ini semakin meningkat saban tahun dan mengikut laporan terbaharu pada 2010 mencatatkan lebih daripada 45,339 unit perumahan terbengkalai direkodkan yang memerlukan RM 3 bilion hingga RM 5 billion untuk menyiapkan kembali projek yang terbengkalai (N.F Arifin et al., 2018).

Ke semua projek terbengkalai yang direkodkan ini berhadapan dengan cabaran aliran tunai untuk menampung kos pelaksanaan, lebih masa dari tarikh yang dijangkakan, isu keselamatan yang lemah di tapak pembinaan dan kualiti pembinaan yang rendah. Oleh itu dapat disimpulkan bahawa faktor utama yang menyebabkan projek perumahan terbengkalai disebabkan oleh sistem pengamalan kontrak yang tidak praktikal, kelemahan undang-undang dan tadbir urus dalam industri projek pembinaan yang telah menyebabkan timbulnya masalah kegagalan dalam pengurusan aliran tunai yang telah menyebabkan kegagalan untuk menyiapkan projek seperti yang dirancang (Hoe, 2013; Nur Farhana et at., 2018b; Haron et al., 2019; Mikail et al., 2018; Khalid, 2010; Tan, 2011; Abdul Razak, 2015; Md. Dahlan, 2011b). Kesemua faktor yang dibincangkan memiliki persamaan dan perhubungan dengan projek perumahan terbengkalai yang dihadapi oleh Penduduk Kampung Bunga Raya.

TINDAKAN KERAJAAN & UNDANG-UNDANG

Isu kajian kes projek perumahan Kampung Bunga Raya telah memperlihatkan campur tangan pelbagai pihak dan beberapa usaha dilaksanakan bagi membantu membangunkan kembali projek perumahan kos rumah rendah Pangsapuri Sri Bunga Raya. Sebagai contohnya, tahun 2009, Kerajaan di bawah Pakatan Rakyat telah cuba untuk membantu dan memulihkan kembali projek perumahan terbengkalai yang dihadapi oleh penduduk Kampung Bunga Raya. Salah satu usaha yang dilakukan adalah dengan melantik kembali pemaju baharu yang dikenali sebagai ECL Management dan usaha ini telah diambil dengan kerjasama ADUN Damansara dan Menteri Besar Selangor. Perbincangan ini turut membentuk satu Jawatankuasa Khas Projek Perumahan Terbengkalai di bawah Kerajaan Negeri Selangor.⁴⁰ Pemaju wakil daripada pihak politik iaitu pihak ECL Management juga turut berbincang dengan pihak bank berhubung dengan pinjaman supaya pinjaman mereka disambung kembali tanpa meletakkan apa-apa syarat kenaikan harga rumah. ADUN turut juga memohon daripada kerajaan negeri agar diberikan pengecualian cukai untuk membolehkan pemaju mendirikan

⁴⁰ Minit Mesyuarat Pemulihan Projek Perumahan Terbengkalai Bandar Pinggiran Subang Seksyen U5 Pemaju ECL Management Sdn Bhd dan Penyelesaian Isu dari Surat Lembaga Perumahan dan Hartanah Selangor, 13 Disember 2013.

rumah, tetapi permohonan tersebut tidak diterima oleh kerajaan negeri.⁴¹

Pada tahun 2004, pihak ADUN Kota Damansara telah berbincang dengan Syarikat Perumahan Negara Berhad untuk menyelesaikan projek perumahan terbengkalai. Namun, usaha ke arah untuk menyelesaikan permasalahan ini tidak dicapai oleh pihak ADUN. Permasalahan perumahan terbengkalai Kampung Bunga Raya telah turut melalui pelbagai pihak iaitu Kerajaan Negeri Selangor, Pejabat ADUN dan Parlimen. Malahan, pelbagai permasalahan telah turut cuba diselesaikan melalui pelbagai perbincangan dengan pihak Majlis Bandaraya Shah Alam, Pemaju Penyelamat, EXCO Perumahan Kerajaan Negeri dan pihak-pihak lain namun projek perumahan terbengkalai Kampung Bunga Raya masih tidak dapat diselesaikan.

Antaranya kerana Syarikat Mustapha Raj menghadapi kesukaran untuk menyiapkan projek Kampung Bunga Raya kerana hak milik lot PT1 telah dipindahkan kepada individu tanpa pengetahuan pelikuidasi. Oleh itu, di bawah Akta Syarikat 1965 dan Kanun Peringkat Kebangsaan 1965, pelikuidasi memfailkan tindakan undang-undang untuk menuntut semula tanah tersebut. Sekiranya ia tidak selesai, kerajaan negeri perlu memulakan proses pengambilan tanah di bawah Akta Pengambilan Tanah 1960. Selain itu, Projek

⁴¹ Minit Mesyuarat Pemulihan Projek Perumahan Terbengkalai Bandar Pinggiran Subang Seksyen U5 Pemaju ECL Management Sdn Bhd dan Penyelesaian Isu dari Surat Lembaga Perumahan dan Hartanah Selangor, 13 Disember 2013.

Perumahan Terbengkalai dalam Pembangunan Perumahan (Akta Kawalan dan Pelesenan 1966) boleh diandaikan sebagai undang-undang sedia ada yang boleh dilihat dalam menangani isu-isu secara langsung dan tidak langsung berkenaan Projek Seri Bunga Raya. Namun, akta ini nampaknya tidak konsisten dalam menghuraikan atau mentakrifkan definisi projek perumahan terbengkalai di Malaysia berikutan perubahan yang kerap berlaku dalam definisi undang-undang. Sepatutnya, akta projek perumahan terbengkalai itu perlu ditakrifkan dengan jelas dan perlu mempunyai definisi undang-undang dan berkanun untuk mengawal sebarang eksploitasi tugas dan kuasa oleh pemaju (Md. Dahlan, 2008). Segala takrifan definisi projek ditetapkan di bawah Kementerian Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan (MHLG).

