



APPGM-SDG
MENINGKATKAN KETERANGKUMAN DAN KEMAMPAHAN



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Wilayah Sarawak

P.196 Stampin

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Issue Mapping Report for P.196 Stampin

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P.196 STAMPIN

WELCOMING REMARKS

YB PUAN RODIYAH SAPIEE

Treasurer of APPGM-SDG Committee;

Member of Parliament for Batang Sadong (P.200)



Bismillahir-Rahmanir-Rahim.

Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh, and greetings,

I am pleased to pen these welcoming remarks for the Compilation of Parliamentary Constituency Issue Mapping Report 2025 for the Sarawak Region. This compilation reflects our collective commitment to Malaysia's sustainable development agenda and to centering the 'lived realities' of communities in national policymaking. It serves as both a living archive of what we have heard on the ground and a roadmap for what we must do next.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) offer a unifying framework for balanced progress - integrating economic vitality, social well-being, environmental stewardship, and good governance. Since 2020, the APPGM-SDG has shown that meaningful community participation strengthens policy coherence and drives actions that are equitable, inclusive, and just.

In Sarawak, where coastal and riverine settlements, rural heartlands, and dynamic urban centers coexist, such an approach is not merely desirable - it is indispensable. The realities of geography, culture, and access demand solutions that are context-sensitive, integrated, and place-based.

This compilation consolidates the findings of the 2025 issue-mapping exercise conducted across Sarawak's parliamentary constituencies. The work was grounded in rigorous field engagement and sincere dialogue among Members of Parliament, community representatives, government agencies and departments, the private sector, and civil society organizations.

Several cross-cutting themes and issues emerge throughout the report. Equally important, the report highlights promising practices and local innovations in livelihoods, community-driven environmental restoration, social enterprise, and partnerships that bridge government programs with grassroots capabilities. These examples demonstrate that Sarawak's diversity is a strength - when harnessed through collaborative planning and sustained action. Policy is most effective when it incorporates local knowledge and is reinforced by strong institutional coordination across federal, state, and district levels. Beyond diagnosing issues, this volume advances practical recommendations aligned with the SDGs. Each recommendation is crafted to facilitate inter-agency collaboration, realistic resources, effective implementation and measurable outcomes.

I extend my sincere appreciation to the APPGM-SDG Secretariat for driving this initiative, to my parliamentary colleagues for their steadfast support, and to our partners in government, particularly the Division, District and Land Offices - for their professionalism and cooperation. I also wish to acknowledge our community leaders, facilitators and resource persons whose dedication in the field ensured that the data gathered is both rigorous and meaningful.

To every organization and individual, often working quietly behind the scenes, who contributed time, expertise, and resources: thank you. Your efforts have made this publication both possible and purposeful.

It is my hope that this volume will guide collective action, deepen inter-agency coordination, and inspire locally led solutions. May it contribute to Sarawak's continued advancement and to the long-term resilience of our nation, today and for generations to come.

Thank you.

YB Rodiyah Sapiee

Treasurer and Committee Member, APPGM-SDG

FOREWORD

JAMES RYAN RAJ

APPGM-SDG Secretariat Representative



Since 2020, the All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia on Sustainable Development Goals (APPGM-SDG) has been actively advancing the localization agenda of the SDGs across parliamentary constituencies nationwide. Grounded in a systematic issue-mapping approach, APPGM-SDG conducts Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with targeted local groups to identify urgent community challenges and propose solutions through SDG-based community projects and relevant policy interventions. From 2020 to 2024, APPGM-SDG has carried out fieldwork in 115 parliamentary constituencies. In 2025, this initiative has expanded to 28 new constituencies, enabling the team to explore grassroots issues in greater extent and set clearer local priorities. Field visits offer comprehensive insights into on-the-ground realities and assist to identify the most relevant solutions required.

As a result of these efforts, 28 issue-mapping reports have been produced in 2025 and published as the Compilation of Parliamentary Constituency Issue Mapping Reports 2025. This compilation is organized according to zones and regions, consisting of Central, North, South, East Coast, Sabah, and Sarawak. They are summarized in Table 1. Photo reports documenting field visits and identified issues are also included. In addition, individual reports for each parliamentary constituency have been prepared to facilitate referencing for Members of Parliament and other stakeholders.

Table 1: Breakdown of Parliamentary Constituencies by Volume

VOLUME	ZONE / REGION	NUMBER OF PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES	RESEARCHERS
Vol 1	North Zone	9	5
Vol 2	East Coast Zone	4	2
Vol 3	Central Zone	3	3
Vol 4	South Zone	6	4
Vol 5	Sabah Region	4	2
Vol 6	Sarawak Region	2	1
TOTAL		28	

These reports adopt a qualitative approach that captures grassroots voices, including the emotions, needs, and priorities of local communities. Although the full FGD transcripts are not included, the social analysis presented here is sufficient to illustrate the realities of community life on the ground. The complete reports, with full audio transcripts, will be published for source reference to Members of Parliament and made available to the public upon request for further research purposes.

These reports will serve as the foundation for future discussions in Parliament as well as with relevant agencies and ministries. The ultimate goal is to develop more comprehensive solutions and drive meaningful policy improvements to address the identified issues.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to the APPGM-SDG Committee Members, the Head of Secretariat, and the APPGM-SDG Directors and Secretariat, as well as to all Members of Parliament, government agencies, including district offices, and all stakeholders and communities who facilitated dialogues and participation in the APPGM-SDG initiative in 2025.

A special note of congratulations goes to Nurul Syaza Mazelan and Hirzawati Atikah Mohd Tahir, main editors of this six-volume series, for their dedication in editing the reports prepared by the APPGM-SDG research team. My gratitude also goes to the lead researchers: Dr Teo Lee Ken, Nurul Syaza Mazelan, Dr Wan Suzita Wan Ibrahim, Dr Siti Nur Ain Zakinuddin, Dr Thanaraj Murudi, Siti Noraiysah Rohim, Raine Melissa Riman, Nur Syadhira Mohd Razali, Nuha Mysara Mohd Hisam, Lydia Ann Anak Bill, Fatimah binti Mohd Yasin, Tariq Ziad bin Abdul Razak, and McJeanet Lempisik@Marx as well as the APPGM-SDG Corporate Communications team led by Zoel Ng, with special thanks to Hirzawati Atikah Mohd Tahir, Kezia Sim Kui Ting and Arif Azhad Abdul Ghaffar together with Afiqah

Abdul Malik, Head of Secretariat Department for their creative efforts in ensuring the success of this publication.

May this collective endeavor continue to strengthen our pursuit of sustainable development for all Malaysia.

INTRODUCTION

RAINE MELISSA RIMAN

Head of Sarawak Region, APPGM-SDG



In 2025, APPGM-SDG strengthened its Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) issue mapping initiatives, making it more effective, inclusive, and standardized approach across all locations. This year, we placed key emphasis on refining the issue-mapping process as it constitutes the foundation for SDG localization, through the standardizing of research documentation and reporting methods. The issue mapping fieldwork research remains a critical initial phase in APPGM-SDG's SDG localization efforts. As the starting point of the intervention cycle, issue mapping research functions as a robust analytical tool supported by efficient, transparent, and inclusive stakeholder engagements. Therefore, APPGM-SDG prioritizes comprehensive participation, mainstreaming the perspectives of communities, agencies, and local leaders to ensure that diverse viewpoints are seriously considered. Fieldwork research for the issue-mapping reports serves as a key instrument to present analytical findings, priorities for action priorities, and the level of stakeholder participation at various locations and levels.

For 2025, APPGM-SDG has conducted issue-mapping work encompassing 28 parliamentary constituencies (Figure 1), representing diverse localities across different zones and regions, including Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah, and Sarawak. In each location, collaborations with local government agencies, such as the District and Land Office (PDT) and local authorities or their equivalent entities are also strengthened. These entities play crucial roles as field coordinators, facilitators for community mobilization, and references for local data (Table 1).

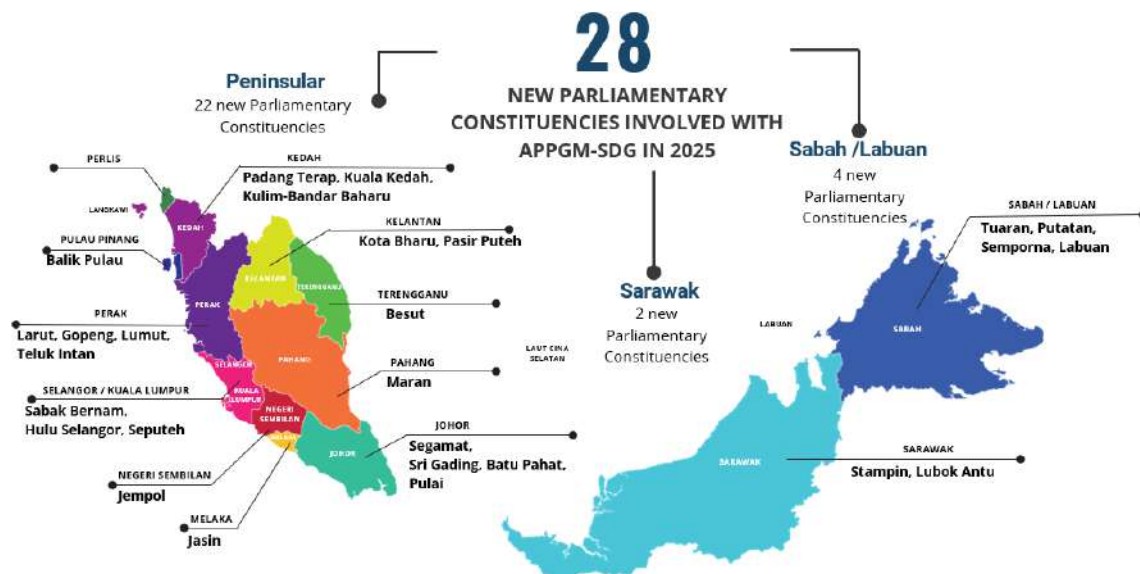


Figure 1: The 28 Parliamentary Constituencies for 2025

During fieldwork excursions, the research teams uphold strict ethical protocols, including obtaining consent for recordings and maintaining confidentiality. However, several challenges accompanied the 2025 operations. These included difficulties in achieving balanced participation across target groups, inconsistent audio quality that required analytical and cross referencing with field notes, overlapping conversations during FGDs that require careful filtering, as well as logistical constraints such as scheduling, venues, and facilities that affected the overall quantity of sessions and the depth of evidence collected. Nevertheless, these challenges were mitigated through rescheduling, support from village heads and district offices for mobilization, prior mapping of existing stakeholders, and the adoption of multiple documentation methods to maintain the integrity of data.

In terms of content, this report is structured to assist readers to understand each zone and region gradually in phases and in depth. **Section 1** presents the background of each area, highlighting geography, topography, population composition, economic activities, and the relevance of local contexts to SDG targets. **Section 2** explains the methodology, ethical considerations, fieldwork challenges, and study limitations. **Section 3** summarizes cross-cutting SDG issues based on thematic areas such as education, skills, employment, culture/heritage, road safety, agriculture, irrigation, human-wildlife conflict, access to social assistance, and basic infrastructure. **Section 4** provides the overall mapping summary by major issues, with detailed explanations, interventions, and responses from relevant agencies. **Section 5** lists the preliminary identification of short-term solution projects as community interventions that are high-impact, immediate and direct, along with recommended implementing partners and the alignment of SDGs.

By utilizing such a structure and layout, the parliamentary constituency issue mapping reports of 2025 function as an action-based reference document for the transition from the amplifying of grassroots voices to the formulation of action plans, and thereafter to the implementation of programs that are realistic and measurable.

ISSUE MAPPING IN THE SARAWAK REGION

The 2025 issue mapping exercises in P203 Lubok Antu and P196 Stampin sought to situate community perspectives within the broader landscape of Sarawak's development trajectories. Conducted through ten focus group discussions (FGDs) and ethnographic field observations in each site, the study highlights how geography, demography, and governance shape everyday experiences. By focusing on lived realities rather than solely technical indicators, the mapping illustrates how development challenges are interlinked across both rural and urban settings. In Lubok Antu (P203), the mapping covered Iban longhouses along the Batang Lupar basin, in particularly the Ulu Ai and Ulu Engkari riverine areas, a Malay-Iban hybrid village in Engkelili, and long-established Chinese settlements. Central issues raised by communities include land, heritage, identity, and political representation. Development challenges here extend beyond infrastructure and services; they are also connected to governance arrangements and how customary practices intersect with state planning. While local identities and traditions continue to be important anchors, communities often find it difficult to navigate bureaucratic systems that structure access to resources and decision-making. By contrast, Stampin (P196) is Sarawak's most densely populated parliamentary constituency, with a majority Chinese population and a mix of urban and peri-urban settlements. The area reflects the material pressures of urbanization: rising housing costs, complex strata and property management systems, and the everyday negotiation of life in diverse, mixed-population environments. For many residents, challenges are framed not only by policy regimes but also by the practical strategies households adopt to cope with urban pressures.

Despite these differences, common threads cut across both constituencies. Agriculture remains significant, yet farmers in Lubok Antu and Stampin alike face rising input costs, labor shortages, and reduced interest among younger generations. Whether among interior Iban cultivators or Chinese Hakka smallholders, these pressures affect both livelihoods and cultural continuity. Housing insecurity also emerges as a shared concern. In Lubok Antu's smaller towns, low-income (B40) households rely on the *Program Perumahan Rakyat Sejahtera* (PPRS), while in Stampin, issues of affordability are expressed in the persistence of squatter settlements such as those in Batu Kawa. Importantly, urban squatting cannot be understood in isolation, as it is partly driven by rural-to-urban migration. Many younger residents from Lubok Antu, often with limited educational qualifications, move to towns seeking opportunities but encounter precarious employment and high living costs, reinforcing cycles of vulnerability. Each constituency also presents distinctive livelihood pathways. In Lubok Antu, riverine communities are involved in tourism, yet many lack access to the training, institutional support, and resources required to develop sustainable, community-led ecotourism. In Stampin, everyday life is shaped by navigating housing regulations, strata rules, and property management policies. Across both areas, communities consistently noted a lack of

accessible information on policies and rights. This gap in awareness reduces their ability to engage fully in decision-making processes and reinforces a sense of dependency on external actors.

