

**Multi-disciplinary Assessment of Protected Areas, Malaysia
Integrated Action Plan for Klias Forest Reserve & Loagan Bunut National Park, Borneo**

Map:



Background:

Peat Swamp Forest (PSF) is the most important of Malaysia's wetland types in terms of biodiversity, area and biogeography, accounting for approximately 75% of total wetland area. Malaysia possesses about 1.45 million ha of PSF, more than 80% of which is located in Sarawak. Sarawak's estimated 1.24 million ha of PSF cover thirteen percent of the state's total land area. In Sabah, remaining PSF areas are relatively small, though biologically significant.

In 1996, MOSTE obtained a grant from GEF to identify a number of representative PSF areas and to develop a project for the conservation and sustainable use of these areas. The Borneo sites chosen for the project were Loagan Bunut National Park in Sarawak and the Klias Peninsula in Sabah. Each represents a particular type of PSF ecology, and is managed and utilised under different legal and administrative structures representing a good cross-section of ecological, administrative, legal and socio-economic conditions.

Project partners:
Asia Water & Environment
ViSKon Ltd.
UNIMAS, Malaysia

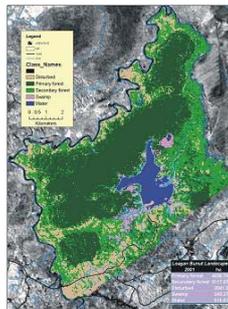
Beneficiary:
Forest Research Institute Malaysia

Client:
UNDP/GEF

A multidisciplinary assessment (MDA) involving the disciplines hydrology/environment, socio-economy, wildlife and vegetation was conducted for Klias Forest Reserve as part of the overall 5-year UNDP/GEF funded project: Conservation and Sustainable Use of Tropical Peat Swamp Forests and Associated Wetland Ecosystems (MAL/99/G31).

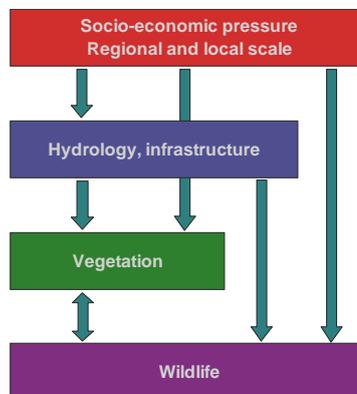


The purpose of the MDAs has essentially been to provide an updated ecological profile of the site, an up-dated picture of the most pertinent threats to the integrity of the site and an interim action and management plan for the two sites.



The multi-disciplinary assessment of the site was divided into a mobilisation phase, a fieldwork phase, a preliminary reporting and data analysis phase, the drafting of a MDA Report for each site, followed by a consultation phase with primary stakeholders of the project, and finalisation of the action and management plans.

The assessment was performed as a fully integrated risk analysis and impact assessment, where the likelihood of a threat materialising is multiplied with the severity or consequence of that threat becoming a reality (impact). This was done, not based on each discipline, but across disciplines so that an overall picture of the seriousness of threats regardless of discipline emerges. Indeed, an impact in one discipline may occur as the result of what is basically a threat from another discipline, and impacts may be direct or indirect.



The final products delivered by the ViSKon and partners encompass the individual Technical Reports for each discipline, a summary of findings in the Preliminary Report, the Final MDA Report, and a CD-ROM containing the aforementioned documents, all photos taken during fieldwork, satellite images, GIS maps and the database containing all data from conducted fieldwork. Reports are available upon request.