Seterusnya, perlindungan hak pembeli rumah adalah jelas termaktub dalam Akta Kawalan dan Pelesenan Perumahan dan Pembangunan 1966. Peruntukan akta ini digubal khususnya bersama pemaju perumahan bagi membolehkan Kementerian Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan mengambil tindakan terhadap pemaju yang tidak bertanggungjawab dan melindungi pembeli rumah daripada menjadi mangsa projek perumahan terbengkalai. Antara peruntukan yang digubal bagi langkah-langkah pencegahan adalah seperti di Seksyen 5 Akta yang menyebut hanya pemaju perumahan berlesen sahaja dibenarkan terlibat dengan pembangunan perumahan. Seksyen 6A Akta juga membincangkan deposit yang perlu dibayar oleh pemaju perumahan kepada pengawal yang mana ia menyebut bahawa wang itu hendaklah disimpan oleh pihak kedua

sehingga tamat tempoh tanggungan kecacatan projek pembangunan perumahan yang telah ditetapkan dengan jelas dalam perjanjian jual beli. Terdapat banyak akta di bawah Akta Kawalan Perumahan dan Pembangunan dan Perlesenan 1966 untuk melindungi pembeli rumah. Contohnya, Bahagian 6 Akta tersebut telah menetapkan peruntukan yang berkaitan dengan tribunal untuk pembeli rumah membuat tuntutan yang ditubuhkan di bawah Seksyen 16B melalui pindaan Akta Kawalan dan Pelesenan Pembangunan Perumahan pada tahun 2002. Fokus utama tribunal adalah untuk memastikan tiada halangan bagi pembeli membeli rumah yang diinginkan. Bagaimanapun, situasi semasa seperti kes Kampung Bunga Raya menunjukkan pembeli rumah menghadapi kesukaran atau pilihan terhad untuk menyelesaikan pertikaian yang melibatkan pemaju yang tidak bertanggungjawab dalam isu projek perumahan terbengkalai. Oleh itu, pilihan terhad yang disediakan oleh tribunal semasa untuk pembeli rumah diperlukan dalam membantu pembeli rumah yang terjejas untuk projek perumahan terbengkalai.

ANALISIS KAJIAN KES DAN POLISI REKOMENDASI

Berdasarkan analisis dapatan kajian daripada keempat-empat kaedah menunjukkan bahawa kajian kes Projek Perumahan Terbengkalai di Kampung Bunga Raya dapat dibincangkan melalui empat isu. Isu pertama melibatkan isu politik, isu kedua melibatkan undang-undang dan regulasi, isu ketiga melibatkan sosial dan ekonomi, dan keempat isu psikologi. Keempat-empat isu ini akan menerangkan secara terperinci motif dan isu yang mendasari terhadap kes

perumahan terbengkalai yang terjadi sejak 29 tahun yang lalu dan sehingga kini isu ini masih menjadi polemik dan tidak dapat diselesaikan sehingga kini.

- **Isu Politik, Penindasan, Penyelewengan dan Rasuah**

Hasil kajian menunjukkan bahawa persetujuan untuk berpindah diambil atas dasar kepercayaan masyarakat kampung terhadap pemimpin mereka iaitu ketua kampung dan pemimpin parti masyarakat India.⁴² Perpindahan berlangsung dalam keadaan pengeksploitasian halus antara pemimpin masyarakat dengan penduduk tanpa diketahui oleh mereka. Malahan turut difahami bawah projek pembinaan perumahan kos rumah rendah untuk penduduk Kampung Bunga Raya dibina di atas dasar pengeksploitasian oleh ahli politik dan pihak pemaju yang mengakibatkan kegagalan untuk pemaju-pemaju lain untuk memajukan perumahan terbengkalai.⁴³ Ini dapat dilihat apabila terdapat laporan yang menyatakan bahawa wujud isu pertikaian kepemilikan dan isu permasalahan untuk pecah sempadan apabila tiada rekod kelulusan pecah sempadan daripada Pejabat Tanah dan Galian Selangor yang menyebabkan pihak pemaju penyelamat tidak dapat meneruskan pembinaan projek perumahan yang terbengkalai. Bahkan, pihak pemaju penyelamat turut membuat carian rekod kelulusan pecah

⁴² Temu bual dengan penduduk Kampung Bunga Raya, 22 Oktober 2022.

⁴³ Temu bual dengan penduduk Rumah Panjang Kampung Bunga Raya, 22 Oktober 2022 dan Kenyataan Politik daripada dokumen dari Pejabat Ahli Parlimen Sungai Buloh.

sempadan di Majlis Bandaraya Shah Alam namun tiada rekod dicatatkan. Keadaan ini secara terang-terangan menunjukkan bahawa pembinaan projek perumahan kos rendah yang dijalankan oleh pihak pemaju dan pihak kerajaan pada tahun 1994 kepada penduduk Kampung Bunga Raya melibatkan unsur ketidakjujuran dan wujud isu penggelapan dalam pembinaan projek ini dalam kalangan pihak pemimpin dan pemaju.⁴⁴ Bahkan, turut wujud pemanipulasian dan eksploitasi apabila kerap berlaku penukaran pemaju yang telah mengambil-alih projek ini dan difahamkan pemaju yang mengambil alih projek perumahan ini memiliki hubungan kronisme dengan pemimpin parti politik serta pemaju tidak memiliki reputasi syarikat yang berkualiti untuk menjalankan projek berskala besar.⁴⁵

Perasaan pengeksploitasian, penindasan dan ketidakjujuran yang dirasai oleh penduduk Kampung Bunga Raya bertentangan dengan teras 10.2 matlamat pembangunan lestari: Memperjuangkan serta ingin memperkasakan ketidakupayaan kaum, etnik, asal usul, agama, status ekonomi dan sebagainya dalam memberikan hak kepada semua kaum. Hak mereka seharusnya dipelihara dan selari dengan kesemua masyarakat dalam memastikan

⁴⁴ Temu bual dengan Penduduk Kampung Bunga raya, 22 Oktober 2022 dan kenyataan daripada Minit Mesyuarat Pemulihan Projek Perumahan Terbengkalai Bandar Pinggiran Subang Seksyen U5 Pemaju ECL Management Sdn Bhd dan Penyelesaian Isu dari Surat Lembaga Perumahan dan Hartanah Selangor, 13 Disember 2013.

⁴⁵ Kenyataan Politik daripada dokumen dari Pejabat Ahli Parlimen Sungai Buloh.

tiada siapa yang ketinggalan dalam menuju kepada pembangunan mampan.

- **Undang-Undang dan Regulasi**

Analisis kajian turut menunjukkan bahawa undang-undang dan regulasi berhubung dengan projek perumahan terbengkalai yang terdapat di Malaysia tidak mencukupi untuk melindungi pembeli daripada risiko projek perumahan terbengkalai. Umpamanya, isu dapat dilihat daripada konteks definisi perumahan terbengkalai yang diwartakan oleh Kementerian Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan. Kajian mendapati bahawa definisi projek perumahan terbengkalai sering kali berubah-ubah dan tidak tetap pendefinisian dan persoalan mengapakah definisi projek perumahan ini tidak dapat ditetapkan dan kenapa sering kali berubah-ubah? Apakah undang-undang dan hukum dilaksanakan untuk melindungi warganegara daripada sebarang unsur penipuan dan pengeksploitasian atau berpihak kepada golongan kapitalis? Ini kerana seharusnya sesuatu undang-undang atau dasar negara harus selari dan selaras dengan matlamat pembangunan mampan yang wujud pada teras 10.3 iaitu untuk memastikan peluang sama rata dan mengurangkan keputusan yang tidak adil, termasuk menghapuskan undang-undang, dasar dan amalan yang bersifat diskriminasi, serta mengalakkan perundangan, dasar dan tindakan yang sesuai dalam hal ini.