Leadership was another recurring theme. In Lidah Tanah (P203), the absence of a recognised community leader leaves residents without a clear channel for representation. In RPR Engkelili (P196), the complexity of formal leadership appointments has slowed progress. Agencies themselves acknowledge that administrative processes can be lengthy, which may limit responsiveness to local concerns. Overall, the findings suggest that rural transformations and urban challenges are deeply connected. What may appear as localized issues, whether in a longhouse along Ulu Ai or a housing estate in Kuching, are part of wider structural dynamics that shape both opportunity and inequality. Addressing these challenges requires development approaches that are responsive to local contexts, while also recognizing the interdependence of rural and urban futures in Sarawak.

NO.	ZONE / REGION	PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY	CODE	LEAD APPGM-SDG	RESEARCHER
1	Sarawak	Stampin	P196	Dr. Eva Kristin Larry Sait	
2	Sarawak	Lubok Antu	P203	Raine Melissa Riman	

Table 1: List of 28 Parliamentary Constituencies Involved in APPGM-SDG Fieldwork for 2025

NO.	ZONE / REGION	PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY	CODE	MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT	PARTY	COORDINATING PARTNERS	LEAD RESEARCHER APPGM-SDG
1.	Tengah	Sabak Bernam	P092	YB Tuan Kalam bin Salan	PN-BERSATU	Pejabat Daerah & Tanah (PDT) Sabak Bernam	Nur Syadhira Mohd Razali
2.	Tengah	Hulu Selangor	P094	YB Tuan Haji Mohd Hasnizan bin Harun	PN-PAS	PDT Hulu Selangor	Nuha Mysara Mohd Hisam
3.	Tengah	Seputeh	P121	YB Puan Teresa Kok Suh Sim	PH-DAP	Dewan Bandaraya Kuala Lumpur (DBKL)	Nurul Syaza Mazelan
4.	Utara	Padang Terap	P007	YB Tuan Nurul Amin bin Hamid	PN-PAS	PDT Padang Terap	Nurul Syaza Mazelan
5.	Utara	Kuala Kedah	P010	YB Dr. Ahmad Fakhruddin	PN-PAS	PDT Kota Setar	Dr. Thanaraj Murudi
6.	Utara	Balik Pulau	P053	YB Dato' Muhammad Bakhtiar bin Wan Chik	PH-PKR	PDT Barat Daya	Siti Noraiysah Rohim
7.	Utara	Larut	P059	YB Dato' Seri Hamzah bin Zainudin	PN-BERSATU	PDT Selama	Dr. Thanaraj Murudi
8.	Utara	Kulim-Bandar Baharu	P018	YB Tuan Roslan bin Hashim	PN-BERSATU	PDT Kulim & PDT Bandar Baharu	Dr. Thanaraj Murudi
9.	Utara	Padang Rengas	P060	YB Kapten Azahari bin Hasan	PN-BERSATU	PDT Kuala Kangsar	Dr. Teo Lee Ken
10.	Utara	Gopeng	P064	YB Tuan Tan Kar Hing	PH-PKR	PDT Kampar	Lydia Ann Anak Bill
11.	Utara	Lumut	P073	YB Komander (B) Nordin Bin Ahmad Ismail	PN-BERSATU	PDT Manjung	Dr. Thanaraj Murudi
12.	Utara	Teluk Intan	P076	YB Tuan Nga Kor Ming	PH-DAP	PDT Hilir Perak	Nurul Syaza Mazelan

NO.	ZONE / REGION	PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY	CODE	MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT	PARTY	COORDINATING PARTNERS	LEAD RESEARCHER APPGM-SDG
13.	Selatan	Jempol	P126	Dato' Haji Shamshulkahar Bin Haji Mohd Deli	BN-UMNO	PDT Jempol	Tariq Ziad bin Abdul Razak
14.	Selatan	Jasin	P139	YB Tuan Zulkifli bin Ismail	PN-PAS	PDT Jasin	Dr. Wan Suzita Wan Ibrahim
15.	Selatan	Segamat	P140	YB Tuan Yuneswaran a/l Ramaraj	PH-PKR	PDT Segamat	Dr. Wan Suzita Wan Ibrahim
16.	Selatan	Sri Gading	P149	YB Tuan Haji Aminolhuda bin Hassan	PH-AMANAHA	PDT Batu Pahat	Dr. Teo Lee Ken
17.	Selatan	Batu Pahat	P150	YB Tuan Haji Onn bin Abu Bakar	PH-PKR	PDT Batu Pahat	Dr. Wan Suzita Wan Ibrahim
18.	Selatan	Pulai	P161	YB Tuan Suhaizan bin Kaiat	PH-AMANAHA	Pejabat Daerah Johor Bahru	Siti Noraiysah Rohim
19.	Timur	Maran	P089	YB Dato' Sri Dr. Haji Ismail bin Abd. Muttalib	PN-PAS	PDT Maran	Siti Noraiysah Rohim
20.	Timur	Kota Bharu	P020	YB Datuk Seri Takiyuddin bin Hassan	PN-PAS	Pejabat Tanah & Jajahan (PTJ) Kota Bharu	Dr. Siti Nur Ain Zakinuddin
21.	Timur	Pasir Puteh	P023	YB Datuk Dr. Nik Muhammad Zawawi bin Salleh	PN-PAS	PTJ Pasir Puteh	Dr. Siti Nur Ain Zakinuddin
22.	Timur	Besut	P033	YB Datuk Che Mohamad Zulkifly bin Jusoh	PN-PAS	PDT Besut	Siti Noraiysah Rohim
23.	Sabah	Tuaran	P170	YB Datuk Seri Panglima Madius bin Tangau	PH-UPKO	Pejabat Daerah Tuaran	Mc Jeanet Lempisik @ Marx

NO.	ZONE / REGION	PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY	CODE	MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT	PARTY	COORDINATING PARTNERS	LEAD RESEARCHER APPGM-SDG
24.	Sabah	Putatan	P173	YB Datuk Ir. Shahelmey bin Yahya	BN-UMNO	Pejabat Daerah Putatan	Mc Jeanet Lempisik @ Marx
25.	Sabah	Semporna	P189	YB Datuk Seri Panglima Haji Mohd Shafie bin Apdal	WARISAN	Pejabat Daerah Semporna	Fatimah Binti Mohd Yasin
26.	Sabah	Labuan	P166	Dato' Indera Dr. Suhaili Abdul Rahman	BEBAS	Perbadanan Labuan (Labuan Corporation)	Fatimah Binti Mohd Yasin
27.	Sarawak	Stampin	P196	YB Tuan Chong Chieng Jen	PH-DAP	Majlis Perbandaran Padawan (MPP) & Majlis Perbandaran Kuching Selatan (MBKS)	Dr. Eva Kristin Larry Sait
28.	Sarawak	Lubok Antu	P203	YB Tuan Roy Angau anak Gingkoi	GPS-PRS	Pejabat Daerah Lubok Antu	Raine Melissa Riman

PART A

Issue Mapping Visit Report

P.196 Stampin

WITH THE SUPPORT FROM

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT OF STAMPIN, YB TUAN CHONG CHIENG JEN



TARGETED GROUPS/COMMUNITIES

11, 19, 21, 22 April; 5, 15, 20, 26 May 2025

DAY 1

1. Key Informant Interview (KII) : En. Baki bin Haji Leh, Pengerusi Masjid Nurul Asyikin, Kampung Lidah Tanah, Kuching
2. Site Visit 1 : Waste disposal Hut at Lidah Tanah
3. FGD 1: Kampung Sudat Community, Kuching
4. Site Visit 2 : Premix Plant Behind Kampung Sudat
5. FGD 2: Perpustakaan Desa, Kampung Bumbok Community
6. Site Visit 3 : Bampung Bumbok's Paddy Farm

DAY 2

7. FGD 3: Kampung Lidah Tanah Community, Kuching

DAY 3

8. FGD 4: Community of Elder farmers from Sungai Moyan, Batu Kawah, Kuching
9. Site Visit IV : Farmers Individual Plot at Sungai Moyan

DAY 4

- 10 FGD 5: Squatter Community at Jalan Ngee Boon Kiung, Batu Kawa, Kuching

DAY 5

11. FGD 6: Persatuan Veteran Angkatan Tentera Malaysia (PVATM), Sarawak Branch – Cawangan Bau

DAY 6

12. Key informant interview with the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Mental Health Association Sarawak (MHAS), Kuching

DAY 7

13. FGD 7: Strata Homeowners and Property Professionals

DAY 8

14. FGD 8: Sarawak Women for Women Society

RESEARCH TEAM



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CORRIN ALICIA NERO



FAHMI FAZRIN ABDUL KARIM

ISSUE MAPPING VISIT WAS CONDUCTED FROM 11, 19, 21, 22 APRIL; 5, 15, 20, 26 MAY 2025



16



05 May 2025

FGD 6: Persatuan Veteran Angkatan Tentera Malaysia
(PVATM) Sarawak Branch – Cawangan Bau

17



15 May 2025

Key informant interview with the Chair
and Deputy Chair of the Mental Health
Association Sarawak (MHAS), Kuching

18



20 May 2025

FGD 7: Strata Homeowners and Property
Professionals

19



26 May 2025

FGD 8: Sarawak Women for Women
Society (SWWS)

10 JANUARY 2025 | INCEPTION MEETING

The Sarawak Regional Office of APPGM-SDG convened an inception meeting and profiling session with YB Tuan Chong Chieng Jen (MP for Stampin) and his Batu Kitang officer, Mr. Jordan Soo. Discussions centered on key constituency issues, including healthcare, infrastructure, and social inclusion. Sentosa Psychiatric Hospital was identified as a crucial facility for understanding mental health challenges. Additionally, constituency field visits were scheduled for 14–17 February 2025.

**20 JANUARY 2025 | PROFILING MEETING**

A subsequent meeting was held between the Sarawak Regional Office and Jordan Soo, Policy Research Officer for P196 Stampin, to plan the upcoming issue mapping visit. Stampin, being one of the most densely populated constituencies in Sarawak, comprises a mix of urban and semi-urban areas. The site visit was tentatively scheduled to take place from 5 to 9 February 2025.

**20 FEBRUARY 2025 | PRE-VISIT**

A pre-visit to P196 Stampin was conducted by the Sarawak Regional Office, during which a meeting was held with Jane (Xiao Lan), an officer from Pusat Khidmat DAP Batu Kawah. Planning for the issue mapping with communities in DUN Batu Kawah, scheduled for March, was the focus of the discussions.



24 FEBRUARY 2025 | COURTESY VISIT TO PADAWAN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL (MPP)

A courtesy visit to the Padawan Municipal Council (MPP), one of two local councils in P196 Stampin, was conducted by the Sarawak team. The delegation was welcomed by Chairman YBr. Cr. Tan Kai, Acting Secretary YBr. Sr. Ita Ling, councillors, and department representatives. SDG-aligned initiatives were shared by MPP, including rainwater harvesting, the appointment of 53% women in management roles, low-income house repairs, and waste segregation in collaboration with NGOs. Other key efforts, such as LED streetlighting, green city planning, and child-friendly urban projects, were also highlighted. The visit was aimed at mapping local challenges, fostering collaboration, and exchanging best practices in sustainable urban development.



25 FEBRUARY 2025 | COURTESY VISIT TO THE MAYOR OF COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KUCHING SOUTH (MBKS)

The Sarawak Regional Office paid a Courtesy Visit to Dato Wee Hong Seng, Mayor of the Kuching South City Council (MBKS), one of the local authorities in P196 Stampin, to learn more about MBKS's role and the initiatives it has implemented in supporting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at local level. During the meeting, Dato Wee Hong Seng also shared examples aligned with SDG indicators, including Urban Farming and the Transition Home for Graduates. The discussion also highlighted the potential collaboration between APPGM-SDG and MBKS in addressing community issues to ensure a more inclusive and sustainable urban development. This collaboration is expected to contribute to sustainable development and the well-being of the Kuching community.



KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEW (KII) : EN. BAKI BIN HAJI LEH, PENERUS MASJID NURUL ASYIKIN, KAMPUNG LIDAH TANAH, KUCHING

Kampung Lidah Tanah is recognised as one of the oldest Malay villages in the Kuching Division, bearing historical significance as an early administrative hub of Sarawak in the 1800s. Its name—translated as “tongue of the land”—is inspired by the area’s distinctive landform, a peninsula jutting into the river that resembles a tongue. Following the relocation of Sarawak’s administrative centre from Santubong, authority was transferred to Lidah Tanah in the early 1820s under the leadership of Datu Patinggi Ali,

before eventually moving to Kuching around 1827. Historical and archaeological findings have identified four cemeteries along the elevated grounds of the village, some of which date back to the mid-19th century, attesting to its long-standing habitation. Among the prominent figures buried there is Datu Merpati, also known as Datuk Landeh. Today, Kampung Lidah Tanah remains a functioning village, with its cultural and spiritual heritage reflected in the presence of Masjid Nurul Ashikin—a Grade IV mosque completed in 2022 that continues to serve the local community. Today the Masjid committee has taken on limited administrative roles, though without formal recognition with constrained capacity. A follow-up FGD is scheduled on 19 April 2025 to gather broader community input.



SITE VISIT 1 : WASTE DISPOSAL HUT AT LIDAH TANAH

A dilapidated and unhygienic waste disposal hut located at the entrance of the village was observed to be in need of replacement and upgrading. Although it was empty at the time of the visit, it was reported that the structure is unable to accommodate the volume of waste generated by all 120 households in the village. The community expressed a preference for the facility to be relocated to a more appropriate site, rather than remaining at the village entrance.



FGD 1: KAMPUNG SUDAT COMMUNITY, KUCHING

FGD 1 was conducted with the community in Kampung Sudat. **Issues raised included:** (1) **Inadequate funding** for Church reconstruction – The RM200,000 allocated by Sarawak's Unit for Other Religions (UNIFOR) in 2023 was insufficient due to rising construction costs, leaving the project incomplete; (2) **Persistent Flooding** – The village faced over 10 years of recurring floods. Despite agency surveys and consultations, no mitigation measures were implemented;

Furthermore, (3) **Poor Drainage Infrastructure** – Shallow drains and an undredged riverbed (since the 1990s) worsened water stagnation and flood risk; (4) **Environmental Health and Safety Concerns** – A nearby premix plant contributed to dust pollution, crop contamination, and safety risks from heavy lorry traffic; (5) **Substandard Road Conditions** – The village road, meant for light use, was damaged by frequent passage of 40–50 tonne lorries; and (6) **Youth Vulnerabilities – Substance Abuse** – Drug use among youth was increasing, but outreach by AADK mostly reached older residents, missing the target group.



