

The Implementation of a Community-based Transboundary Management Plan for the Betung Kerihun National Park, West Kalimantan, Indonesia, Phase II (Indonesia)

Final Report

PD 44/00 Rev.3 (F)

I. Introduction

The project was approved by the Council during its Thirtieth Session in June 2001 and full financing was pledged at the same Session. The Agreement regulating the implementation of the project has been signed on 21 September 2001. The first disbursement of funds was made on 16 April 2002.

II. Project Objective

The project was a follow-up to the ITTO sponsored Project PD 26/93 Rev.1 (F) "Development of Bentuang Karimun Nature Reserve as a National Park – Phase I". The first objective of this project was to lay down the groundwork for establishing a community-based conservation and development program that will maintain the long-term integrity of Betung-Kerihun National Park (BKNP) while the second one was to develop an effective model for managing a trans-boundary national park with the Lanjak Entimau Wildlife Sanctuary (LEWS).

III. Project Strategy and Activities

Elements of the strategy adopted in the implementation of the project included: a) outcome oriented, b) incremental development, c) self sustaining or financing in the short and long terms, directly or indirectly, d) effective use of local potential including the tradition and culture, e) strengthening the marketing skills of local communities was of high priority, and f) decentralization was promoted through active involvement of the local government in project implementation. The forty-six planned activities were implemented by the WWF

Indonesia in collaboration with the Park Management Unit of the Ministry of Forestry (PMU), local government, local communities and national experts.

IV. Project Achievements and Outputs

Achievements of the project can be summarized as follows:

- A number of community workshops on park boundaries were organized;
- The basic facilities and equipment for the proper functioning of the Park Management Unit were installed;
- The PMU had been strengthened organizationally;
- Appropriate database and information system had been installed and operational;
- Ecotourism development inside the Park was progressing;
- Awareness on environmental conservation had been improved through the production and dissemination of a series of appropriate audio visual documentary materials;
- Several community groups had taken initiative to utilize natural resources in a sustainable manner at the village level; and
- Collaborative programs and activities relating to the trans-boundary conservation area management with the Sarawak State of Malaysia had been identified and initiated.

With the above realized outputs, the specific objectives of the project have been achieved within the budget sanctioned to the project.

V. Target Beneficiaries Involvement

The main target beneficiaries of the project were the local communities and government and the PMU. Several project staff had been recruited from the local communities and participated in various trainings and workshops on community empowerment and development aspect; several PMU staff had participated in various trainings and workshops regarding park management related activities. The Head of PMU and Project Leader were appointed as members of the District Conservation Working Group which is a strategic forum for integrating the Park management into the District's conservational initiatives. Head of Dayak People Customary Council, District Planning Board, PMU staff and representatives of local communities were involved in the trans-boundary activities.

VI. Lessons Learnt

Among the important lessons learnt from the implementation of the project are: a) involvement of local stakeholders in the planning, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of the project was a key success of the project implementation; b) Project Steering Committee was proved useful in directing the project operations and its membership should represent major stakeholders; c) decisions regarding project implementation over time should be made with due consideration to actual local conditions and issues which may be different from those documented during the project planning stage and d) there is a need to clearly defined the roles and responsibilities of each of the parties involved in the outset in order to avoid confusion at later stage.

VII. Dissemination of Results

The results of the project have been disseminated through the various workshops and trainings organized during the course of the project and also through dissemination of the brochures, leaflets, reports and audio visual documentary produced under the project.

VIII. Recommendations Related to Future Work

Effective communication and coordination among parties involved is critical to a smooth implementation of a project. Also of utmost important is inclusion of a capacity building component in a similar project, especially community empowering activities.

IX. Concluding Remarks

The ITTO Secretariat has received the Completion Report and a series of technical documents. However, in its session of May 2006, the Committee on Reforestation and Forest Management could not approve the completion report which lack essential information elements. A mission in which donors will participate will visit the project area in 2006 to look closer at the situation before reporting again to CRF in November 2006.