Di Malaysia, sememangnya telah wujud akta dan undang-undang untuk melindungi pembeli rumah daripada ketidakjujuran dan pengeksploitasian daripada pihak pemaju. Antaranya Akta 1966 di bawah *Housing dan*

Development (Control dan Licensing). Akta ini memperuntukkan kawalan dan lesen kepada syarikat pemaju perumahan. Akta ini turut memperuntukkan hak kepada kementerian untuk mengambil apa-apa tindakan terhadap mana-mana pemaju yang tidak bertanggungjawab dan pembeli yang menjadi mangsa terhadap projek perumahan terbengkalai. *Section 5(4)* pula memperuntukkan bahawa mana-mana syarikat yang ingin memohon lesen sebagai pemaju harus menyediakan dan membayar kepada Bahagian Kawalan Perumahan (*Controller of Housing*) untuk melindungi daripada pemaju tidak bertanggungjawab terhadap projek perumahan dan banyak lagi akta-akta lain yang berkaitan. Di bawah Akta 1966 juga telah memperuntukkan tribunal perumahan untuk mangsa-mangsa menuntut hak mereka (pembeli rumah) yang terkandung di bawah Seksyen 16B (Amin, Kassim & Suffian, 2013). Walau bagaimanapun, menurut Sibly et al., (2017) menyatakan pembeli hanya boleh menuntut hak mereka jika perumahan mereka bernilai bawah RM 50,000 dan ini menunjukkan bahawa akta Tribunal perumahan tidak berkesan untuk merawat permasalahan yang dihadapi oleh pembeli dan akta ini tidak berkesan untuk menghukum pemaju yang tidak bertanggungjawab (Ariffin & Abdul Razak, 2019; Abdullah, Ramly & Ikhsan, 2017; Samah & Wahab, 2016). Oleh itu, berdasarkan kepada akta dan undang-undang berhubung projek perumahan terbengkalai telah wujud di Malaysia dan ia turut boleh diguna pakai kepada kajian kes penduduk Kampung Bunga Raya. Namun begitu, dalam kajian kes ini, isu ini melibatkan penduduk yang tidak memiliki pendedahan ilmu terhadap hak dan literasi undang-

undang menyebabkan mereka dieksploitasi dan terdedah kepada kepelbagaian penipuan daripada pelbagai pihak.

Selain daripada itu, data kajian turut menemui bahawa projek perumahan terbengkalai terjadi hasil daripada penjanjian kontrak yang tidak adil dan saksama antara pembeli dan pihak bank. Keadaan ini telah mengakibatkan penduduk Kampung Bunga Raya terbeban dan terpaksa menanggung beban hutang walaupun projek perumahan mereka tidak siap mengikut masa yang ditetapkan. Situasi ini telah menyebabkan nama mereka disenarai hitam daripada sistem perbankan. Hal ini dapat dikaitkan dengan ketidakadilan dan kesaksamaan yang terjadi dan wujud isu penindasan dan ketidakadilan dalam perjanjian jual beli. Seharusnya risiko projek perumahan terbengkalai tidak seharusnya diletakkan seratus peratus beban kepada pembeli dan seharusnya beban ini harus dikongsi bersama dengan pihak bank untuk mengelakkan pembeli menanggung beban hutang yang bukan daripada kesalahan pembeli. Bahkan, keadaan ini diperkatakan oleh Tan (2011) bahawa kekurangan keadilan dan kesamarataan dalam perjanjian kontrak jual beli merupakan antara faktor yang menyumbang kepada terbengkalai projek pembinaan.⁴⁶ Ini kerana pihak pemaju dan pihak bank tidak menanggung apa-apa risiko jika sesuatu projek itu terbengkalai. Sebaliknya, kesan yang amat besar jatuh kepada pembeli dan keadaan perjanjian kontrak jual beli

⁴⁶ Tan T. (2011), 'Sustainability and housing provision in Malaysia, *Journal of Strategic Innovations and Sustainability*. Vol. 7 No.1, pp. 62-71.

dilihat suatu yang tidak adil kepada pembeli dan keadaan ini bertentangan dengan matlamat pembangunan mampan 10.2 yang memperuntuk keadilan dan kesaksamaan kepada semua pihak tanpa wujud prejudis dan diskriminasi.

- **Sosial dan Ekonomi**

Analisis kajian turut memaparkan kehidupan penduduk Kampung Bunga Raya begitu terkesan dari konteks sosial dan ekonomi. Hal ini kerana kebanyakan penduduk tidak mampu untuk menyara kehidupan dan membuat pinjaman perumahan, pendidikan, dan perniagaan akibat nama disenarai hitam kesan daripada perjanjian perumahan yang berlaku. Akibatnya, penduduk Kampung Bunga Raya terperangkap di rumah panjang akibat daripada kesempitan kehidupan dari aspek ekonomi. Kesan daripada pinjaman perumahan turut memberi kesan terhadap masa hadapan anak-anak apabila anak-anak mereka dinafikan hak untuk mendapatkan pinjaman pendidikan di atas alasan ibu bapa mereka telah disenarai hitam oleh pihak bank. Kesan daripada isu ini telah menyebabkan anak-anak penduduk Kampung Bunga Raya ini tidak dapat meneruskan ke pengajian tinggi, serta kehidupan dan status sosioekonomi mereka tidak mampu diubah akibat daripada tiada peluang untuk mendapatkan pendidikan yang lebih baik. Oleh itu, kesan domino rentetan daripada projek perumahan terbengkalai telah memberi kesan yang sangat hebat kepada kehidupan mereka. Keadaan ini begitu bertentangan dengan matlamat yang ingin dicapai oleh pembangunan lestari yang mengimpikan kehidupan yang saksama, tiada kemiskinan dan hak sosial terpelihara. Keterpinggiran ini terjadi di atas penafian hak mereka serta kesan daripada penindasan,

penipuan dan kerakusan pemimpin masyarakat yang mengamalkan politik wang, rasuah dan penyelewengan dalam pemerintahan yang akhirnya memangsakan rakyat yang tidak terdaya.

CADANGAN DAN POLISI REKOMENDASI

Cadangan dan polisi rekomendasi yang dapat diutarakan berhubung permasalahan Kampung Bunga Raya seperti berikut:

Pertama, kerajaan harus meningkatkan syarat peratusan kos pembinaan yang harus dibayar oleh pemaju kepada pihak kawalan perumahan. Cadangan ini mampu untuk mengurangkan risiko pemaju meninggalkan projek terbengkalai tanpa tanggungjawab. Kedua, kerajaan harus meningkatkan lagi jumlah tuntutan di bawah tribunal perumahan daripada bawah RM 50,000 kepada suatu jumlah yang lebih besar. Ketiga kerajaan juga harus menubuhkan suatu badan atau agensi yang mengawal dan menyelia terhadap peratusan perkembangan pembinaan sesuatu projek perumahan untuk membolehkan suatu langkah awal dapat diambil berhubung projek terbengkalai. Badan atau agensi ini harus datang daripada mereka yang mahir dan pakar dalam soal projek pembangunan perumahan.