SITE VISIT 2 : PREMIX PLANT BEHIND KAMPUNG SUDAT

Following the FGD at Kampung Sudat, the team was brought to visit a premix plant located in close proximity to the residential area. The community expressed concern over its location, citing ongoing issues related to environmental and health impacts. Dust emissions from the plant have been reported to regularly settle on household compounds, poultry enclosures, and vegetable gardens—affecting both food sources and daily living conditions. Residents shared that their homegrown vegetables often fail to thrive, and many have experienced allergy symptoms and respiratory discomfort, particularly in the early mornings when dust levels appear highest. The community also observed that waste discharge from the plant has contributed to the shallowing of the nearby river, which they believe exacerbates local flooding issues.

In addition, the frequent movement of lorries transporting premix materials in and out of the village has raised safety concerns. The existing kampung road, not designed to accommodate heavy vehicles, is reportedly deteriorating under the strain, increasing the risk of accidents and further disrupting daily life for villagers.



FGD 2: PERPUSTAKAAN DESA, KAMPUNG BUMBOK COMMUNITY

FGD 2 was conducted at Kampung Bumbok, a Bidayuh village situated in an urban setting which was established in 1950. It was originally known as Kampung Sungai Serak/Kampung Sarawak, which was known to exist since 1838. It currently has over 400 households. **Key issues and insights shared by the community included:** (1) **Access to clean treated water:** A Kuching Water Board water treatment plant is located in the vicinity of the village, and villagers enjoy a stable supply of treated water. However, for new homeowners, applications for water supply connections take a long time to process. Thus villagers resort to meter sharing with their family and neighbours; (2) **Electricity connection:** Similar to the above issue, new homeowners face long waiting times for their application to connect their homes to the grid. One reason given was an apparently new policy whereby land title is needed to process their application, despite not needing one previously. The gazettement of individual plots is currently ongoing; and (3) **Decline in soil fertility.** Traditionally, the community planted paddy, but activity has declined due to poor soil fertility—largely attributed to the presence of the nearby water treatment plant. Today, padi planting is only done on a small scale for cultural preservation. The community has further aspirations that once land titles are secured, the community plans to set up a collective farm to put land to good use.



SITE VISIT III : KAMPUNG BUMBOK'S PADDY FARM

Kampung Bumbok is a Bidayuh village located at the fringe of the city, where traditional paddy farming is still actively practiced. Despite their proximity to urban areas and the accessibility of commercially available rice, the community remains closely connected to their adat (customary traditions). In addition to paddy, corn is also cultivated as a supplementary crop to support household needs.



FGD 3: KAMPUNG LIDAH TANAH COMMUNITY, KUCHING

FGD 3 was conducted with the community at Kampung Lidah Tanah, Kuching. **Issues that were identified included:** (1) **Administrative issues** — The community of Kampung Lidah Tanah continues to face persistent administrative and coordination issues due to the prolonged absence of an officially appointed Ketua Kampung for the past 2 years. This leadership gap has disrupted access to public services, delayed development support, and weakened community-level decision-making processes. In the absence of formal leadership, efforts to establish a functioning committee have also stalled, limiting the village's engagement with state-led programmes and assistance schemes. (2) **Geographic-Administration Mismatch** : Although Kampung Lidah Tanah is situated relatively close to Kuching District, it falls administratively under the jurisdiction of the Bau District. This geographic-administrative mismatch has contributed to ambiguity in service provision, with community members expressing uncertainty over which authority holds responsibility for addressing their local development concerns. This disconnect further complicates efforts to resolve long-standing infrastructure and social support issues. (3) **Lack of recreational facilities** — Kampung Lidah Tanah faces a significant shortage of recreational facilities for its residents, particularly for the youth. The existing facility is a football field which overlaps with the old cemetery area. The lack of available land in the area poses further challenges to the development of new recreational spaces. As a result, local youths often have no dedicated space for healthy and structured activities, leading many to loiter around the village late into the night, sometimes even as late as 1 a.m. Finally, (4) **School dropouts** — The village also faces a concerning number of school dropouts, with some youths not completing even Form 3, although specific figures are currently unavailable. These cases often stem from financial hardship and, in some instances, the loss of one or both parents, leaving the affected children without adequate care or guidance.

Despite the absence of formal village leadership, the community has demonstrated a high degree of resilience and self-organisation. Local programmes and initiatives are actively coordinated through the Masjid Nurul Asyikin committee, such as the Biro Wanita and the Jawatankuasa Pengurusan Masjid. These bodies have taken on informal leadership roles to ensure the continuity of educational and welfare-related activities. This illustrates the community's ability to mobilise internal resources and maintain functionality despite structural governance gaps. However, the scope of these initiatives remains limited, as funding primarily comes from Majlis Islam and the Jabatan Agama Islam Sarawak (JAIS).



FGD 4: COMMUNITY OF ELDER FARMERS FROM SUNGAI MOYAN, BATU KAWAH, KUCHING

FGD 4 was conducted with the Community of Elder farmers from Sungai Moyan, Batu Kawah. Issues raised by the community included: **(1) High Fertiliser Costs** – Small-scale farmers, growing mainly for personal use and small sales, cited fertiliser as a major expense. Fertiliser is applied every 10 days, using up to 80kg depending on crop volume. Past aid was limited, with only five bags received around five years ago; **(2) Crop Volatility Due to Market Trends** – Farmers plant based on fluctuating consumer demand, which leads to unstable income and inconsistent crop cycles; and **(3) Lack of Guidance** – Farmers lacked knowledge on applying for fertiliser aid and relied on the local service centre. They expressed interest in training and support from the Agriculture Department, as current practices are largely based on trial and error.

The research team's in-situ observation highlighted that local farmers were not producing at a consistent scale to meet market demand, often responding to short-term trends without structured or long-term planning. As farming is not the primary source of income for many of these individuals, motivation to maintain steady output remains limited, which in turn makes it challenging to justify targeted or large-scale support interventions. Nevertheless, their contribution to local food security and their role in supporting small vendors within the community remain valuable, even if their impact on the broader commercial market is relatively modest.



SITE VISIT IV : FARMERS INDIVIDUAL PLOT AT SUNGAI MOYAN

The research team visited two farms operated by local small-scale commercial farmers in the area. These farmers cultivate crops such as bananas, durians, calamansi limes, and vegetables like watercress, primarily for supply to local markets. In addition to commercial farming, the team also observed instances of subsistence farming, where individuals grow produce mainly for household consumption and to supplement their income.



FGD 5: SQUATTER COMMUNITY AT JALAN NGEER BOON KIUNG, BATU KAWA, KUCHING

FGD 5 was conducted with residents of an informal settlement located along Jalan Ngee Boon Kiung in Batu Kawa, Kuching. The community, established approximately 15 years ago, comprises five houses occupied by multiple families. The settlement sits on a mix of river reserve and privately owned land, with residents allowed to remain based on verbal permission from the landowner, in exchange for helping to maintain the property. Children attend nearby schools (SK Stapok and SMK Batu Kawa), commuting by foot or bicycle over distances of 2–3 km. Schools have provided support through the Rancangan Makanan Tambahan (RMT) programme and clothing donations. **The discussion highlighted several pressing concerns:** (1) **Livelihoods:** Most families rely on low-skilled, casual employment, such as working at food stalls, vehicle workshops, or construction sites. Some household members are employed in Kuala Lumpur. Most women are housewives, with only one reportedly engaged in formal employment. (2) **Food Security:** Daily household food expenses average RM50, which is insufficient—especially for families with 4 to 5 children. While some residents previously grew vegetables, prolonged flooding has rendered the soil infertile, leading to the cessation of small-scale planting activities. Although chickens are reared and wild ferns grow nearby, these food sources are not actively utilised. (3) **Documentation Issues:** A significant concern among residents is the lack of legal documentation. Two individuals are reportedly without identity cards (ICs). One elderly woman has applied but has yet to receive hers. (4) **Education Barriers:** A student was reportedly suspended from school due to one parent's undocumented status, though further details were not available. (5) **Environmental Hazards:** Major floods in 2004 and 2014 caused property damage and contributed to a scabies outbreak. Crocodile sightings are frequent, and a pet dog was recently killed, raising safety concerns. (6) **Waste Management:** The absence of formal waste disposal services has led residents to either burn household waste or dispose of it in the river, creating environmental and health risks. (7) **Tenure Insecurity and Financial Constraints:** When asked why they have not relocated, residents cited financial hardship and the inability to afford rental housing or homeownership within Kuching.

This community reflects broader structural issues: a lack of affordable housing, insecure employment, and exclusion from formal support systems. Despite the risks and challenges, relocation remains unfeasible due to economic constraints and the absence of alternative housing options. The community's persistence is driven by proximity to schools, employment, and the basic need for survival. This squatter community is, however, well-informed about the types of government support available and how to access them. Unfortunately, a few residents are unable to benefit due to the lack of proper documentation. They also know how to seek assistance during floods and have successfully reached out to formal agencies such as JPAM for temporary shelter support.



FGD 6: PERSATUAN VETERAN ANGKATAN TENTERA MALAYSIA (PVATM), SARAWAK BRANCH – CAWANGAN BAU

FGD 6 was conducted with the “*Persatuan Veteran Angkatan Tentera Malaysia (PVATM), Sarawak Branch – Cawangan Bau*”. The PVATM Bau Branch currently has over 700 registered members across the Bau district, which partially overlaps with the Stampin parliamentary constituency. The branch leader estimates there are over 2,000 veterans residing in the area, many of whom remain unregistered with the association. On the ground, the association functions as a welfare organisation supporting grassroots veterans, as well as widows, widowers, and the children of former service personnel. **Key issues raised included:** (1) **Insufficient Welfare Funding:** The branch struggles with limited funding to support veterans and their families, particularly those unable to work due to injuries sustained during service, or widows/widowers of those who died in service; (2) **Pension Adjustment Gap** (Pre-2013 Veterans): Veterans who retired prior to 2013 are not eligible for recent pension adjustments. This unresolved issue remains a topic of national debate and concern; (3) **Lack of Recognition for Military-acquired Skills:** Professional and technical training acquired during military service is not formally recognised outside the defence sector, significantly limiting veterans’ post-retirement employment opportunities; (4) **Inadequate Transition and Mental Health Support:** While motivational and upskilling programmes are offered prior to retirement, the certifications do not translate effectively into civilian employment. Additionally, there is a notable lack of post-retirement mental health support services; (5) **Limited Implementation of Land Entitlement:** Under the *Perintah Majlis Angkatan Tentera 1973 (PMAT 1973)*, veterans are entitled to two parcels of land: one residential lot for house construction and one agricultural lot. However, this entitlement is inconsistently implemented across states. Pahang is reportedly the only state actively upholding this provision. A Hansard record from the Ministry of Finance dated 12 June 2014 confirms that PMAT 1973 has not been repealed and remains legally in effect. The last time it was raised in Parliament was in 8th March 2022 by the current speaker, Tan Sri Dato Johari Abdul; (6) **Proposal to Increase Pingat Jasa Malaysia (PJM) Allowance:** In lieu of pension adjustments, participants suggested that increasing the PJM allowance could serve as an alternative form of compensation and recognition for service; and (7) **Economic Insecurity and Lack of Income-generation Support:** Many veterans continue to face economic hardship post-retirement, with limited access to sustainable income-generation programmes or economic reintegration pathways.



KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEW WITH THE CHAIR AND DEPUTY CHAIR OF THE MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION SARAWAK (MHAS), KUCHING

An interview session was conducted with MHAS Chairman Dr Ng Boon Seng and Deputy Chair Dr Azizah Saie on a practitioner's perspective on the mental health related issues in an urban setting such as Kuching. It has been a practice since the 1980s to focus on rehabilitation for societal integration instead of institutionalisation of people with mental health disorders. These medical professionals recommend activities that strengthen community resilience - such as PLKN or other community service activities - and fostering communication skills from early childhood to help prevent the rise of mental health disorders. It was also mentioned that early exposure to tech gadgets can hinder the development of these essential communication skills. Strong societal awareness and support is also essential in the rehabilitation of those suffering from mental health disorders.



FGD 7: STRATA HOMEOWNERS AND PROPERTY PROFESSIONALS

FGD 7 was conducted with the Strata Homeowners and property professionals. The Strata Management Ordinance (SMO2019), introduced in Sarawak in 2019, was developed to address the rise of strata-titled properties in urban areas. Strata living is relatively new in Sarawak, with growing adoption among young professionals and the ageing population, driven by changing lifestyles and a preference for safer, low-maintenance homes. The FGD gathered five professionals—including lawyers, an engineer, a property developer representative, and a valuer from the Royal Institution of Surveyors Malaysia (RISM). Most were also strata homeowners. Others submitted written input. **Key issues raised included:** (1) **Interpretation and Implementation of SMO2019** : SMO2019, being new, is open to misinterpretation. Some Property Management Companies (PMCs) have exploited this, at times overriding Joint Management Committee (JMC) decisions. The absence of rules separating roles in PMCs and JMCs raises concerns over conflicts of interest.; (2) **Unclear Role of the Commissioner of Buildings (COB)**; Participants noted a lack of clarity about COB's structure, team composition, and reporting lines, affecting enforcement and oversight; (5) **Policy and Enforcement Gaps**; (3) **Strata Policy enforcement** : There is a need to tighten policies and improve enforcement, particularly in cases already reported. Current loopholes leave room for abuse; (4) **Lack of Transparency**: Processes around strata title issuance and land alienation lack transparency, undermining trust among stakeholders.



