

MALAYSIA

Strengthening non-state actor involvement in forest governance

Strengthening non-state actor involvement in forest governance in Indonesia, MALAYSIA, The Philippines and Papua New Guinea

MNS-BCC Important Bird & Biodiversity Area (IBA) Workshop II

ONLINE ~ 7th November 2020, 9am-1pm

Building up from the 1st IBA Workshop held on 7 & 8 March 2019 in Port Dickson, Negeri Sembilan, this workshop will more specifically discuss the current IBA status in Malaysia, how we are going to assess the proposed new IBA sites and the potential role each MNS branch plays in monitoring IBAs.

Moderators

- Tan Choo Eng**, Chairman of MNS Bird Conservation Council (BCC)
- Prof. Dr. Ahmad Ismail**, President of MNS

Special Speakers

- Mike Crosby**, BirdLife International
- Dr Hum Gurung**, BirdLife International

Speakers

- Balu Perumal**, MNS Head of Conservation
- Yeap Chin Aik**, Bird Conservation Programme Manager, MNS Conservation Division
- Ng Wai Pak**, Wildlife Officer, MNS Conservation Division
- Woo Chee Yoong**, Wildlife Research Assistant, MNS Conservation Division

Free and only open to MNS members!
Register at:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/joinMeeting/register/tZlucCsriMJEtzTRWPaBybHyb14uYSoIm>

Organised by the Malaysian Nature Society (MNS) • Zoom platform

80th Anniversary of the Malaysian Nature Society

MY forest

Led by BirdLife International

Funded by the European Union

CAPACITY BUILDING



The project team conducted one online workshop and participated in three BirdLife International (BL) organised webinars.

INCREASED TRANSPARENCY AND ACCESS TO INFO



MNS conducted the virtual MNS-Bird Conservation Council (BCC) IBA Workshop II and continued to provide input in the Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and EIA report.

SUSTAINABLE AND INFORMED NETWORKS



MNS, together with the Coalition for the Protection of Selangor's Forest attended the town hall meeting on the proposed degazettement of Kuala Langat North Forest Reserve.

INFORMED AND EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION



MNS provided feedback on forest land use plans for the Fraser' Hill Resort & Spa Plan and the Local Plan for the Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur.

The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic continued to affect the major project delivery and workplan from August until December 2020, due to the Malaysian government imposing the Recovery Movement Control Order (RMCO). However, **Malaysian Nature Society (MNS)** continued to monitor forest activities and advocate for good forest governance and non-state actor participation in the Central Forest Spine (CFS) and the Heart of Borneo, especially at the Belum-Temengor Forest Complex (BTFC). Activities were mostly carried out remotely.

Outcome 1: Capacity Building

- The project team conducted a Forest Governance Zonal Workshop – Forest Certification Practices and Timber Legality Assurance System (TLAS) Implementation in Malaysia online. Approximately 112 registered participants checked-in to the workshop.
- The project team participated in three webinars organized by BirdLife International on revised Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA) criteria (13th of August); Building Civil Society Engagement (5th, 6th and 7th of October); and Local Group Strengthening (19th of November). MNS shared its experiences and insights with other webinar participants.

Outcome 2: Increased transparency and access to information

- MNS organised the MNS-Bird Conservation Council IBA Workshop II (held online on the 7th of November). The workshop examined and discussed the current status of Malaysia IBA sites; how to assess the proposed new IBA sites; and the roles of MNS branches in the monitoring of their respective IBAs. A total of 58 participants attended the workshop.
- MNS developed targeted communication/talks with important stakeholders to share information on the BTFC, IBA and Malaysia's Important Hornbill Landscapes linked to the Central Forest Spine.
- MNS continued to organise two Tapir Talks, which discussed the Kuala Lumpur 2040 Structure Plan and the importance of urban forests, as well as the data and bioinformatics needed for forest management. Approximately 200 attendees participated in the virtual events.

Outcome 3: Sustainable and informed networks

- Local Monitoring of Important Bird Areas (LAMIBA) was restarted and contributed to the IBA review exercise.
- MNS attended the town hall meeting on the proposed degazettement of Kuala Langat North Forest Reserve on the 29th of September, with members from the non-governmental organisation (NGO) Coalition for the Protection of Selangor's Forests. The Selangor State Assembly passed the motion to protect the gazetted forest reserves in Selangor in November.
- MNS Selangor Branch, together with other coalition members, submitted a letter of request to meet the Selangor State Government, regarding the deforestation issues at the Bukit Cerakah Forest Reserve.
- MNS was appointed to sit on the Malaysian Timber Association's Environmental and Social Sub-Committee.
- MNS had eight cooperative engagements with governmental agencies on forest governance management and conservation issues, including:
 - One workshop for the development of Geopark Gombak;
 - One meeting related to Belara Forest Reserve;
 - Two sharing sessions on CFS;
 - One meeting on REDD Plus Finance Framework and guide on forest voluntary carbon market;
 - One National Steering Committee Meeting on the Malaysia Third Biennial Update Report;
 - One briefing on the management programme in Taman Negara-Titiwangsa Range Landscape (CFS); and
 - One subject expert meeting for the nomination of Royal Belum State Park as an UNESCO World Heritage Site.

200 participants (both internal and external) participated in the MNS Tapir Talks series virtual talks

Outcome 4: Informed and effective participation

- MNS provided feedback on the forest land use plans for the Fraser' Hill Resort & Spa Plan and the Local Plan for the Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur.
- MNS contributed to a number of consultations related to forest certification, forest governance and forest management, including four Terms of Reference (TORs) on the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for proposed projects in Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs), three EIAs on proposed projects in ESAs, and one Stakeholder Consultation on New Planting Procedures with the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO).
- MNS continued to work on a policy brief titled 'Importance of multi-scale forest governance: linking national and local policy processes and their implementation in Malaysia' with BirdLife International.

Visibility

- Project progress and activity announcements continued to be published on the MYforest project website; MYforest project Facebook; the *Malaysian Naturalist* newspaper; and the MNS newsletter.
- The project team was involved in the virtual International Greentech and Eco Products Exhibition and Conference Malaysia 2020. MNS showcased an online exhibition booth and participated in three sessions on Sustainable Forest Management, Nature Based Solutions, and Business and Biodiversity. Approximately 400 visitors visited the exhibition booth and 178 participants checked in at the conference.

UPCOMING EVENTS JAN – JUNE 2021

- Forest Governance Zonal Workshop – Heart of Borneo Initiative Training Workshop
- Tapir Talks 8.0 – Communities and Urban Forest

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