Cadangan lain yang boleh dipertimbangkan ialah Kementerian Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan harus mengutamakan proses pemulihan kembali projek perumahan terbengkalai berbanding meluluskan projek perumahan yang baharu untuk dimajukan. Dalam kata lain,

kementerian harus memperuntukkan sejumlah peruntukan belanjawan untuk menghidupkan kembali projek perumahan yang terbengkalai. Cara ini mampu untuk membantu pembeli mengurangkan beban tanggungan yang dihadapi oleh mereka. Sementara itu, cadangan daripada sudut permasalahan ketidakadilan dan kesamarataan kontrak antara pembeli dan pihak bank. Kerajaan boleh memperuntukkan perjanjian antara pembeli dengan pihak bank berasaskan konsep pengkongsi kerugian (*loss-sharing*). Pelaksanaan konsep ini secara tidak langsung mampu mengurangkan beban yang ditanggung pembeli jika sesuatu projek perumahan menghadapi masalah. Ini secara tidak langsung telah meletakkan pembeli kepada keadilan dan kesamarataan selari dengan matlamat pembangunan lestari. Ini kerana ketidakadilan dan tiada saksama dilihat suatu perkara yang membawa kepada isu projek perumahan terbengkalai dan dengan pelaksanaan ini mampu mengurangkan beban dan ketidakadilan terhadap pembeli.

KESIMPULAN

Kajian ini bertujuan untuk menilai dan mengenal pasti apakah faktor, permasalahan dan kesan daripada projek terbengkalai yang ditanggung oleh penduduk Kampung Bunga Raya. Antara faktor yang telah dikenalpasti melibatkan isu politik, penyelewengan, rasuah, isu sosial dan ekonomi,⁴⁷ serta isu undang-undang dan regulasi antara yang menyumbang kepada permasalahan projek

⁴⁷ Temu bual dengan penduduk Rumah Panjang Kampung Bunga Raya, 22 Oktober 2022 dan Kenyataan Politik daripada dokumen dari Pejabat Ahli Parlimen Sungai Buloh.

terbengkalai. Di samping itu juga, kelemahan pelaksanaan undang-undang dan penguatkuasaan antara yang menjadi faktor kepada kes projek terbengkalai yang terjadi di Malaysia. Diharap dengan kajian dan polisi rekomendasi yang dibincangkan ini dapat membantu mengatasi isu dan permasalahan projek perumahan terbengkalai yang berlaku di Malaysia.

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Chapter 7

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN KUALA LUMPUR: A CASE STUDY WITHIN CHERAS, KUALA LUMPUR

Anthony Tan Kee Huat

"We know the problems, and we know the solution: sustainable development.

The issue is the political will."

-- Tony Blair

ABSTRACT

Kuala Lumpur has grown from a tin mining settlement into the largest city in Malaysia in a matter of 165 years. It has become a Federal Territory and the centre for both business and culture, with Dewan Bandaraya Kuala Lumpur (DBKL) as the governing authority. Unfortunately, this growth has come at a great cost, especially to its citizens. The average population density for Kuala Lumpur is around 8000 persons per km². The density for the Parliamentary Constituency of Cheras is already more than 12600 persons. The Residents' Associations (RA) of Cheras and their Member of Parliament (MP), *Yang Berhormat* (YB) Tuan Tan Kok Wai, claim that they are living in an unsustainable condition. Yet, more development projects with higher plot densities have been approved by DBKL. We turn to Sustainable Development Goal 11 on Sustainable Cities and

Communities to guide moving towards sustainability closely related to SDG16 and SDG17.

KUALA LUMPUR - YESTERDAY

What do we know about Kuala Lumpur? For a start, translated from Malay, the name Kuala Lumpur literally means “Muddy Estuary” in English.

The founding of Kuala Lumpur can be attributed to at least 3 different parties: Yap Ah Low, Raja Abdullah, and Sutan Puasa⁴⁸. Nevertheless, the Encyclopaedia Britannica states that the settlement known as Kuala Lumpur, which strides the confluence of the Kelang and Gombak rivers, was founded in 1857 by a group of 87 Chinese tin miners at what is presently known as the suburb of Ampang⁴⁹. The community grew rapidly as a tin-collecting centre.

By 1880, Kuala Lumpur overtook and replaced Klang, some 40 km to the West, as the state capital of Selangor. This rapid growth is attributed to Sir Frank Swettenham, appointed British resident (advisor) in 1882⁵⁰. His many accomplishments

⁴⁸ Ranjit Singh Malhi (2021, October 10). HISTORY | Who's the real founder of Kuala Lumpur?

<https://www.malaysiakini.com/columns/594796>,

⁴⁹ Britannica, T. Editors of Encyclopaedia (2022, November 14). *Kuala Lumpur*. *Encyclopedia Britannica*.

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⁵⁰ Britannica, T. Editors of Encyclopaedia (2022, June 7). Sir Frank Swettenham. *Encyclopedia Britannica*.

include the construction of the Klang–Kuala Lumpur Railway. In 1895, Kuala Lumpur was chosen as the capital of the Federated Malay States.

Kuala Lumpur retained its position as the capital of the Federation of Malaya upon Independence in August 1957 and continued in that position with the formation of the Federation of Malaysia with the uniting of Malaya, Sabah, Sarawak, and Singapore under one flag in September 1963.

Kuala Lumpur (affectionately called KL) became a municipality (styled as *Dewan Bandaraya Kuala Lumpur* (DBKL) or Kuala Lumpur City Hall) on 1 February, 1972 and was incorporated with adjacent areas in Selangor state in 1974 to become the Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur.

KUALA LUMPUR - TODAY

Fast forward to today, we find a lively and vibrant Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur. Not only is it Malaysia's largest urban area, but it also serves as its cultural, commercial, and transportation centre.

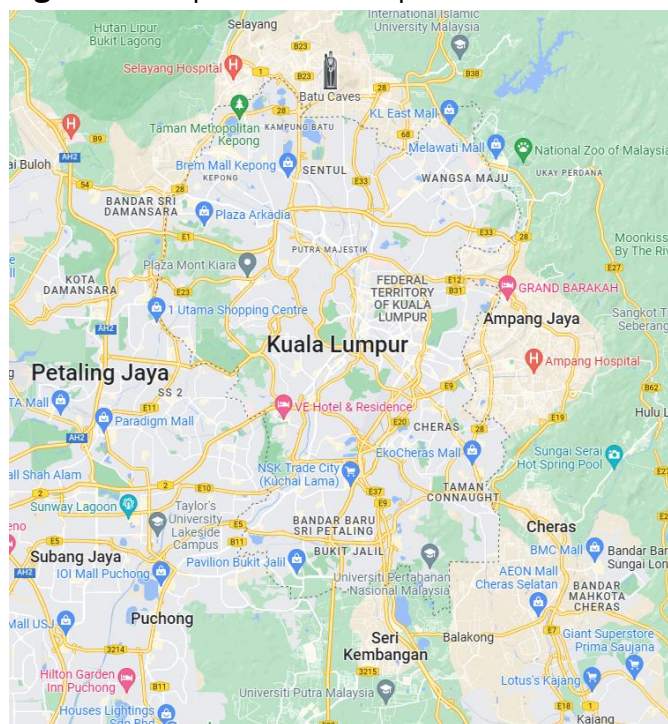
According to the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DoSM), the population of Kuala Lumpur is approximately 1964000 persons⁵¹. The current land area of Kuala Lumpur is

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Frank-Athelstane-Swettenham>

⁵¹<https://www.dosm.gov.my/v1/index.php?r=columnnew/population-clock>

243 km²⁵². This means that the population density in Kuala Lumpur is slightly more than 8000 persons per km².