FGD 8: SARAWAK WOMEN FOR WOMEN SOCIETY (SWWS)

FGD 8 was conducted within the Stampin Parliamentary constituency with SWWS to discuss issues faced by urban women and children's rights. 4 committee members was in attendance. SWWS is a 40 year old Sarawak based NGO advocating for elimination of violence against women and children. Their committee are made up of women in social works, healthcare - psychiatry and legal professions. there are also a member of the Sarawak CSO-SDG Alliance. We had a rather informative discussion with them on issues within the Stampin constituency but also across Sarawak. SWWS has been supporting the Ministry of Women, Early Childhood and Community Wellbeing Development of Sarawak on various professional social works supports. **Among issues discussed were: (1) The absence of trained social workers in the public work system space is notable.** While certain services have been outsourced or privatised to meet immediate needs, this approach often fails to address the systemic integration of social work into public health and welfare infrastructure; **(2) Child safety awareness** especially how to manoeuvre the online environment when they are easily available harmful materials and the danger of dark webs. SWWS also provide non-judgmental and non-preaching method and sex education, necessary to guide young children exploring online space especially when it comes to sexual reproductive health; **(3) "Abuse happens more frequently than society realises"** Urban and rapidly developing areas such as Stampin lack the social support sector (under the government purviews). For example, the strong reliance on NGOs and other volunteers to fill in the systemic gaps in the public system. However NGOs commonly face funding issues; **(4) Ageing community care :** in terms of the ageing community with Sarawak set to become an ageing state in 2028 (2 years in advance of the national average), while the Sarawak Government is in the works of preparing to improve its development to support the ageing, however senior cares in Stampin/Kuching City is driven by the private sectors and doest not fully taking into account the needs and comfort. there is a need for spectrum of care which keeps the elderly integrated while not segmented away from the rest of society. What we are looking for now is quote unquote "sustained community, sustain identity, give choices" - especially because "the older person tend to get ignored"; **(5) certain services from offered in Kuala Lumpur (as the centre) does not translates into the "periphery"** for example, 'Witness Support Services' by the federal welfare department, has yet to be offered in Sarawak. There is a time-lag in enacting policies from the "centre" to "periphery"; and **(6) The revitalisation of third spaces is important to foster SDG11.**

PART B

Issue Mapping Report

P.196 Stampin

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List of Abbreviations

AD	Assistant Director
AO	Administrative Officer
AADK	Agensi Anti Dadah Kebangsaan
ADO	Assistant District Officer
ADUN	Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri
API	Aerial Photographs
APPGM-SDG	All Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia - Sustainable Development Goals
BN	Barisan Nasional
CCD	Constituency Coordination Department
DO	District Officer
DOA	Department of Agriculture
DOSM	Department of Statistic, Malaysia
DVS	Department of Veterinary Services
DUN	Dewan Undangan Negeri
FAMA	Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GPS	Gabungan Parti Sarawak
HOS	Head of Secretariat

ICQS	Immigration, Customs, Quarantine and Security
IAD	Inter – Agency Dialogue
IPD	Ibu Pejabat Polis Daerah
JPN	Jabatan Pendaftaran Negara
KII	Key Informant Interview
MBKS	Majlis Bandaraya Kuching Selatan / Council of Kuching City South
MFG	Mini Focus Group
MP	Members of Parliament
MPP	Majlis Perbandaran Padawan / Padawan Municipal Council
Mt	Metric tonne
NGO	Non-Government Organisation
OAPTAR	Organisation for Addiction Prevention, Treatment and Recovery
PRA	Participatory Rural Assessment
SFC	Sarawak Forestry Corporation
SFD	Sarawak Forestry Department
SME	Small Medium Enterprises
SMI	Small Medium Industries
SMK	Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan
SRWS	Sarawak Rural Water Supply Department
SSD	Semi Structured Discussion
TFG	Townhall Focus Group
YB	Yang Berhormat

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The federal parliamentary seat of P196 Stampin is presently held by **YB Tuan Chong Chieng Jen**, a senior political figure affiliated with the Democratic Action Party (DAP), a component party of the Pakatan Harapan (PH) coalition. He concurrently serves as the Member of Parliament (MP) for Stampin and the State Assemblyperson (ADUN) for N9 Padungan, thereby occupying a dual mandate that spans both federal and state legislative responsibilities in Sarawak. Beyond his legislative portfolio, Chong holds key positions in political and institutional governance, serving as the Vice Chairperson of DAP Malaysia, and the Chairperson of the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). His career reflects a sustained engagement in public policy, institutional reform, and federal-state relations, positioning him as a significant actor in the discourse on governance and representation in East Malaysia.



**YB Tuan Chong Chieng
Jen**

1.1 Geography/Topography

The P196 Stampin Parliamentary Constituency is located within the Kuching Division of Sarawak, Malaysia. It encompasses both urban and suburban areas that form an integral part of the city's expanding metropolitan footprint. The constituency's boundaries include a mix of established residential zones and rapidly developing suburbs, representing the spatial growth of Kuching as one of Sarawak's key administrative and economic centres.

Administratively, Stampin consists of three state constituencies under the Dewan Undangan Negeri (DUN), namely N12 Kota Sentosa, N13 Batu Kitang, and N14 Batu Kawa. These state seats collectively contribute to the constituency's diverse social and economic profile.

Prominent neighbourhoods within Stampin include Tabuan Jaya, Stutong, BDC, and sections of Jalan Stampin and Jalan Laksamana Cheng Ho. These areas are recognised for their high residential density, mixed land use, and well-developed infrastructure. The constituency features a combination of mature housing estates, commercial corridors, and new suburban developments, reflecting Kuching's ongoing process of urban expansion.

1.2 Demographics

According to the 2020 National Census, the Stampin constituency recorded a population of approximately 212,217 residents, with more than 121,000 registered electors as of the 2022 general election. It is among the most densely populated parliamentary constituencies in Sarawak, reflecting the demographic concentration characteristic of major urban centres.

The population is predominantly ethnic Chinese, comprising dialect groups such as Hakka, Hokkien, and Teochew. This is followed by significant populations of Sarawak Bumiputera, including Iban, Bidayuh, and Orang Ulu, as well as Malay voters as indicated by Table 1 below. Smaller segments consist of Indian and other minority communities (Department of Statistics Malaysia, 2022).

Table 1. Population Composition in the Stampin Parliament Constituency

NO.	ETHNIC GROUP	%
1.	Bumiputera (including Malay and non-Malay)	41.7
2.	Chinese	57.4
3.	Indian	0.6
4.	Others	0.3
TOTAL		100

Source: Statistik Subnasional Parlimen dan DUN - Parlimen Stampin, Department of Statistic Malaysia (2022)

1.3 Livelihood Strategies & Economic Activities

As a primarily urban constituency, Stampin's economy is anchored by commerce, services, and small to medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), which are integral to Kuching's metropolitan economy. The area hosts several commercial centres, retail hubs, and office complexes, particularly in Tabuan Jaya and BDC, serving as focal points for economic and community activity.

Employment in Stampin is concentrated in sectors such as public administration, education, healthcare, retail, and professional services. In recent years, there has been increasing participation in emerging digital and creative industries, reflecting the constituency's gradual shift towards a modern urban economy. Continuous residential and commercial development underscores Stampin's role as one of Kuching's principal growth zones and a key parliamentary seat in Sarawak's socio-economic and political landscape.

1.4 Relation between the SDG Conceptual Framework and the Local Contexts

The Stampin parliamentary constituency is situated within the Kuching Division of Sarawak, Malaysia, and forms part of the greater Kuching metropolitan region. Geographically, Stampin encompasses a mix of low-lying urban and suburban zones, with its terrain primarily characterised by flat to gently undulating topography. The area is located along the northwestern coastal plain of Borneo, with elevations typically ranging from 0 to 50 metres above sea level, which makes it well-suited for residential, commercial, and light industrial development.

The constituency includes a variety of built-up and natural environments, comprising established residential neighbourhoods such as Tabuan Jaya, Stutong, and BDC, as well as newly developing suburban areas on the outskirts of the city. It is also interspersed with green spaces, recreational parks, small riverine systems, and remnant peat swamp forest zones, which are ecologically significant and prone to seasonal waterlogging or flooding in lower-lying areas.

Stampin is home to several well-designed parks and public amenities that contribute to its liveability. Sama Jaya Nature Reserve, a protected green lung in the midst of urban development, offers forest trails, biodiversity conservation, and recreational space for residents. The Malaysia-China Friendship Park, located in the heart of the constituency, is another example of thoughtful urban landscape planning, combining cultural features, water elements, and social spaces that promote community interaction and wellness. In addition, Stampin hosts several high-end residential developments, reflecting its growing appeal to middle- and upper-income residents. These include gated communities and modern housing estates, particularly in areas like Tabuan Heights, BDC, and parts of Batu Kawa.

Kota Sentosa, also referred to as 7th Mile, functions as a major suburban hub with dense residential settlements, public amenities, and commercial centres. It plays a strategic role in linking urban Kuching with outlying rural communities, and its central market and healthcare facilities serve a wide catchment area. All three areas are experiencing increased infrastructural investment, including road expansion, drainage improvement, and new housing projects, reflecting their growing importance in regional planning and urban migration.

Despite its strategic location and growing appeal, Stampin faces a number of pressing development challenges. These issues align closely with several United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and highlight the importance of integrated urban planning and inclusive policies.

Flooding and drainage remain persistent concerns, particularly in low-lying zones such as those along the Batu Kawa River. Batu Kawa, a rapidly urbanising zone, features a blend of residential developments, commercial hubs, and cultural landmarks. It is traversed by the Batu Kawa River, a significant waterway that has historically supported local livelihoods and agricultural activity. The river remains vital for drainage, stormwater management, and environmental sustainability, although it is also a source of concern due to periodic flooding during heavy rainfall, which affects low-lying settlements along its banks.

Seasonal rainfall and poor stormwater management contribute to flash floods that affect homes and public infrastructure. These challenges relate directly to **SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities (Target 11.5: Reduce the number of people affected and direct economic losses caused by disasters.)** and **SDG 13: Climate Action, (Target 13.1: Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters) underlining the need for climate-resilient urban development (Target 13.2: Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning).**

Stampin also grapples with issues related to **informal housing and squatter settlements**, particularly in peri-urban areas. These communities often lack basic sanitation, flood protection, and secure tenure. Resettlement and affordable housing programs have been introduced, but continued attention is needed to ensure inclusive and safe living conditions, in line with **SDG 1: No Poverty (Target 1.4: Ensure access for all to basic services, ownership, and control over land and property)** and **SDG 11 (Target 11.1: Ensure access to adequate, safe, and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums).**

As urbanisation accelerates, **infrastructure development** has become a central concern. Road expansion, drainage upgrades, and housing projects are actively shaping the physical landscape of Batu Kawa and Batu Kitang. These initiatives reflect the goals of **SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (Target 9.1: Develop quality, reliable, sustainable, and resilient infrastructure)** and reinforce the importance of forward-looking urban planning under **SDG 11 (Target 11.3: Enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanisation and capacity for participatory, integrated human settlement planning)**

While development brings economic opportunities, it also raises concerns around **social inclusion**. The contrast between high-end gated communities and underserved settlements highlights persistent inequality. Addressing this imbalance is key to fulfilling **SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities (Target 10.2: Empower and promote the social, economic**

and political inclusion of all), particularly through equitable access to services and opportunities.

Water security is another priority area. Batu Kitang is known for its semi-rural character and mixed land use, comprising traditional villages, light industries, and agricultural areas. A critical infrastructure in this zone is the **Batu Kitang Water Treatment Plant**, which supplies potable water to a significant portion of the greater Kuching region, serving both residential and commercial users. Its role is integral to regional water security and public health. Its strategic importance supports **SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation**, ensuring that both residential and commercial users have reliable access to potable water. This includes the following targets: **Target 6.1:** Achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all. **Target 6.4:** Substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors. There is an urgent need for Stampin - and Sarawak more broadly - as the state is projected to reach ageing state status by 2028, two years earlier than the national average. This accelerated demographic shift necessitates a comprehensive and inclusive approach to ageing. Priority must be given to the development of age-friendly infrastructure, integrated eldercare systems, and accessible mental health support to ensure older persons remain active, supported, and socially connected. This aligns with **SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being** with **Target 3.8:** Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential healthcare services with other social and welfare services needing better attention to support the developing lifestyle of a growing urban metro area such as Stampin itself.

2.0 RESEARCH METHODS & METHODOLOGY

This parliamentary report employs a systematic and evidence-based approach to issue mapping, adhering to best practices within the APPGM-SDG framework. A qualitative methodology was adopted to capture the lived experiences of grassroots communities, ensuring the findings are both representative and contextually relevant. The primary data collection methods are rooted in Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) techniques (Chambers 1994), incorporating semi-structured inquiries such as Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and/or Key Informant Interviews (KIs) (Tremblay 1957) to gather in-depth, grounded insights. These ethnographic research tools facilitate active participation and collaboration with community members, allowing for a nuanced understanding of their perspectives. Complementing the fieldwork, desk studies were conducted to provide an overarching understanding of the locations and communities involved, forming a foundational framework to guide the research process. In Sarawak, the research incorporated the use of native and local languages and their properties of everyday conversation (Stubbs 1983) to ensure inclusivity and authenticity, fostering meaningful engagement with community members. To further enhance the analysis, discourse analysis (Coulthard 1977) was employed, structured around three core

elements: content, context, and assumption (Rahim 2018). This framework enabled a comprehensive exploration of themes, interactions, and underlying perspectives within the community narratives.

- Content: Analyzed the themes and types of interactions or utterances during discussions.
- Context: Explored grammar (language structure and syntax), setting (spatial, temporal, and social backgrounds), and emotion (expressed feelings or instincts) to interpret the broader environment of interactions.
- Assumption: Examined opinions, references, and questions to uncover underlying beliefs and perspectives of participants.

The integration of native languages and discourse analysis allowed for culturally sensitive and authentic interpretations of the data, ensuring that community dynamics were accurately captured. This methodological rigour emphasises participatory, inclusive, and evidence-based research practices, aligning with the principles of sustainable development goals. By combining ethnographic tools, qualitative data, and linguistic analysis, this study provides empirically grounded insights that reflect the lived realities of the communities studied.

2.1 Issue Mapping

The data-gathering methods used in P196 Stampin were grounded in community-based mapping approaches. These methods are informed by tools and principles derived from Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA)¹, which emphasise local knowledge, collective engagement, and community-led identification of issues. In Stampin Constituency, the issue mapping process involved eight (8) Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and two (2) key-informant interviews (KII) conducted with communities and related organisations across the three state constituencies within the parliamentary boundary - N12 Kota Sentosa, N13 Batu Kitang and N14 Batu Kawa. These sessions engaged a diverse range of local groups, including urban and peri-urban communities, as well as organisations involved in social work such as the Sarawak Women for Women's Society (SWWS) and the Mental Health Association of Sarawak (MHAS).

This issue mapping process and the selection of targeted communities was conducted together with the guidance of P196 Stampin Member of Parliament, YB Tuan Chong Chieng Jen, Constituency Research Officer, Jordan Soo, and Service Centre supervisor Jane (Xiao Lan). To avoid any biasness, the Sarawak team has also consulted the local councils, which are *Majlis Perbandaran Padawan* (MPP) and *Majlis Bandaraya Kuching Selatan*

¹ Chambers, Robert. "Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA): Challenges, Potentials and Paradigm." *World Development* 22, no. 10 (1994): 1437–1454. [https://doi.org/10.1016/0305-750X\(94\)90030-2](https://doi.org/10.1016/0305-750X(94)90030-2).

