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BA' KELALAN, SARAWAK

Ba' Kelalan has a population of around 1,030, the majority of whom are Lun Bawang.

Located at 970m above sea level on the Maligan Highlands, it is adjacent to Pulong Tau National Park and is the access point to central Krayan in Kalimantan (Indonesia).

Key economic activities are paddy planting and rearing of buffaloes. It is also renowned for its exquisite Adan Rice as well as apples – in fact, it is the only local apple farm in Malaysia. There are heath forests that contain many wild orchids and pitcher plants. The community here also extracts naturally-occurring spring to process into salt.

Ba' kelalan shares its boundary with Central Krayan, Bario and Long Pa' Sia'.



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ABOUT FORMADAT

FORMADAT (Forum Masyarakat Adat Dataran Tinggi Borneo) stands for the Alliance of the Indigenous Peoples of the Highlands of Borneo. It is a trans-boundary, grassroots initiative that aims to increase awareness and understanding of the communities of the Highlands, maintain cultural traditions, build local capacity, and encourage sustainable development in the Heart of Borneo without risking the degradation of the quality of the social and natural environment. The purpose of FORMADAT is to encourage sustainable development by means of community-based ecotourism, organic farming and agro-forestry, communication and information technology, and the preservation of cultural and natural heritage of the Highlands to benefit present and future generations. FORMADAT comprises the sub-districts of Krayan and Krayan Selatan in Indonesia; and Bario, Ba' Kelalan, Long Semadoh and Long Pa' Sia' in Malaysia.

VISION

The homeland of the Lundayeh/ Lun Bawang, Kelabit and Sa'ban peoples in the Highlands of the Heart of Borneo is developed in fair and sustainable ways for the well-being of the local peoples and future generations.

MISSION

- Maintain and strengthen cultural traditions, language, customs and family bonds shared by all the Lundayeh/ Lun Bawang, Kelabit and Sa'ban people in their common ancestral land of the Highlands of Borneo.
- Encourage the development of sustainable economic alternatives such as organic agriculture and community-based ecotourism, and establish fair trading networks in the Highlands.
- Encourage conservation and sustainable development for the Highlands, and ensure involvement and participation of the local Indigenous Peoples in all aspects.
- Preserve water sources, river banks and community forests, protect cultural and historical sites, and the collective intellectual property rights of the Indigenous Peoples of the Highlands.

CHALLENGES

							
Cross border illegal trade	Logging	Poaching of wildlife	Illegal Agarwood collection	Insufficient enforcement	Lack of funds	Golden Apple Snail infestation	Lack of marketing links for Ba' Kelalan products – Adan Rice, ecotourism attractions, handicrafts

ACTIVITIES 2015 - 2017

					
Introduce duck (local variety) as a biological control agent	Apply MyGap certification to ensure good agricultural practices by farmers	Execute Adan Rice marketing	Implement area zoning and local guide training for ecotourism	Launch poaching and illegal Agarwood collection eradication programme	Publish traditional rice farming book

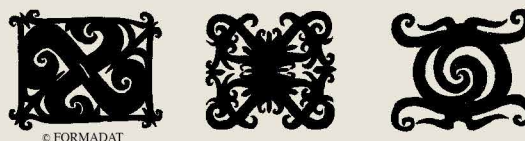
OBJECTIVES & BUDGET 2015-2017

Taking steps to ensure a sustainable future, FORMADAT Ba' Kelalan focuses on implementing the objectives below and are seeking donation to enable their efforts for 2015-2017.

Objectives	Estimated Cost
Increase revenue through sustainable farming by 2017.	RM 33,500
Increase local income by 2016 through ecotourism based on nature and culture.	RM 30,000
Establish FORMADAT Committee of Honorary Ranger (Sabah & Sarawak) to decrease wildlife poaching and illegal Agarwood collection by 2016.	RM 25,000
Document sustainable rice farming methods and indigenous knowledge inherited from ancestors as reference for future generations by 2016.	RM 50,000
Strengthen community engagement.	

FOREX 1 USD = 3.56 MYR (April 2015, www.xe.com)

FORMADAT & OTHER STAKEHOLDERS



In the efforts of FORMADAT to ensure the Highlands of Borneo are managed sustainably, key activities by FORMADAT focus on sustainable farming, watershed conservation, and sustainable forest management to prevent threats that lead to biodiversity loss as the forests are valuable assets for ecotourism, daily used as food source, material for construction, and raw materials for handicrafts and so on.

FORMADAT has collaborated and shared knowledge with various organisations, including government departments, tour agencies and other NGOs. FORMADAT welcomes collaboration and networking with other organisations that share a similar vision and mission. WWF-Malaysia and WWF-Indonesia are FORMADAT partners under their environmental conservation initiative and has been since the very beginning.

“We, the Indigenous Peoples of the Highlands in the Heart of Borneo who share a common heritage and a common land as the Lundayeh, Kelabit, Lun Bawang, and Sa’ban people, come together in the Alliance of the Indigenous Peoples of the Highlands of Borneo (FORMADAT) to : increase awareness and understanding about the highland communities, build local capacity, and encourage sustainable development in the Heart of Borneo”

(FORMADAT DECLARATION)



To learn more, please contact
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