Figure 14 Map of Kuala Lumpur



Source: Google Maps (Accessed on 23rd February 2023)

Saying that Kuala Lumpur is packed with people and infrastructure is an understatement. One would venture to say that this city has been “overly blessed with one of its kind in Malaysia” forms of development when compared with other cities such as George Town in the north, Johor Bahru in the

⁵²https://www.dosm.gov.my/v1/index.php?r=column/cone&menu_id=bjRIZXVGdnBueDJKY1BPWEFPRIhdz09

south, and Kuantan in the east, and Kota Kinabalu in the Borneo regions of Sabah, and Kuching in Sarawak.

Kuala Lumpur has multiple skyscrapers; such as the Petronas Twin Towers, the KL Tower, the Tun Razak Exchange (TRX); and many forms of rail-based public transportation networks⁵³; such as the Mass Light Rail (MRT), the Rapid Light Rail (LRT), the KTM Komuter, and the KL Monorail; notwithstanding the failed monorail system in the Historic City of Melaka.

There is a real feeling and sense among citizens of the other cities mentioned earlier that Kuala Lumpur's abundance in development, perhaps over-development, has been at the expense of the other regions. Constant and consistent daily traffic jams and regular flash floods disrupt everyone's life.

REPRESENTATION IN PARLIAMENT

Politically, Kuala Lumpur is divided into these 11 Parliamentary Constituencies⁵⁴:

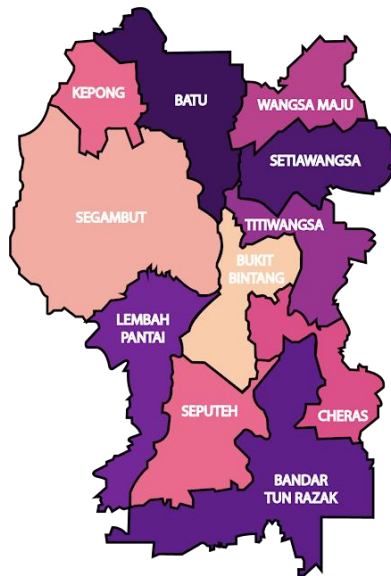
No.	Parliamentary Constituencies
1.	P114 Kepong
2.	P115 Batu
3.	P116 Wangsa Maju
4.	P117 Segambut
5.	P118 Setiawangsa

⁵³ <https://www.tripsavvy.com/kuala-lumpur-transportation-1458632>

⁵⁴ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Malaysian_electoral_districts#Federal_Territory_of_Kuala_Lumpur

6	P119 Titiwangsa
7	P120 Bukit Bintang
8	P121 Lembah Pantai
9	P122 Seputeh
10	P123 Cheras
11	P124 Bandar Tun Razak

Figure 15 Parliamentary Boundaries within Kuala Lumpur



The Parliamentary Constituency of Cheras⁵⁵ was created in 1994 and first contested in 1995. Interestingly, Cheras has known only one Member of Parliament (MP), YB Tuan Tan Kok Wai.

⁵⁵ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cheras_\(federal_constituency\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cheras_(federal_constituency))

Figure 16 YB Tuan Tan Kok Wai



YB Tuan Tan Kok Wai has won seven contests in the past 27 years, including the 15th General Election held in November 2022. He is currently the advisor for the Democratic Action Party (DAP), himself being the immediate past chairman of the party.

Cheras covers a land area of 16 km². Demographically, it has 101184 electors who are majority ethnic Chinese (77.1%), followed by Malays (14.8%), Indians (7.6%), and other ethnicities (0.6%). This would give it a population density of 6,324 voters per km². Even if one were to assume that there is a child of non-voting age for each voter, this would mean that Cheras has a potential population density of 12648 inhabitants per km². This is 50% higher than the earlier calculated average for Kuala Lumpur. By any means, to say that Cheras is over-developed is a huge understatement.

A STORY OF UNSUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Figure 17 Houses overlooking new development that requires reinforcement



Source: Photo taken during fieldwork, 9th September 2022

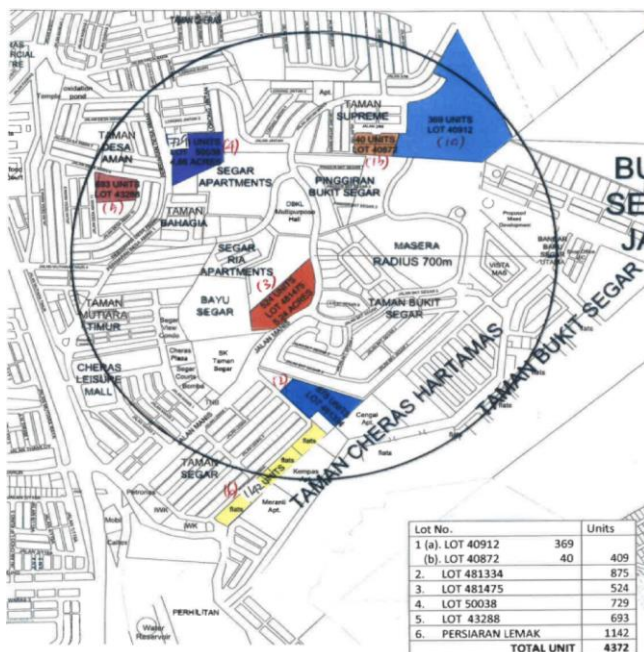
Research was conducted in 2022 by the All Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia (APPGM)-SDG⁵⁶. The researchers spent two full days applying focus group discussions (FGDs) and interviews with various stakeholders; namely, representatives of the Residents' Associations (RA), the Member of Parliament (MP), the youth, the elderly, and disabled persons to name a few; to gain a better understanding of the issues faced by the people of Cheras.

We have a treasure trove of data collected from discussions with various communities spread throughout Cheras. Each showed one facet of development stress.

⁵⁶ All Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia (APPGM) was approved by the 14th Parliament of Malaysia in October 2019. The APPGM-SDG was the first to be formed, and remains one of the most active APPGM.