(MBKS), with further recommendations from CSO-SDG Alliance members. The process began with an inception and profiling on 10th of January 2025, and a total of ten sessions of FGD has taken place from 11th April to 26th May 2025. The APPGM-SDG officers involved are as follows:

1. Raine Melissa Riman : Lead Researcher
2. Dr Eva Kristin Larry Sait : Assistant Researcher
3. Corrin Alicia Nero : Assistant Researcher
4. Fahmi Fazrin Abdul Karim : Assistant Researcher

Table 2. Brief Itinerary of the Site Visit to Stampin Parliament

DATE	ACTIVITY/SESSION/VISITS
10 January 2025 , Friday	• Inception meeting & profiling with YB Chong Chieng Jen and his Research Officer cum Special Officer for Batu Kitang, Mr Jordan Soo.
20 January 2025 , Monday	• Profiling meeting with Research Officer Mr Jordan Soo.
20 February 2025 , Monday	• Pre-visit with Ms Jane (Xiao Lan), representative from DAP Batu Kawa Service Centre)
24 February 2025 , Monday	• Courtesy visit to Padawan Municipal Council (MPP) with Chairman Cr. Tan Kai, Acting Secretary YBrs. Sr. Ita Ling, councilors and department representatives
25 February 2025 , Tuesday	• Courtesy visit to Dato Wee Hong Seng, Mayor of the Kuching South City Council (MBKS)
11 April 2025 , Friday	• Key Informant Interview (KII) with En. Baki bin Haji Leh, Pengerusi Masjid Nurul Asyikin, Kampung Lidah Tanah, Kuching • Site Visit: Waste disposal Hut at Lidah Tanah • FGD 1 with Bidayuh Community, Kampung Sudat • Site Visit: Premix Plant Behind Kampung Sudat • FGD 2 with Bidayuh Community, Kampung Bumbok • Site Visit: Kampung Bumbok paddy farm
19 April 2025 , Saturday	• FGD 3 with Malay Community, Kampung Lidah Tanah
21 April 2025 , Monday	• FGD 4 with Elderly Chinese farmers, Sungai Moyan • Site Visit: Farmer's individual plot, Sungai Moyan
22 April 2024 , Tuesday	• FGD 5 with squatter community at Jalan Ngee Boon Kiung, Batu Kawa
5 May 2025 , Monday	• FGD 6 with Veterans' Association (PVATM), Bau

15 May 2025, Thursday	• Key informant interview (KII) with the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Mental Health Association Sarawak (MHAS), Kuching
20 May 2025, Tuesday	• FGD 7 with Strata Homeowners and Property Professionals
26 May 2025, Monday	• FGD 8 with Sarawak Women for Women Society
28 July 2025, Monday	• Interagency Dialogue (IAD)

2.2 Fieldwork Ethical Considerations

The Malaysian Code of Responsible Conduct in Research (MCRCR) (National Science Council 2020) governs research involving human participants in Malaysia. In adherence to these guidelines, the APPGM-SDG research ensured the highest ethical standards were maintained throughout the study:

- a. The lead researcher ensured that all ethical protocols were followed by obtaining informed consent from participants for audio recording, as well as for capturing video and photographs and ensuring voluntary participation. In cases where FGD participants declined to have their statements recorded or refused permission for their photographs to be taken, the research would not include or report those details on any platform.
- b. To protect participants' privacy, all personal data and sensitive information were treated confidentially. Identifying information was either anonymized or excluded from the final reports, unless explicit permission was granted by the participants. All data (primary and secondary) should not only be correctly collected and recorded but kept securely yet easily retrievable and in accordance with the Personal Data Protection Act 7097 of Malaysia (Malaysia, 2010). Data should be archived with strict confidentiality for a duration as required by the specific research.
- c. The research design and data collection methods were structured to avoid causing any psychological, social, or economic harm to participants. Researchers were sensitive to cultural norms, community dynamics, and local issues, ensuring as much as possible that the research process did not exploit or place undue burden on participants. Engaging with communities requires a deep understanding of their cultural, social, and economic contexts. Researchers adopted culturally appropriate methods of engagement, respecting local customs, languages, and traditions to foster trust and mutual respect between the researchers and the community.

- d. The research aimed to provide benefits to the community by accurately representing their voices, issues, and needs. Findings from the study will be shared with community leaders and relevant stakeholders to ensure the research would contribute to informed decision-making and positive outcomes for the community.

2.3 Fieldwork Challenges

Fieldwork in the P196 Stampin constituency presented several logistical and methodological challenges that shaped the overall research process. Unlike the standard three consecutive days typically allocated for field visits under this organisation's practice, the fieldwork in Stampin was conducted over the span of a month. This adjustment was necessary to accommodate the availability of community participants, particularly those from urban neighbourhoods who held full-time employment and were less inclined to engage during weekdays. The fragmented schedule allowed for greater flexibility but also extended the overall duration of the data collection process.

Scheduling focus group discussions (FGDs) proved especially challenging. Several sessions had to be postponed or rescheduled due to participants' limited availability or initial reluctance to take part in the study. Establishing trust and gaining the confidence of community members required sustained engagement and repeated communication, which in turn demanded additional time and logistical coordination.

Language and communication barriers further complicated data collection. Stampin's population is predominantly Chinese, and some participants, particularly in Sungai Moyan, conversed in a mix of Hokkien, Hakka, Mandarin, English, and Malay. This multilingual environment required careful facilitation and additional time for interpretation to ensure that participants' views were accurately captured and understood. Attention to linguistic nuances was crucial to maintaining the reliability and contextual integrity of the qualitative data.

Despite these challenges, the extended and adaptive approach ultimately contributed to a deeper understanding of the community dynamics within Stampin. It underscored the importance of flexibility, cultural sensitivity, and trust-building in conducting field-based research in diverse urban settings.

2.4 Limitations of Research

Despite providing valuable insights into the socio-cultural and participatory dynamics of the P196 Stampin constituency, this study was subject to several limitations that warrant acknowledgement. The first limitation concerns the fragmented timing of the fieldwork.

Unlike the organisation's standard practice of conducting field activities within three consecutive days, data collection for this study extended over a month. While this approach allowed for greater flexibility in accommodating participants' availability, it also introduced variations in the field context, potentially affecting the consistency and comparability of participant responses.

Participant availability further constrained the scope of engagement. As many residents in Stampin are employed in full-time occupations, arranging focus group discussions and interviews during regular working hours proved challenging. Consequently, participation was skewed towards individuals with more flexible schedules or stronger interest in the study's themes, which may limit the representativeness of the findings.

Language also posed a methodological limitation. The multilingual context of Stampin, where Hakka and Mandarin were frequently mixed with English and Malay, required ongoing translation and interpretation. Despite careful facilitation, certain nuances and cultural expressions may have been lost or simplified in the process, potentially influencing the precision of data interpretation.

Lastly, the study's qualitative nature and limited duration constrain the extent to which findings can be generalised beyond the immediate sample. The research was designed to provide an in-depth, context-specific understanding rather than broad generalisations.

In future research, more sustained engagement with the community is recommended to strengthen representativeness and trust. Incorporating a mixed-methods approach could complement qualitative insights with quantitative measures, enabling broader analytical depth. Additionally, engaging multilingual research assistants or employing community-based translators may enhance linguistic accuracy and inclusivity. Addressing these aspects would improve the robustness, validity, and scalability of future studies in similarly diverse urban settings.

3.0 KEY ISSUES AND CROSS-CUTTING SDGS

Here are the seven main issues that have been identified as priorities and require immediate attention. These issues were selected due to their significant impact on the well-being of the population and their relevance to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

Table 3. Key Issues and Cross-Cutting SDGs

NO.	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	AFFECTED GROUPS	AFFECTED AREAS	RELATED SDGS
1.	Administrative inefficiencies	Several villages in the constituency, such as those in peri-urban areas, have had no officially appointed <i>Ketua Kampung</i> (village chief) for over two years. This has disrupted public service access, delayed community development initiatives, and weakened village-level coordination, particularly with state agencies. Villages like Lidah Tanah are geographically	Social	Villagers of Kampung Lidah Tanah	Lidah Tanah	SDG 16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions Target 16.6 - Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels Target 16.7 - Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities Target 11.a - Support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural

NO.	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	AFFECTED GROUPS	AFFECTED AREAS	RELATED SDGS
		closer to Kuching but fall under Bau District's administrative boundary. This mismatch has caused confusion among residents regarding service delivery, responsibility, and access to district-level assistance and development planning.				areas by strengthening national and regional development planning
2.	Social inclusion and inequality	Socioeconomic disparities are evident between modern residential estates and underserved informal areas in terms of infrastructure, service access, and quality of life. This reflects deeper	Social, Economy	Informal settlers, B40 community	Jalan Ngee Boon Kiung	SDG 10 – Reduced Inequalities Target 10.2 - By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status

NO.	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	AFFECTED GROUPS	AFFECTED AREAS	RELATED SDGS
		issues of economic and social exclusion.				SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities Target 11.1 - By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums Target 11.3 - By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries
3.	Informal housing and urban poverty	Peri-urban areas have seen the rise of squatter settlements due to rural-urban migration. These communities often lack proper sanitation, flood	Social, Economy	Informal settlers (squatters)	Jalan Ngee Boon Kiung	SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities Target 11.1 - By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums

NO.	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	AFFECTED GROUPS	AFFECTED AREAS	RELATED SDGS
		protection, and legal housing tenure, increasing their vulnerability.				Target 11.5 - By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations SDG 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation Target 6.2 - By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations

NO.	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	AFFECTED GROUPS	AFFECTED AREAS	RELATED SDGS
						SDG 1 – No Poverty Target 1.4 - By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance
4.	Rapid urban development and infrastructure strain	Areas such as Batu Kawa and Batu Kitang are undergoing rapid urbanisation, with large-scale road, housing, and drainage developments. However, this expansion risks outpacing planning frameworks and straining public	Social, Environmental	Urban and peri-urban communities, informal settlers (squatters)	Batu Kawa Batu Kitang Kampung Sudat Kampung Bumbok Jalan Ngee Boon Kiung	SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities Target 11.3 - By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries

NO.	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	AFFECTED GROUPS	AFFECTED AREAS	RELATED SDGS
		resources. Low-lying areas, especially near the Batu Kawa River, experience seasonal flooding due to inadequate drainage systems.				Target 11.5 - By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations SDG 9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure Target 9.1 - Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all

NO.	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	AFFECTED GROUPS	AFFECTED AREAS	RELATED SDGS
						SDG 13 – Climate Action Target 13.1 - Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries
5.	Institutional gaps in social welfare delivery	A critical issue affecting Sarawak is the lack of institutionalised, professionally trained social workers within public service delivery systems. While outsourcing and privatising services may temporarily address certain needs, these are not substitutes for systemic, long-term integration of social work into health, education, and welfare infrastructure.	Social Governance	Impacting the general population	General micro and macro populations across Stampin and also Sarawak	SDG 1 – No Poverty Target 1.3 - Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable SDG 3 – Good Health and Well-Being Target 3.8 - Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable

NO.	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	AFFECTED GROUPS	AFFECTED AREAS	RELATED SDGS
		This gap is further compounded by centre - periphery disparities, where key federal initiatives - such as the Witness Support Service available in Kuala Lumpur - have yet to be implemented in Sarawak, perpetuating unequal access to support services.				essential medicines and vaccines for all SDG 10 – Reduced Inequalities Target 10.2 - By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status Target 10.3 - Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard

NO.	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	AFFECTED GROUPS	AFFECTED AREAS	RELATED SDGS
						SDG 16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions Target 16.3 - Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all Target 16.6 - Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels
6.	Veteran welfare and economic reintegration	Veterans continue to face systemic challenges in securing post-service economic stability. A major issue is the pension adjustment gap, where those who retired prior to 2013 are excluded from recent revisions. Proposals to increase the <i>Pingat Jasa Malaysia</i> (PJM)	Social Governance Economy	Veterans	Veterans across Stampin constituency and also across Malaysia	SDG 1 – No Poverty Target 1.3 - Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable Target 1.4 - By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic

NO.	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	AFFECTED GROUPS	AFFECTED AREAS	RELATED SDGS
		allowance have been raised as alternative compensation. Furthermore, military-acquired skills remain unrecognised outside the defence sector, limiting employment opportunities. Many veterans also lack access to income-generation support.				resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance SDG 8 - Decent Work and Economic Growth Target 8.3 - Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services

NO.	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	AFFECTED GROUPS	AFFECTED AREAS	RELATED SDGS
						Target 8.5 - By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value SDG 10 – Reduced Inequalities Target 10.2 - By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status SDG 16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions Target 16.6 - Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels

NO.	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	AFFECTED GROUPS	AFFECTED AREAS	RELATED SDGS
7.	Preparing for an ageing society - infrastructure, care, and inclusion	As Sarawak approaches ageing state status by 2028, urgent reforms are needed in both elderly care models and infrastructure planning. Current services - primarily located in Kuching and Stampin - are largely privately driven and insufficient to address the full emotional, social, and practical needs of older adults. There is a notable lack of age-friendly infrastructure, with city planning yet to incorporate universal design, elder mobility,	Social Governance	Ageing population	Stampin and across Sarawak urban areas	SDG 3 – Good Health and Well-Being Target 3.8 - Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all SDG 10 – Reduced Inequalities Target 10.2 - By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status SDG 16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

NO.	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	AFFECTED GROUPS	AFFECTED AREAS	RELATED SDGS
		and accessible public amenities. Mental health support systems for the elderly remain severely underdeveloped, with limited outreach, geriatric counselling services, or community-based psychosocial care available.				Target 16.7 - Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels

4.0 OVERVIEW OF ISSUES

4.1 Detailed Findings of Key Issues

Table 4. Detailed Findings of Key Issues FGD 1

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY'S FEEDBACK
FGD 1: Dialogue with Bidayuh Community of Kampung Sudat Date: 11 April 2025 No of Participants: 6 No of Groupings: 1 Group			Agencies that give feedback: 1. DID 2. Timbalan Residen 3. DOE 4. AADK 5. PDRM
1.	Persistent flooding for over a decade	The village has experienced recurring floods over the past decade. Despite multiple engagements with relevant agencies and councils, no concrete mitigation measures have been implemented. Although both agencies have carried out surveys and consultations, follow-up actions remain pending. In severe cases, villagers must wait for the floodwaters to recede naturally in order to access the settlement.	DID Response No cases have been reported at the divisional level so far. DID will check with headquarters for any planned mitigation measures. Timbalan Residen's Advice Local councils (PBT) are advised to ensure drains in residential areas are regularly cleaned. Additional Note: Community attitudes towards waste management and maintenance were identified as contributing factors.
2.	Poor drainage infrastructure	The drainage system in Kampung Sudat is shallow and inefficient, contributing to frequent water	Similar to above response.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY'S FEEDBACK
		stagnation and flooding. Additionally, the adjacent riverbed has not been properly dredged or maintained since the 1990s, further compounding the drainage issue.	
3.	Proximity of premix plant to residential area	A premix plant located near the village has become a significant source of pollution and risk: Air Quality: Residents report dust and ash from the plant contaminating their surroundings, including homegrown food sources. Health Risks: Exposure to airborne pollutants is affecting the community's overall wellbeing. Traffic and Safety: The movement of lorries transporting premix materials weighing 40-50 tonnes through the village has increased safety risks and damaged the already inadequate road infrastructure. The residents are unsure of the legality of the premix plant as it is located in close proximity to their village with inadequate buffer zone.	DOE Response: DOE will continue to enforce regulations on the premix plant. A dialogue session with MPP was held in 2022, chaired by MPP, as the pre-mix plant is located too close to the village.. DOE will continue to monitor with quarterly sampling and ensure better housekeeping measures (e.g., dust control), however the relocation of the pre-mix plant is under the jurisdiction of the Land and Survey Department.
4.	Sub-standard road conditions	The current road, originally constructed as a <i>Jalan Kampung</i> , is not designed to withstand heavy industrial vehicles. Repeated use by large lorries from the premix plant has deteriorated road	No response to this particular issue, linked to the relocation of the pre-mix plant as above. Crux of the issues is that the factories are relocated too near human settlements.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY'S FEEDBACK
		quality and compromised access and safety for residents.	
5.	Substance abuse	There are growing concerns about drug use among youth in Kampung Sudat. While the National Anti-Drug Agency (AADK) has conducted outreach sessions, these have primarily been attended by older residents, indicating a gap in engagement with the intended at-risk demographic.	AADK Response AADK confirmed that programs are being implemented in the area, though attendance is largely from older residents. It was suggested that the Social Development Council collaborate with AADK to increase outreach programs specifically targeting youth, in order to raise awareness and knowledge on drug issues. Additional Points: • It is difficult to completely eliminate drug problems, but efforts can reduce cases. • An anti-drug squad exists to conduct programs with youth and encourage their involvement as part of prevention efforts. Police/PDRM Response Full enforcement is being carried out. A 24-hour national hotline (012-2087222, including WhatsApp, Narcotics Criminal Investigation Department) is available for anonymous information sharing Enforcement Challenges

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY'S FEEDBACK
			• PDRM acknowledged constraints in logistics, ICT tools, and manpower. • Drug cases are increasing, but staffing levels remain unchanged. • Surveillance and interception are limited due to insufficient resources (ICT, vehicles, undercover operations). • Coordination with SKMM to intercept online transactions remains difficult. • Current trend: drug distribution through bank-in methods and temporary accounts. • Emerging Drug Trends • Rising cases involving “mushroom vape.” • Youngsters unknowingly consuming drinks laced with drugs at entertainment outlets. • Suggestion: Organise local awareness programs to inform communities about such social issues Factors Leading to Drug Abuse • Peer influence, experimentation, life pressures, low education levels, and accidental consumption. • Age group most affected: 17–40 years old.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY'S FEEDBACK
			• Juveniles often exposed through visits to entertainment centers. • Divorce and family issues also contribute to youth involvement in drugs. Rehabilitation • Mandatory placement at PUSPEN (narcotic rehabilitation center) remains the main intervention. • However, capacity limitations hinder both in-center rehabilitation and community-based supervision (OKP). Community & Family Role • Drug-related cases in villages are sometimes treated as “ports” for outsiders, but local communities can still lodge complaints and channel information. • Family attitudes and lack of cooperation often exacerbate the issue. Other Concerns Use of mule accounts (“<i>akaun keldai</i>”) linked to drug syndicates and scammers.

Table 5. Detailed Findings of Key Issues FGD 2

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY'S FEEDBACK
FGD 2: Dialogue with Bidayuh Community of Kampung Bumbok Date: 11 April 2025 No of Participants: 6 No of Groupings: 1 Group			Agencies that give feedback: 1. PDRM
1.	Lack of access to clean treated water - new homeowners	Batu Kitang Water Treatment Plant, operated by Kuching Water Board, is located in the vicinity of Kampung Bumbok, and villagers enjoy a stable supply of treated water. However, for new homeowners, applications for water supply connections take a long time to process and stringent requirements such as land titles. Thus, villagers resort to meter sharing with their family and neighbours.	<i>No agency feedback.</i>
2.	No connection to the electricity power grid	Similar to the above issue, new homeowners face long waiting times for their application to connect their homes to the grid. One reason given was an apparently new policy whereby land title is needed to process their application, despite not needing one previously. The gazettelement of individual plots is currently ongoing.	<i>No agency feedback.</i>
3.	Decline in soil fertility	Traditionally, the community planted paddy, but activity has declined due to the changing livelihood strategies of the younger generation as well as poor soil fertility. This is largely attributed to the	No agency feedback.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY'S FEEDBACK
		presence of the nearby water treatment plant. Today, paddy planting is only done on a small scale for cultural preservation.	
4.	Substance abuse	Substance abuse, particularly methamphetamine ("batu"), has become a serious concern within the community. Residents highlight that drug supply often comes from external sources, with suspicions of leaks in enforcement as information spreads quickly after reports are made. Community members also perceive weaknesses in the justice system, where individuals arrested for drug-related offenses are released quickly, enabling them to continue their activities. Several pushers have already been detained, underscoring the severity of the problem. Historically, drug use among the Bidayuh community was not prevalent in the 1980s, but changes began in the early 1990s, reportedly influenced by peer pressure and experimentation among youth. This shift reflects a growing vulnerability to substance abuse over time. While primary schools in the area have not reported dropout or testing issues, concerns remain about secondary school students' exposure and risk.	See feedback from PDRM in Kg Sudat.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY'S FEEDBACK
		Overall, the issue is seen as escalating, with strong peer influence, external suppliers, enforcement gaps, and intergenerational risks contributing to the persistence of substance abuse in the community.	

Table 6. Detailed Findings of Key Issues FGD 3

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY'S FEEDBACK
FGD 3: Dialogue with Malay Community of Kampung Lidah Tanah Date: 19 April 2025 No of Participants: 16 No of Groupings: 2 Note: Additional Key Informant Interview was conducted on 11 April 2025.			Agencies that give feedback: 1. District Office
1.	Administrative issue- lack of officially appointed leader	Prolonged absence of an officially appointed <i>Ketua Kampung</i> for the past 2 years causing administrative and coordination issues. The residents face disrupted access to public services, delayed development support, access to funding, and weakened community-level decision-making processes. Efforts to establish a functioning JKKK has also stalled, limiting the village's engagement with state-led programs and assistance schemes.	Bau District Officer - The previous <i>Ketua Kampung</i> accepted an offer in Peninsular Malaysia two years ago, leaving the post vacant. - This matter has been raised several times, and although the previous appointment has expired, a reappointment—likely of the same individual—is expected within the next one to two months. Role of Village Secretary (SU) - The SU has continued to perform duties effectively in the absence of a <i>Ketua Kampung</i>. - For matters requiring approval or assistance, requests can be channeled through the Penghulu. Houses located along Bukit Panchor and Lidah Tanah will be affected by the planned road upgrading works.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY'S FEEDBACK
2.	Administrative issue- geographical jurisdiction mismatch	Although Lidah Tanah is situated relatively close to Kuching District, it falls administratively under the jurisdiction of Bau District. This geographic-administrative mismatch has contributed ambiguity in service provision, with community members expressing uncertainty over which authority holds responsibility for addressing their local development concerns. This disconnect further complicates efforts to resolve long-standing infrastructure and social support issues.	<i>No response to this particular issue.</i>
3.	Lack of recreational facilities	There is a significant shortage of recreational facilities for residents, particularly the youth. There is an existing football field, located near the old cemetery. Lack of available land in the area poses further challenges to the development of new recreational spaces. As a result, the local youths have no dedicated space for healthy and structured activities, leading many to loiter around the village late into the night. There is also a rise of social issues among the youth.	Land Availability • No vacant land is available for new development, with only an open field remaining. • Clarification is required on which party will be responsible for the maintenance of this field.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY'S FEEDBACK
4.	Concerning number of school dropouts	The village faces a concerning number of school dropouts, with some youths not completing even Form 3, although specific figures are currently unavailable. These cases often stem from financial hardship and in some instances, the loss of both parents, leaving affected children without adequate care or guidance.	District Education Officer Data on School Dropouts - Specific data on dropouts at the district level is required, as general figures are insufficient to address the issue effectively. Non-Citizen Students - Non-citizens are allowed to enroll in government schools but are required to pay fees. School Capacity - In cases where government schools are already full, parents are advised to consider private schools as an alternative. Studies on Dropouts The Economic Planning Unit (EPU) has conducted studies on school dropouts; however, these studies were carried out in other divisions, not within the current district.
5.	Road safety at Kampung Lidah Tanah junction	The stretch of road at the junction leading into Kampung Lidah Tanah is a potential accident-prone area due to the slight downhill slope and curve of the road, making it difficult for vehicles to decelerate in time.	Road Upgrading Project (Phase 3: Batu Kitang – Bau, RMK-13) - The upgrading works will require the relocation of 14 houses. - The State Assemblyman (YB ADUN) has been informed and is involved in the matter.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY'S FEEDBACK
		The road is also frequently used by heavy vehicles. A notable incident involves a lorry crashing into a house adjacent to the main road.	Proposal for New Settlement • A new settlement has been proposed at Jalan Keranji. • The Land and Survey Department has gazetted the site for this purpose.
6.	Incomplete facilities at the village mosque	Masjid Nurul Ashikin lacks essential facilities, including a proper mortuary bathroom or <i>bilik mandi jenazah</i>. The construction of the mosque did not adhere to the specifications set by the Public Works Department (JKR). Following advice from the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (SPRM), the Mosque Management Committee submitted a formal letter to the District Office in February. At present, the <i>bilik mandi jenazah</i> is being used as a storage room, and preparation of the deceased are conducted in a makeshift area outdoors.	<i>No response to this particular issue.</i>

Table 7. Detailed Findings of Key Issues FGD 4

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY'S FEEDBACK
FGD 4: Dialogue with Hakka Chinese Farmers, Sungai Moyan, Batu Kawah Date: 21 April 2025 No of Participants: 16 No of Groupings: 1			Agencies that give feedback:
1.	High cost of agriculture input	The farmers in this area are mostly small-scale growers who cultivate crops primarily for personal consumption and as their part-time income by selling to local shops. A few have larger plots and engage in commercial farming, selling their produce in bulk. A challenge they face is the high cost of fertilizers. On average, fertilizing is done once every 10 days, with each application requiring up to 80kg, depending on the number and types of crops planted. More crops naturally require more fertilizer. There is also a lack of consistent assistance for fertilizer support. The farmers recalled receiving about five bags of fertilizer approximately four to five years ago but have not received any aid since then.	Department of Agriculture (DoA) has provided continuous support to the farming community. • An agricultural outreach program was introduced over the past two years to promote modern farming techniques (fertigation, hydroponics). • Program supported by Agricorp and the Agriculture Facilitation Farm (AFF), and is open to all. • Farmers seeking assistance must submit applications; process is the same for both urban and rural farmers. • Adoption of modern farming methods among elder farmers depends largely on family support, as farms are generally family-based. • Permanent Food Production Parks (TKPM) in Rampangi and Semenggok serve as important facilities for sustainable agriculture and food security.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY'S FEEDBACK
2.	Crop volatility driven by market demand	The volatility in the types of crops grown is largely influenced by market demand. Farmers noted that their planting decisions are highly responsive to consumer trends; for instance, if demand rises for a particular vegetable, they will prioritize cultivating that crop. However, as market preferences shift, so too must their crop selection. This demand-driven model of farming, while adaptive, also exposes small-scale farmers to market instability and income unpredictability.	
3.	Need for guidance from relevant government agencies.	These farmers are generally unaware of the correct procedures to apply for fertilizer assistance from the Department of Agriculture. At present, they rely primarily on the service center of the local elected representative (Pusat Khidmat) for help. They have also expressed an interest in guidance and knowledge-sharing sessions from the Department of Agriculture, as most of their farming knowledge has been gained through trial and error and peer-to-peer learning to improve their farming practices.	

Table 8. Detailed Findings of Key Issues FGD 5

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY'S FEEDBACK
FGD 5: Dialogue with Women living in an informal settlement at Jalan Ngee Boon Kiung, Batu Kawah Date: 22 April 2025 No of Participants: 5 No of Groupings: 1			Agencies that give feedback:
1.	Insecure employment	Families rely primarily on casual and low-skilled labour (working at food stalls, workshops, and construction sites, including in Kuala Lumpur). Most women are housewives, with only one reportedly employed.	<i>No response to this issue</i>
2.	Lack of affordable housing	The hardcore poor often resort to squatting because they are caught in a cycle of poverty, exclusion, and limited access to affordable housing. For these communities, remaining in informal settlements is often the only practical choice, driven by their need to stay close to schools, places of employment, and essential services. Many work in daily-wage or informal sectors with inconsistent income, making it impossible to secure formal housing that requires monthly rent or deposits.	Housing Development Corporation (HDC): Allocation for Squatters The Housing Development Corporation (HDC) has designated a certain portion of housing units for low-income families. Eligibility Challenges - Many squatters, particularly hardcore poor households, face difficulties meeting financial requirements. - Due to their income level, they are often unable to pay deposits or monthly instalments, making them technically ineligible to own the allocated houses.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY'S FEEDBACK
		Those lacking proper identification, income documentation, or official addresses are also ineligible for government housing or aid programs.	Rental Housing Options - HDC provides rental housing schemes, such as: Landeh: RM250/month Dahlia (Matang): RM100–150/month - Units generally consist of 1–2 rooms per house, though current designs now provide 3 rooms. Future Housing Projects - HDC plans to construct houses under the Resettlement Scheme (<i>Skim Penempatan Semula</i>) or the Village Expansion Scheme (<i>Skim Pembesaran Kampung</i>). - This includes housing for roadside settlements such as those in Lidah Tanah.
3.	Exclusion from formal support systems	Squatter communities face risks and challenges such as lack of access to proper waste management, as well as safety and security issues. Despite this, relocation remains unfeasible due to economic constraints and absence of alternative housing options. This squatter community is, however, well-informed about the types of government support available and how to access them. Unfortunately,	<i>No response to this issue.</i>

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY'S FEEDBACK
		a few residents are unable to benefit due to the lack of proper documentation. They also know how to seek assistance during floods (the settlement is by a riverbank) and have successfully reached out to formal agencies such as JPAM for temporary shelter support.	