However, for this case study, we have limited ourselves to an area whose epicentre is point X and radiates 700 m outward from that point, approximately a space of only 1.6 km², translating to 10% of the parliamentary constituency.

Figure 19 Developments within the radius of 700 meters



Source: Madam Tan Boon Charn (Accessed on 9th September 2022)

These general threats are characterised by those posed by seven development projects approved by DBKL. These include rock blasting close to the existing housing areas and demolishing a few blocks of low-cost flats to make way for a series of towers. The development approval in these identified locations is viewed as questionable and unsafe at best.

Figure 20 Terrace houses on the lower ground, high-rise buildings on the hill



Source: Photo taken during fieldwork, 9th September 2022

It is expected that these new developments, if not reviewed by the highest levels of DBKL, will bring further stress to the physical services, especially the parking spaces available to current and additional inhabitants, and further duress for those already living there.

Figure 18 Highrise buildings staring down terrace houses



Source: Photo taken during fieldwork (9 September 2022)

Madam Tan Booi Charn is the driving force behind getting the RA of Cheras to band together with their MP to gather their grouses and objections and present them as one voice to the attention of DBKL.

Figure 22 FGD between Ms Ain (3rd from left), the APPGM-SDG researcher and Madam Tan (extreme right) and her team



Source: Photo taken during fieldwork (9 September 2022)

Madam Tan brought us to a number of sites corresponding to the seven development projects shown on the map. Each development site offers a unique challenge to the residents. One location was a plot of land earmarked for a school, which had been rezoned for housing.

This case study anchors on two of the seven development projects. The selected two projects are adjacent to Taman Supreme, where Madam Tan is a resident. Lot 40912 and Lot 40872 are found on the top right corner of the map, showing the seven development sites (Refer to Figure 3). In the map, Lot 40912 and Lot 40872 are also known as Lot No 1 (a) and No 1 (b) respectively. The total number of units for both of

these spaces is 409. Lot 40912 is designated for 369 units, while Lot 40872 has fewer units (40).

A HISTORY OF OBJECTIONS

The RA discovered the two developments when they saw some activity at the respective sites. Developers starting a newly approved project must comply with Rule Five of the Federal Territory Planning Act 1982, which stipulates that a developer conducting new development projects within the Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur **MUST** inform the surrounding residents of their intended project by putting up a signboard that is clearly visible to those living in the vicinity. No such signboard was found anywhere in the vicinity.

Madam Tan explained that five RAs had jointly lodged a number of objections with DBKL requesting a review of the development plans submitted by the developer, Malim Courts Property Development Sdn. Bhd.

The five RAs are:

- Persatuan Penduduk Taman Supreme
- Segar Hill Homeowners Berhad
- Persatuan Penduduk Bukit Segar
- Persatuan Penduduk Taman Pinggiran Bukit Segar
- Persatuan Penduduk Bukit Supreme Apartments

A total of seven letters were prepared by the joint action group over a period of 21 months, which amounts to a letter

written almost every quarter of a year.⁵⁷ Nonetheless, the RA was convinced that the DBKL had been neglecting their complaints because they had not received the DBKL's response to the first five letters.

DBKL called for a discussion on 28 October, 2021 only after they received the RAs 5th letter of objection. Even after waiting patiently for half a year, the outcome of this meeting with DBKL was less than satisfactory to the five RAs.

In their 7th letter to DBKL, the RA referred to the Batang Kali tragedy on 16 December, 2022. This tragedy caused the loss of 31 lives. Another reference was made to the landslide at Jalan Teratai, Taman Bukit Permai, on 10 March, 2022, where 15 homes were damaged and four lives were lost. The RA pleaded with DBKL to block the approval for the two projects in Taman Supreme, Cheras, as they had good reason to fear that a worse tragedy was waiting to happen as the two new developments were on higher locations with steeper slopes. The fear of repeating the two tragedies motivated the RA to strongly

⁵⁷ The 7 letters are dated as follows:

- a. 21st April 2021
- b. 10th June 2021
- c. 8th November 2021
- d. 3rd December 2021
- e. 21st December 2021
- f. 15th March 2022
- g. 19th December 2022

(The 7th document is listed as APPENDIX 1)

demand the authorities' review of their approval given to Lots 40912 and 40872.

THE CRUX OF THE OBJECTION

It is important to note that Lot 40912 is situated at the top of a steep hill and covers an area of 18.477 acres. A development request with reference number DBKLJPRB.2628/75 was approved by DBKL on 23 February, 2021. This allowed the developer to increase the plot density ratio from 60 persons per acre to 80 persons per acre. This development will see the construction of an 18-storey apartment building with 352 units and 17 villa units. As for the apartment building, four floors of car parks will be available on the 1st to 4th floors. According to the plan, three floors of 12 duplex units will be built on the 4th to 6th floors. The 5th floor of the building is designated for public facilities. The balance of 340 apartment units will occupy the remaining upper floors. Meanwhile, the 17 four-storey villas will have various designs with a floor hidden beneath the ground and three floors above the ground.

Meanwhile, Lot 40872 lies at the bottom of that same hillside or slope and covers an area of 1.98 acres. A development request with reference number DBKLJPRB.3243/2011 was approved on 11 August, 2020. Similar to the previous plan, the developer increased the plot ratio from 60 persons per acre to 80 persons per acre. This proposed development will see the construction of a 19-storey apartment building with 40 units comprising four-floor parking from the ground floor to the 3rd floor, with a floor allocated for

facilities on the 4th floor and 14 floors of apartments from the 5th to 18th floor.

The location of the Lot 40912 development site is approximately 260 m above sea level, which entails several potential risks. For instance, about 80% of the proposed site consists of Class III ($\geq 25^\circ$) to Class VI ($\geq 60^\circ$) slopes. The construction of the 18-storey tower on this Class of slope entails a distance to the nearest existing dwellings of only 200 to 400 ft at most. The proposed construction of the 17 villa units is also approximately 200 ft to 400 ft from the nearest existing homes, with a slope gradient of 45° or a Class V slope coming from Jalan 2/98 and 60° or Class VI slope coming from Jalan 5/98 Taman Supreme.

The slopes at the proposed construction sites have failed over and over again when the soil is eroded due to rain. The DBKL has spent more than 8 million *Malaysian ringgit* on repairs and building retention walls. Meanwhile, mini-landslides continue to occur at the site. In 2021 alone, two landslides occurred just one week apart, the first on 19 December and the second on 26 December. Both landslides happened on the slope of the hill at Jalan 5/98, Taman Supreme, after a heavy downpour. This location has a record of a similar event on 12 May, 2012. This data proves the hill slope is extremely sensitive and unsuitable for hillside construction, let alone a multi-storey building.

The proposal by the developer to use an extended bypass for Jalan Bukit Segar is very questionable. It will be built on an extremely steep slope (Class V–Class VI) with a sharp

corner. The incline may exceed the requirement of the Fire and Rescue Department (BOMBA), which is a gradient of not more than 1:15. This corner will prove to be very dangerous, especially for drivers using the road at night.

The distance from the homes at Mesara Bukit Segar and Pinggir (Adjacent to Lot 40872) is less than 200 ft. On the morning of 22 December, 2022, an incident occurred whereby a large tree on the slope was dislodged at the roots and hit the roof of the guard house at the foot of the hill. This incident proves that the slope is extremely sensitive and is not at all suitable as an access link to the construction site.

On 23 December, 2022, Officers from the DBKL's Civil Engineering and Irrigation Department visited the site and stated that the slope had to be monitored closely to avoid further landslides from occurring. It was found that there is perpetual surface run-off at these extremely steep slopes.

LOT 40912

Figure 19 The road leading to Lot 40912



Source: Photo taken during fieldwork (9 September 2022)

Figure 20 A view from the road leading to Lot 40912



Source: Photo taken during fieldwork (9 September 2022)

LOT 40872

Figure 21 Concrete reinforcement by DBKL to mitigate landslides at Lot 40872



Source: Photo taken during fieldwork (9 September 2022)

Just look at the massive concrete retaining wall that has been put up by DBKL to shore up the slope of this steep hill. Who in his or her right mind would want to have a housing development take place so near a dangerous slope? Let alone allow blasting and piling to hold up a 19-storey structure? Even a non-engineer like myself knows that the piling has to go almost as deep as the height of the building!

Figure 22 Another look the reinforcement



Source: Photo taken during fieldwork (9 September 2022)

Figure 23 The existing houses next to the proposed development site



Source: Photo taken during fieldwork (9 September 2022)

INITIATIVES AFTER THE RESEARCH AND FOLLOW-UP VISITS

Several initiatives were taken by the team led by Madam Tan as a result of the prioritisation exercise undertaken by the APPGM-SDG researchers together with YB Tuan Tan Kok Wai. Resolving the over-development woes of Cheras residents was given a high priority. After a vetting process, Madam Tan and the RA group received a grant⁵⁸ provided by the Society for the Promotion of SDGs⁵⁹ (PPMPL).

1. The 1st meeting with 19 RAs was held on the evening of 25 September, 2022 at Bukit Segar Administrative Centre, Bukit Segar, Cheras. Forty-two people representing 19 RAs participated in the meeting. Besides Madam Tan, the other speakers at the event were YB Tuan Tan Kok Wai and Mr Jeffrey Phang from MyPJ. (The minutes of the meeting are provided in APPENDIX 2).
2. The 1st education session on legal matters related to development was conducted by a lawyer, Petaling Jaya city councillor and local authority expert, Mr Derek Fernandez. This took place on the evening of 16 October, 2022 at the Bukit Segar Administrative Centre with the participation of 31 people. (The minutes of the session are provided in APPENDIX 3).

⁵⁸ Each Parliamentary Constituency receives a grant of RM120,000 which is usually split into 3 to 4 projects.

⁵⁹ PPMPL or Society for the Promotion of SDGs is the legal entity registered to act as the Secretariat for the All Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia on Sustainable Development Goals

3. A half-day education session on city planning and traffic impact assessment was conducted on the morning of 17 November, 2022 at the Bukit Segar Administrative Centre. Two speakers were involved in the event. They were Prof. Dr. Melasutra, a lecturer from Universiti Malaya, and Dr. Tai, a traffic consultant. (The programme is provided in APPENDIX 4).
4. A roundtable with the MPs titled "Towards a Sustainable and Liveable City in KL" was organised by 19 RAs on 3 December, 2022 in Cheras⁶⁰. This is one of the projects covered by the APPGM-SDG grant. The three MPs who attended were YB Tuan Tan Kok Wai (Cheras), YB Ir Zahir Hassan (Wangsa Maju), and YB Puan Teresa Kok (Seputeh). The MPs who sent their representatives were from Segambut, Bukit Bintang, and Bandar Tun Razak. (The press release is provided in APPENDIX 5).
5. A meeting was held between the RAs in Kuala Lumpur and the MPs, YB Tuan Tan Kok Wai (Cheras) and YB Ir Zahir Hassan (Wangsa Maju), together with MP representatives from Bandar Tun Razak, Setiawangsa, and Lembah Pantai. The RA representatives were from nine constituencies, namely Cheras, Wangsa Maju, Bandar Tun Razak, Setiawangsa, Lembah Pantai, Seputeh, Kepong, Batu, and Segambut.

⁶⁰<https://www.thestar.com.my/metro/metro-news/2023/02/10/upping-kl-liveability>

From these five activities, it can be concluded that Madam Tan and her team were gearing up the RAs and MPs for an event that would culminate in months of building understanding and goodwill between the two very important groups. The culmination would be the Kuala Lumpur Sustainability Conference 2023.

THE KUALA LUMPUR SUSTAINABILITY CONFERENCE 2023



Kuala Lumpur Conference

Towards a Sustainable KL City Through a Wholistic (Whole-of- Society) Approach

This conference was held on Saturday, 18 February, 2023 at the Grand Ballroom, Le Quadri Hotel, UCSI Cheras Campus, Kuala Lumpur with the theme “Towards a Sustainable KL City Through a Wholistic (Whole-of-Society) Approach”. It was organised by the Coalition of KL RAs with funding from the grant provided by PPMPL.

Its objective is to create a partnership between KL residents, MPs, and DBKL to work towards a Sustainable KL City. The partnership is to empower KL Residents to provide useful feedback to MPs and DBKL to plan and operate a liveable city. A partnership structure would be identified so that the RA members can take part in a “Bottom-Up, Top-Down” approach to create a city with an enviable high standard of living.

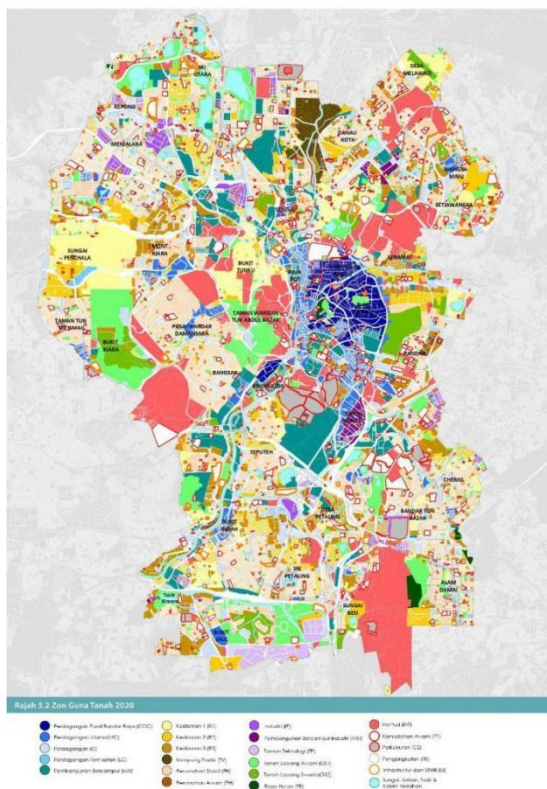
The conference set out to highlight the multi-dimensional issues faced by Kuala Lumpur and its residents and the need for a “Whole-of-Society Approach” based on *Malaysia Madani* (Civil Malaysia) espoused by our current Prime Minister, *Yang Amat Berhormat* (YAB) Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, and linking all of these to the SGDs 2030. The conference was organised by Madam Tan Booi Charn with YB Ir Zahir Hassan as the Lead MP for this initiative and Mr Jeffrey Phang (from MyPJ) as the project lead.