Table 9. Detailed Findings of Key Issues FGD 6

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY'S FEEDBACK
FGD 6: Dialogue with Committee Members of Veteran's Association, Bau Branch Date: 5 May 2025 No of Participants: 4 No of Groupings: 1			Agencies that give feedback:
1.	Insufficient welfare funding	The branch struggles with limited funding to support veterans and their families, particularly those unable to work due to injuries sustained during service, or widows/widowers of those who died in service.	<i>No feedback was given during the IAD.</i>
2.	Pension adjustment gaps	Veterans who retired prior to 2013 are not eligible for recent pension adjustments. This unresolved issue remains a topic of national debate and concern. Proposal to increase <i>Pingat Jasa Malaysia</i> (PJM) allowance: In lieu of pension adjustments, participants suggested that increasing the PJM allowance could serve as an alternative form of compensation and recognition for service.	<i>No feedback was given during the IAD.</i>
3.	Lack of recognition for military-acquired skills	Professional and technical training acquired during military service is not formally recognized outside the defense sector.	<i>No feedback was given during the IAD.</i>

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY'S FEEDBACK
		This significantly limits the veterans' post-retirement employment opportunities.	
4.	Limited implementation of land entitlement	Under the Perintah Majlis Angkatan Tentera 1973_ (PMAT 1973), veterans are entitled to two parcels of land: one residential lot for house construction and one agricultural lot. However, this entitlement is inconsistently implemented across states. Pahang is reportedly the only state actively upholding this provision. A Hansard record from the Ministry of Finance dated 12 June 2014 confirms that PMAT 1973 has not been repealed and remains legally in effect. The last time it was raised in Parliament was in 8th March 2022 by the current speaker, Tan Sri Dato Johari Abdul.	<i>No feedback was given during the IAD.</i>
5.	Economic insecurity and lack of income generation support	Many veterans continue to face economic hardship post-retirement. They have limited access to sustainable income-generation programs or economic reintegration pathways.	<i>No feedback was given during the IAD.</i>

Table 10. Detailed Findings of Key Informant Interview

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY'S FEEDBACK
Key Informant Interview (KII) 1: Mental Health Professionals of the Mental Health Association Sarawak Date: 16 March 2025 No of Participants: 2 No of Groupings: 1			Agencies that give feedback: 1. Welfare Department
1.	Lack of rehabilitation facilities	Since the 1980s, there has been a shift from institutionalization toward rehabilitation and social reintegration, but challenges remain in resourcing and societal support for this model.	Welfare Department If the individual is unable to manage independently, assistance can be provided by the relevant agencies. However, when the person's condition deteriorates, there is a risk of aggression towards family members. Continuous monitoring and ensuring proper medication intake are therefore the responsibility of the family. In cases where there is no family support, placement at Rumah Seri Kenangan may be considered for those above 16 years old. Nevertheless, such decisions are case-dependent. If the individual adheres to the prescribed treatment, no major issues are expected.
2.	Lack of preventive and development approaches	Prevention is still under-emphasized in public mental health strategies. Experts suggest incorporating communication skills training from early childhood as a preventive tool to strengthen emotional intelligence and resilience.	Welfare Department Most mental health cases in Kuching are associated with alcohol and substance abuse. For other types of cases, trained counsellors are available through the Social Welfare Department (JKM) and the Ministry of Health (KKM). For treatment of mental health cases, particularly involving vagrants, the responsibility will be under KKM.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY'S FEEDBACK
3.	Early exposure to technology hindering social development	Increasing early-age exposure to gadgets and screen time has been linked to underdeveloped interpersonal and communication skills in children. This trend can lead to difficulties in emotional expression and social bonding. Consequently the inability for expression and bonding constitute risk factors for mental health issues later in life.	<i>No response to this issue in particular.</i>
4.	Need for structured community engagement	Programs like the National Service Training Program (PLKN) or other community service-based activities are seen as beneficial for fostering youth resilience, social cohesion, and mental wellness. Lack of such structured engagement leaves many young people vulnerable to isolation and anxiety.	<i>No response to this issue in particular.</i>
5.	Social stigma and insufficient community support	Mental health stigma continues to hinder early diagnosis and access to support. Community awareness and empathy are crucial for successful rehabilitation, yet many patients still face discrimination, marginalization, or lack of reintegration opportunities.	<i>No response to this issue in particular.</i>

Table 11. Detailed Findings of Key Issues FGD 7

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY'S FEEDBACK
FGD 7: Dialogue with Strata Homeowners and Property Professionals Date: 20 May 2025 No of Participants: 4 No of Groupings: 1			Agencies that give feedback: 1. HDC 2. MPHLG
1.	Ambiguous interpretation and implementation of the Strata Management Ordinance 2019 (SMO2019)	While the introduction of the SMO2019 was intended to modernize the management of stratified properties, its implementation has been fraught with ambiguity. Due to its relatively recent rollout, various Property Management Companies (PMCs) have exploited grey areas, sometimes overriding Joint Management Committee (JMC) decisions. The absence of clear boundaries between the roles of PMCs and JMCs has resulted in conflicts of interest, with some PMC representatives occupying decision-making roles within JMCs.	HDC A key issue is the poor participation of homeowners during Annual General Meetings (AGMs), where attendance is often too low to form a quorum. This lack of engagement prevents the formal establishment of JMBs and hampers effective strata management. The respondent attributed this to residents' limited understanding of their roles, responsibilities, and the functions of JMBs. Drawing from HDC's own experience, the respondent noted that these issues are not unique to private developments but also occur in public or semi-public housing schemes. He further emphasized the importance of involving the Commissioner of Buildings (COB) and local councils (PBTs) in addressing such challenges. Since the COB role is currently held by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Public Health, Housing and Local Government (MPHLG) and delegated to PBT secretaries, the respondent suggested more structured engagement and

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY'S FEEDBACK
			coordination between developers, the COB, and PBTs to strengthen strata governance and compliance. MPHLG Strata management is a recurring challenge for the councils, and they are often “caught in the middle” of disputes among residents, Joint Management Bodies (JMBs), and property management companies (PMCs). Although such matters technically fall outside the council’s jurisdiction, residents frequently turn to the council when internal conflicts cannot be resolved. This has placed additional pressure on local authorities, who feel compelled to mediate despite lacking the formal mandate or authority to do so. Many of these disputes stem from poor communication and weak governance within strata communities. Residents are often unwilling to participate in meetings or take responsibility for collective decisions but expect the council to intervene when conflicts escalate. This behaviour reflects a limited understanding of strata management responsibilities and a dependence on the local government to solve private disputes.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY'S FEEDBACK
			The issue is further compounded by the rapid growth of apartment developments in Kuching. While this expansion generates revenue for the councils, it also increases the volume and complexity of complaints related to strata living. There is an underlying concern that the pace of urban development has outstripped institutional readiness, leaving councils to manage disputes that are fundamentally domestic in nature and beyond their administrative scope.
2.	Unclear role and capacity of the Commissioner of Buildings (COB)	The role of the Commissioner of Buildings (COB), a critical enforcement and oversight body, remains unclear to stakeholders. There is confusion over its structural authority, team composition, and reporting mechanisms, reducing its effectiveness in resolving disputes or enforcing the SMO2019.	HDC The COB role is currently held by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Public Health, Housing and Local Government (MPHLG) and delegated to PBT secretaries.
3.	Weak policy enforcement and oversight gaps	Existing complaints and reports related to strata property mismanagement have seen slow or no action, indicating serious enforcement gaps. The lack of legal and procedural follow-up encourages impunity and non-compliance.	Similar to previous response.
4.	Lack of transparency in title	There is widespread concern over the lack of transparency in the issuance of strata titles and	Similar to previous response.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY'S FEEDBACK
	issuance and land alienation	processes related to land alienation for stratified developments. In some cases, homeowners are left in legal limbo, uncertain of their property rights.	
5.	Structural and policy gaps	The current strata housing ecosystem lacks integrated policy mechanisms that clarify roles, define powers, and ensure checks and balances between developers, PMCs, JMCs, and regulatory bodies. Without consistent standards and dispute resolution mechanisms, strata living becomes vulnerable to exploitation and disempowerment of homeowners.	A representative from MPHLG suggested a separate meeting with the Deputy Commissioner of Buildings under the Ministry of Public Health, Housing and Local Government (MPHLG) later to further discuss the Strata Management Ordinance in Sarawak.

Table 12. Detailed Findings of Key Issues FGD 8

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY'S FEEDBACK
FGD 8: Dialogue with Social Work Professionals of Sarawak Women for Women Society Date: 26 May 2025 No of Participants: 5 No of Groupings: 1			Agencies that give feedback: 1. Timbalan Residen Kuching 2. JKM
1.	Absence of social workers in public systems	The lack of professionally trained social workers embedded within public service delivery was seen as a systemic gap. While outsourcing or privatizing certain services provides stop-gap measures, this does not replace the need for long-term integration of social work into the health and welfare infrastructure.	Timbalan Residen Kuching Four main departments currently have trained counsellors, namely the Department of Social Welfare (Jabatan Kebajikan), the Department of Health (Jabatan Kesihatan), the Department of Education (Jabatan Pendidikan) as well as the police force. JKM The shortage of professional social workers remains a significant concern in Malaysia. Although a Social Work Act has been proposed, it has yet to be passed. Previous political leadership viewed the proposed legislation as overly restrictive, believing it could discourage public participation in social work by imposing excessive regulations. Many members of the public are willing to engage in social work but prefer to do so voluntarily and on their own time rather than within a formal or regulated framework. This reliance on informal volunteerism, combined with the absence

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY'S FEEDBACK
			of a clear legal structure and limited incentives, continues to contribute to the shortage of qualified and dedicated social workers in the country.
2.	The need for online child safety and comprehensive sexual education	With harmful materials readily accessible online, there is an urgent need for child safety education, particularly regarding digital literacy and online risks (e.g., dark web exposure). SWWS offers non-judgmental, non-preaching methods of providing age-appropriate sexual and reproductive health education, crucial for children navigating the digital world.	<i>No response to this issue.</i>
3.	Underreported abuse and limited government support services	Abuses against women and children are more common than generally acknowledged, especially in urban settings like Stampin. There is a heavy reliance on NGOs like SWWS to fill service gaps, but funding limitations and the absence of a robust government-led social support structure hinder sustained intervention.	<i>No response to this issue.</i>
4.	Inadequate support for elderly care and Sarawak's ageing population	As Sarawak is projected to become an ageing state by 2028, urgent attention is needed on elderly care models. Current services in Kuching and Stampin are mostly privately driven and do	JKM Formal institutional care is provided through Rumah Seri Kenangan, with two facilities currently operating in Kuching and Sibu, both of which are already at full capacity. Communities are also encouraged to

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY'S FEEDBACK
		not adequately reflect the emotional, social, and practical needs of older persons. SWWS emphasizes the need for a spectrum of elder care services that maintain integration, identity, and personal agency, rather than segregating the elderly from community life.	establish their own elderly community centres to serve as social spaces for older adults. There is also a growing number of private elderly care centres, although the cost of such services is often high and unaffordable for many families. It is important to promote family responsibility, and encourage children to care for their aging parents as part of the broader approach to elderly care in the state.
5.	Federal and region policy gaps	There is many federal initiatives and services available in Kuala Lumpur, such as the Witness Support Service by the Federal Welfare Department. These however, are not yet implemented in Sarawak. This reflects a federal to regional lag in policy rollouts. Such lags then contribute to unequal service access.	<i>No response to this issue.</i>
6.	Need for revitalization of third spaces	The discussion also highlighted the importance of "third spaces". <i>Third spaces</i> are community spaces that foster inclusivity and participation. Such spaces are essential for promoting SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), providing women, children, and the elderly with safe and accessible environments for social connection and support.	<i>No response to this issue.</i>

4.2 Issue Prioritisation

4.2.1 **Prioritised Issue No.1: Administrative and Coordination Issues Due to Leadership Vacancy**

The problems related to the prioritised issue are:

- **The absence of an officially appointed *Ketua Kampung***

The prolonged absence of an officially appointed *Ketua Kampung* over the past two years has led to administrative and coordination challenges. Efforts to form a functioning JKKK have stalled, limiting the village's access to state-led programs and funding for community activities. Despite the lack of formal leadership, the community has shown resilience and strong self-organization. Local initiatives are actively coordinated by the Masjid Nurul Asyikin committee, which has taken on informal leadership roles to sustain educational and welfare activities. However, the scope remains limited, as funding largely depends on *Majlis Islam* and *Jabatan Agama Islam Sarawak* (JAIS).

The absence of an officially appointed *Ketua Kampung* over the past two years has created a leadership vacuum that undermines effective village governance. Without formal leadership, administrative functions and coordination with government agencies are disrupted, leading to gaps in representation and decision-making. A key consequence is the stalled formation of the *Jawatankuasa Kemajuan dan Keselamatan Kampung* (JKKK), which prevents the community from accessing state-led programmes, development funds, and structured capacity-building opportunities.

- **Financial support is dependent on *Majlis Islam* and *Jabatan Agama Islam Sarawak* (JAIS)**

In response, the Masjid Nurul Asyikin committee has assumed informal leadership roles, ensuring continuity in religious, educational, and welfare activities. However, its mandate and resources are inherently limited, as financial support is largely dependent on *Majlis Islam* and *Jabatan Agama Islam Sarawak* (JAIS). This overreliance restricts the scope of initiatives to specific welfare-related areas, leaving broader socio-economic development needs unaddressed. Consequently, the village faces ongoing challenges in sustaining comprehensive community development and in maintaining efficient coordination with external stakeholders, highlighting the urgency of resolving the leadership vacancy.

If the leadership vacancy remains unresolved, several risks may intensify. Prolonged administrative stagnation could erode community trust in governance structures, while

the lack of access to development funds may widen socio-economic disparities compared to neighboring villages. Dependency on religious institutions for community organization could also limit inclusivity and weaken long-term development planning. Furthermore, ineffective coordination with external stakeholders may reduce opportunities for collaboration, leaving the community increasingly isolated from broader state and national development agendas.

Table 13. Summary of Issue 1

Problems relating to prioritised issue	1. The absence of an officially appointed <i>Ketua Kampung</i> 2. Financial support is dependent on <i>Majlis Islam</i> and <i>Jabatan Agama Islam Sarawak</i> (JAIS)
Recommendations	1. Establish an Interim Leadership Mechanism 2. Strengthen Community-Based Organisations (CBOs) 3. Explore Alternative Funding Channels 4. Enhance Stakeholder Engagement 5. Promote Transparency and Communication
Affected Group(s)	• Residents of Kampung Lidah Tanah
Location	Kampung Lidah Tanah
SDG RELATED TO ISSUES	
Related SDG	Targets
SDG 1: No Poverty	Target 1.4: Ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and vulnerable have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services.
SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities	Target 10.2: Empower and promote the social, economic, and political inclusion of all, irrespective of status.
SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	Target 11.3: Enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanisation, ensuring that settlements are resilient, culturally sensitive, and provide access to service
SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	Target 16.6: Develop effective, accountable, and transparent institutions at all levels. Target 16.7: Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory, and representative decision-making at all levels.

4.2.2 *Prioritised Issue No.2 Gaps in Early Intervention and Community Support for Mental Health*

Mental health has emerged as a key priority issue within the community, particularly due to the lack of early attention and intervention. Many cases go unaddressed in the initial stages, largely stemming from limited understanding of mental health among family members and the wider community. Persistent stigma and inadequate community support further exacerbate the problem. Stigma surrounding mental health continues to hinder open dialogue, early treatment, and access to support systems. While community awareness and empathy are vital for successful rehabilitation, individuals with mental health conditions frequently face discrimination, marginalization, and few opportunities for reintegration into society.

Mental health has emerged as a significant concern within the community, with a number of cases going unaddressed due to gaps in early attention and intervention. Many individuals do not receive timely support, as limited awareness and understanding among family members and the wider community often prevent early recognition of symptoms. This lack of knowledge contributes to delays in seeking professional help, allowing conditions to deteriorate. The problem is further compounded by persistent stigma, which discourages open dialogue and creates fear of judgement or discrimination for those affected. As a result, individuals struggling with mental health issues often remain isolated and are denied the opportunity to access available support systems. The inadequacy of community-based services and follow-up mechanisms also limits the provision of holistic care, making it difficult for individuals to sustain long-term recovery. Beyond treatment, stigma and marginalization poses barriers to reintegration, with many individuals facing exclusion from education, employment, and wider community participation.

If this issue remains unaddressed, several risks may escalate. The lack of early intervention can lead to worsening mental health conditions, increasing the likelihood of chronic illness, disability, or even suicide. Social stigma may deepen, further discouraging individuals from seeking help and reinforcing cycles of silence within families and communities. Continued marginalization may heighten poverty and unemployment rates among those affected, while also straining household resilience and social cohesion. Over time, the absence of effective community support systems risks creating intergenerational impacts, where untreated mental health conditions perpetuate cycles of vulnerability, exclusion, and reduced quality of life. Collectively, these risks underscore the urgency of prioritizing mental health as a core element of community development and well-being.

Table 14. Summary of Issue 2

Problems relating to prioritised issue	1. Mental health
Recommendations	1. Strengthen Early Detection and Intervention 2. Community Awareness and Education Campaigns 3. Integrate Mental Health into Primary Care 4. Expand Community-Based Support Structures 5. Strengthen Referral Pathways 6. Promote Inclusive Rehabilitation and Reintegration 7. Leverage Partnerships and Resources 8. Policy and Advocacy Engagement
Affected Group(s)	• Urban population, Youth, Ageing population
Location	Kuching
SDG RELATED TO ISSUES	
Related SDG	Targets
SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	Target 3.4: By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment, and promote mental health and well-being. Target 3.5: Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol. Target 3.8: Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all. Target 3.c: Substantially increase health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce in developing countries.
SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	Target 8.5: By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.

SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities	Target 10.2: By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion, or economic or other status. Target 10.3: Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action.
SDG 16: Peace, Justice,	Target 16.6: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels. Target 16.7: Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels.

4.2.3 Prioritised Issue No. 3 Child Safety and Digital Risks in Low-Income Urban Areas

Kuching's rapid urban development has inadvertently widened socio-economic disparities, leaving smaller and underserved communities increasingly vulnerable. One of the most pressing concerns is the high rate of early school dropouts among children from low-income families, which significantly heightens their risk of remaining trapped in the poverty cycle. Early disengagement from education also increases the likelihood of forming premature relationships that may lead to early parenthood, further compounding intergenerational disadvantage. In addition to educational challenges, these communities face limited digital awareness and weak understanding of their rights, which restricts their ability to access legal and social support services. The digital divide also exposes children to heightened risks online, as limited supervision and knowledge make them more susceptible to harmful content, exploitation, and even exposure to dark web activities. Collectively, these issues highlight critical child protection gaps, with children in underserved urban communities facing overlapping risks of educational exclusion, poverty, and unsafe digital environments.

If these challenges remain unaddressed, several risks may intensify. Persistent school dropouts will perpetuate cycles of poverty and limit upward social mobility, reinforcing structural inequalities in urban areas. Early parenthood and lack of economic stability among young families may strain already vulnerable households, increasing dependence on welfare systems. Limited awareness of rights and poor access to legal or social support may leave children and families unprotected against exploitation, abuse, or systemic neglect. In the digital space, the absence of adequate literacy and protective measures heightens the risk of children being exposed to harmful content, online grooming, or cyber exploitation, with long-term psychological and social consequences. Over time,

these risks may erode community resilience, widen socio-economic gaps within the city, and undermine broader child protection and urban development goals.

Table 15. Summary of Issue 3

Problems relating to prioritised issue	1. High early school drop-out rate
Recommendations	1. Strengthening Access to Education 2. Enhancing Child Protection Systems 3. Promoting Digital Literacy and Online Safety 4. Breaking the Cycle of Poverty and Early Parenthood 5. Building Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships
Affected Group(s)	Children from urban poor families
Location	Kampung Stutong Iban
SDG RELATED TO ISSUES	
Related SDG	Targets
SDG 4: Quality Education	Target 4.1: Ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable, and quality primary and secondary education. Target 4.4: Increase the number of youth and adults with relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment and entrepreneurship. Target 4.5: Eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to education for vulnerable groups.
SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	Target 16.2: End abuse, exploitation, trafficking, and all forms of violence against children. Target 16.7: Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory, and representative decision-making at all levels
SDG 1: No Poverty	Target 1.2: Reduce by at least half the proportion of men, women, and children living in poverty in all its dimensions. Target 1.4: Ensure that all men, women, and children, particularly the poor and vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, basic services, and support.

5.0 PRELIMINARY IDENTIFICATION OF SOLUTION PROJECT

Table 16. Preliminary Identification of Solution Project

	PROJECT 1	PROJECT 2	PROJECT 3
Project Title	<i>Kampung Lidah Tanah - Ekonomi Lestari</i>	Empowering and Enabling Low-income Urban Native Community	COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CHAMPIONS INITIATIVE - <i>Projek SAYANG</i>
Relevant SDG(s)	SDG 1, 2, 4, 8	SDG 1, 3, 5, 11, 16	SDG 3, 4, 10
Objective(s)	- To create alternative and sustainable sources of income for 27 beneficiaries in Kampung Lidah Tanah through community-based mee production and aquaponics farming. - To equip participants, particularly women, single mothers, youths, and the elderly, with practical skills in food production, system management, branding, and digital marketing to improve employability and self-reliance. - To equip participants, particularly women, single	- Aims to address community and individual issues by bringing government agencies directly to the people through town hall events, mobile village outreach, and a final one-stop exhibition. - Bridges the information gap with multilingual posters, road banners, and simple pamphlets to make services easier to understand. - Promotes face-to-face engagement, allowing residents to ask questions and receive direct assistance	- Aims to address the increasing prevalence of mental health issues within the community, which has overwhelmed existing public and private healthcare services. - The project seeks to empower local community leaders, specifically 30 selected representatives from Village Development and Security Committees (JKKK) across the Stampin parliamentary constituency, to become trained Mental Health Champions (MH-

	PROJECT 1	PROJECT 2	PROJECT 3
	mothers, youths, and the elderly, with practical skills in food production, system management, branding, and digital marketing to improve employability and self-reliance.	on healthcare, safety, education, and business opportunities.	Champs). These individuals will be carefully selected based on communication skills, language proficiency, and leadership qualities.
Expected Outcome(s)	- By equipping participants with skills and tools for small-scale production and business, the project creates sustainable income opportunities, reducing dependency on financial aid. - The establishment of cooperatives, integration with catering services, and partnerships with agencies like FAMA and MARA ensure continuity, scalability, and greater market access post-funding.	- Through the delivery of workshops and training sessions, the project will increase awareness and understanding of critical social issues such as child sexual abuse, gender-based violence, online dangers, and financial literacy. - The project will strengthen connections between the communities and relevant agencies, fostering long-term engagement and access to resources. By the end of the project, key community members are expected to be linked with Kuching's child-friendly initiatives and the	- Thirty JKKK representatives trained and recognized as Mental Health Champions, equipped with essential knowledge and skills to address mental health issues within their communities. - Enhanced ability of MH-Champs to recognize early signs of mental health conditions, apply basic psychological first aid, and facilitate timely referrals to healthcare services. - Peer training sessions conducted by MH-Champs, resulting in greater community awareness, reduced stigma, and more

	PROJECT 1	PROJECT 2	PROJECT 3
		city's support services, such as those available at the Community Social Services Centre (CSSC).	open dialogue on mental health.
Solution Provider	Jawatankuasa Pengurusan Masjid Nurul Ashikin	Sarawak Women for Women Society	Mental Health Association Sarawak - Kuching
Activities / Processes	Stage 1: First Month - Theory and practical training on mee production - Basic kitchen management - Aquaponics training course - Set up of aquaponics system - Dechlorination of pipe water for aquaponic system - Preparation and sowing of kangkung and mustard seeds, and the release of tilapia fry into the pond. Stage 2: Second Month - Pond and project site clearing to maintain hygiene and health of fish and vegetable crops - Water quality testing	Stage 1: Ground Engagement and Needs Assessment (Month 1) - Conduct engagement sessions with Kampung Stutong Iban and Kampung Stampin Resettlement Scheme communities. - Identify and prioritize key social and developmental issues faced by residents. - Finalize workshop topics and activity design based on community inputs. Stage 2: School and PTA Collaboration (Month 1-2) - Liaise with SK Sungai Stutong and its Parent-Teacher Association (PTA).	Stage 1: Participant Selection (Pre-Implementation) - Identify and select 30 representatives from JKKKs across the Stampin parliamentary constituency. - Selection criteria: communication skills, language proficiency, and leadership qualities. - Orientation and briefing session for participants on project objectives and expectations. Stage 2: Training Program (12 Weeks) - Delivery of 10 professionally developed training modules

	PROJECT 1	PROJECT 2	PROJECT 3
	- Participants are taught how to record sales and basic financial management - Sale of vegetables in and around the village and mosque Stage 3: Third Month - Fish will be harvested for sale (fresh and frozen), with online promotion and Cash on Delivery (COD) services in nearby areas - Release of new fish fry to replenish stock - Replanting of vegetables and producing 'kangkung crisps'	- Plan and schedule the Child Personal Safety Program for school pupils. - Develop age-appropriate modules and teaching materials for delivery in school. Stage 3: Community Workshops and Training Sessions (Month 2-4) - Conduct 12 workshops/training sessions targeting different community groups (children, youths, parents, women, and elders). - Thematic focus areas include: - Child sexual abuse awareness and prevention. - Intimate partner violence and gender-based violence. - Online safety and protection against	covering key mental health topics: - Learning difficulties - ADHD - Depression - Anxiety - Autism - Bipolar disorder - Dementia - Delirium - Mental health in pregnancy - Mental health in victims of domestic violence - Focus across different life stages: children, adolescents, adults, elderly, and special populations. - Sessions designed with a mix of lectures, group discussions, and practical components. - Introduction to psychological first aid techniques and step-

	PROJECT 1	PROJECT 2	PROJECT 3
		harmful digital content. - Sexual harassment awareness and redress mechanisms. - Child marriage awareness and prevention. - Addressing period poverty and menstrual health management. - Financial literacy and budgeting skills. - Legal rights and access to social support services. - Health literacy and community well-being. Stage 4: Capacity-Building and Empowerment - Provide practical skills for recognizing, reporting, and addressing child protection	by-step referral pathways to mental health services. Stage 3: Skill Development & Practical Application - Role-playing exercises and scenario-based simulations on psychological first aid. - Case study discussions to build contextual understanding. - Guided practice on identifying early signs of mental health issues and applying referral protocols. Stage 4: Recognition of Participants - Participants who complete the program will be officially recognized as Mental Health Champions (MH-Champs). - Certification/recognition ceremony to acknowledge their contribution.

	PROJECT 1	PROJECT 2	PROJECT 3
		and gender-based violence cases. • Strengthen knowledge of financial management, legal access, and health systems among participants. • Foster greater community awareness and cooperation in safeguarding children and vulnerable groups. Stage 5: Monitoring and Follow-Up (Ongoing) • Track participation rates and feedback from workshops. • Assess community awareness improvements and behaviour changes. • Establish a feedback loop with community leaders, SK Sungai Stutong, and the PTA for sustainability of the program.	Stage 5: Transfer of Training to Communities (Post-Training) • MH-Champs conduct peer training sessions within their respective JKKs and communities. • Dissemination of mental health knowledge to local leaders, families, and grassroots networks. • Support and monitoring from project organizers to ensure knowledge transfer and sustainability.
Total Funding (RM)	45,000	40,000	35,000

	PROJECT 1	PROJECT 2	PROJECT 3
Location	Kampung Lidah Tanah, Bau	Kampung Stutong Iban, Kampung Stampin Resettlement	Stampin Parliamentary area (Kota Sentosa, Batu Kitang, Batu Kawah)
Duration	3 months	3 months	3 months

6.0 REFERENCES

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