Two important development documents were frequently quoted during the conference: the KL Structure Plan (KLSP) 2040 and the KL City Plan (KLCP) 2040. Both documents should have been gazetted in 2020⁶¹ but were made ready in 2023, and these plans are still not finalised as there are still more than 200 revisions that have yet to be resolved. Furthermore, the Federal Territory Planning Act 1982 has been updated so that the notice of development (Rule 5) need not be published as before. As lawyer Derek Fernandez illustrated,

⁶¹<https://www.sinarharian.com.my/article/245910/edisi/selangor-kl/sdg-kuala-lumpur-2030-perlu-dijayakan-bersama>

in theory, Rule 5 would not be necessary once the defect-free KL 2040 Plans are gazetted. However, the public has to have full confidence that the colour coding in the 2040 Plan does not contain wrong colours by mistake or on purpose.

Figure 24 The many colours of the KL Master Plan 2020



Source: <https://klmycity2040.dbkl.gov.my/pppkl/> (Accessed on 23rd February 2023)

Two panel sessions were held during the conference. The first was on “inclusivity”. The second was on “transparency”, very much related to freedom of information. The Q&A sessions after each of the panel sessions were rather lively, to

put it mildly. At the end of the conference, participants were invited to sign up and join the two respective task forces.

Sadly, two agendas did not materialise during the conference: the signing of the KL Declaration 2023 by the RA representatives and the signing of the Declaration of Cooperation by the DBKL and RA Representatives.

As for the signing of the KL Declaration 2023 by the RA representatives, the author suspects that this was the first meeting attended by a number of the RAs outside of Cheras, and these representatives may not have had the chance to review the contents of the declaration in greater detail. The signing of the Declaration of Cooperation by the DBKL and RA representatives failed to materialise simply because no official representative from DBKL was present at the conference.

Notwithstanding, a consultative meeting between the Mayor of Kuala Lumpur and the MP from the Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur was held before the Sustainability Conference Kuala Lumpur 2023. Madam Tan received news from the MP of Cheras about the outcome of the meeting on 24 February, 2023. The RA was informed that DBKL has put the development of Lots 40912 and 40872 on hold.

The decision read, as at this time, the development sites that are being referenced have yet to receive approval to begin any form of work. The Lord Mayor has decided that any development work can only begin after the proposed land development plan and engineering plan have been evaluated

and accepted **AND** have received the views of local leaders and relevant stakeholders in the Parliamentary Constituency of Cheras.

CONCLUSION

This case study is important to demonstrate the local initiatives of the RA coalition group due to their concern about unsustainable development in their living environment. As shown, the RA coalitions have consulted not only their MPs but also legal, city planning, and traffic impact specialists and professionals. They have made many attempts to engage with DBKL at the highest levels, but these efforts did not bear any fruit.

First, there is a dire need to capacity build the collaboration of the RAs of KL to form a more cohesive network that can come out in one voice so that DBKL and politicians take them seriously. As one participant shared passionately during a coffee break conversation, “When a politician knows that an RA can potentially deliver a certain number of votes, he/she will make time to listen to them”. When a group of RAs are seen as working together towards achieving a particular objective, it will make sense to the incumbent MP and any up-and-coming YB wannabe to fight along their side to secure their votes when the time arises.

Secondly, two task forces are urgently needed. The “Inclusivity” Task Force should be a platform to begin and maintain inter-agency discussions with DBKL and other relevant government agencies. The Malay adage “*tak kenal*

maka tak cinta" (you can't love what you don't know) best describes the situation. It would be good to engage a competent third party such as MyPJ to do some form of "hand holding' at the beginning of this process.

Thirdly, PPMPL, as the secretariat of the APPGM-SDG, could be the forum to get the MPs to meet in parliament to focus on the issue of sustainable development in Kuala Lumpur. This is a policy matter that needs particular attention.

And finally, three SDGs should be given special emphasis in addressing the matter of over-development. These are:

- SDG11 on Sustainable Cities and Communities,
- SDG16 on Peace and Strong Institutions (RAs, DBKL, MPs, and government agencies) and
- SDG17 on Partnerships toward Achieving the Goals (We need to break the "Silo Mentality" and work towards effective partnerships).

REFERENCE LIST

APPENDIX 1: Objection letter dated 19th December 2022 addressed to DBKL

APPENDIX 2: Minutes dated 25th September 2022 of 1st meeting held with 19 Residents Associations

APPENDIX 3: Minutes dated 16th October 2022 of 1st Education Session on Legal Matters Related to Development with Derek Fernandez

APPENDIX 4: Programme for Education Session dated 27th December 2022 City Planning & Traffic Impact Assessment

APPENDIX 5: Press Release dated 8th December 2022 to The New Straits Times

APPENDIX 6: Press Release dated 14th January 2023 to The STAR

APPENDIX 7: Brochure for KL Conference dated 18th February 2023

APPENDIX 8: The outcome of the Consultative Meeting by Lord Mayor of KL with the Parliamentarians of the Federal Territory of KL number 1/2023

SDGs and Grassroots Realities: Seven Community Case Studies in Malaysia (2023), edited by Dr Teo Sue Ann, is an outcome of the APPGM-SDGs mapping process in 2022. It comprises seven in-depth community case studies which bring the readers on a journey to different localities across Malaysia.

These studies are located in seven parliamentary constituencies across Sabah, Sarawak, Perak, Selangor Kuala Lumpur and Kelantan. Five are from the rural and two from the urban locations.

The seven researchers employed the qualitative methodology in the issue mapping. Each engagement allowed the researchers to document the social, economic, and environmental issues and give insight into each of the issues, including the lived experiences of the grassroots communities in dealing with them.

The fundamental objective of these community case studies is to initiate meaningful and in- depth discussions about the highlighted issues. The issues are often longstanding, highlighted by the community in the hope that the APPGM-SDG researchers could bring the issues to “pihak atasan” (translated as higher authorities), as they said.

The theme that rings a bell in SDGs is “leaving no one behind”. However, here it is, “leaving no village or community behind”. Community intervention strategies and community development approaches are required. However, these case studies illustrate the agential actions of the community's effort in managing the issues. They, therefore, become important stakeholders in localising the global agenda of SDGs to the grassroots level.

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