**Pulau Sibu – Preliminary Results of Stock-Taking**

1. **Demographics**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Adult (M) | 62 |
| Adult (F) | 61 |
| Kids | 50 |
| Total | 173 |

Head of village: Jamaludin Mohamed Ali

Imam: Ab Rashid Sidek

Bilal: Jafridin Mahdin

Headmaster: Ahmad Tahshim bin Salleh

The actual population might be smaller as some individuals moved to work on mainland. There are less than five people who are still works as full-time fishermen. However, majority of the population are still going out fishing at least once or twice a week for their own consumption. Most of them own a small boat with less than 40HP engine. Therefore, they admit that sometimes, they had to fish within the Marine Park area.

1. **List of villages in Pulau Sibu**

* Kampung Duku
* Kampung Lingka
* Kampung Tagal
* Kampung Teluk Bakau

Kampung Duku serves as the centre for local’s activities and have the largest number of residents compared to the other villages. Facilities like school, police station, clinic, mosque, balai raya, TNB generator, grocery shops, restaurants, and island’s main jetty are all in Kampung Duku. All three villages except Kampung Teluk Bakau are all closely joined and accessible by concrete pathway. Kampung Teluk Bakau is the smallest village which only have 3 houses and 20 minutes walking distance from Kampung Duku.

1. **Facilities**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Facility | No. of unit | No. of people |
| School | 1 | 9 teachers & 19 students |
| Police station | 1 | 2 (Every 2 weeks, rotate) |
| Clinic | 1 | 2 |
| Mosque | 1 | N/A |
| Balai raya | 1 | N/A |
| TNB Electricity Generator (Fuel) | 1 | N/A |
| Grocery shop | 2 | N/A |
| Restaurant (Warung) | 2 | N/A |
| Jetty | 3 | N/A |

\*All houses are using water well as their source of water. Each house either have their own water well or sharing one (1) water well up to 2/3 houses. Only 3 houses in Kampung Teluk Bakau are using water from Sari Pacifica water well.

**3.1 Police station**

* The officers in charge are marine police which they rotate every 2 weeks.
* Each rotation will see two officers on duty at the police station.
* Their main base is in Tampoi but they are doing the work on behalf of IPD Mersing.
* Their asset is one small boat with 30HP engine, which they rarely used.
* There are no serious criminal offense or case on the island except for drug addicts.

**3.2 Clinic**

* There are 2 nurses on duty at the clinic (full-time).
* They are mainly trained on pregnancy cases and child patient. However, they still can handle non-serious illness cases such as fever, diarrhoea, headache etc.
* The clinic only store List C medication (paracetamol, cough syrup, allergy relief etc.) and does not have antibiotics
* For serious injury, such as broken limbs, they can only provide first aid treatment which are then will be transferred to a clinic in Felda Tenggaroh 2 or Hospital Mersing.
* They don’t have an ambulance, thus usually if there is an emergency cases, locals boat will be used.

1. **Transportation**

Pulau Sibu is accessible from mainland by boat transfer from Tanjung Leman jetty. The cost for one-way boat transfer is usually RM200 per boat and the service is run by locals. There is no scheduled time for the transfers and are usually pre-booked or on-demand basis. Resorts operators have their own boats which are exclusive for their guest only.

Getting from one place to another on the island is accessible by concrete pathway or jungle trekking. Most of the locals own a motorcycle which serve as their main medium of transportation. Some resorts offer bicycle rental for tourist. There is no water taxi service in Pulau Sibu.

1. **Resorts**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Type | No. of rooms & no. of pax |
| Twin Beach Resort | Middle range | 30 rooms & 60pax |
| Sari Pacifica Spa & Island Resort | Luxury | 46 rooms & 100pax |
| Sea Gypsy Resort | Middle range | 28 rooms & 100pax |
| Coconut Village Resort | Middle range | 23 rooms & 80pax |
| RIMBA Resort | Middle range | 21 rooms & 65pax |

* There is one new resort currently under construction (see map below)
* There is one luxury resort under renovation located in Sibu Tengah, one of the smaller island of the Sibu archipelago. This luxury resort situated right in front of the dugong hotspot area.

**5.1 Resort rooms & Type of packages**

5.1.1 RIMBA Resort (Middle range)

1. How long in operation – 20 years
2. What are their capacity – 21 rooms & 65pax
3. Monthly occupancy rates –
4. Type and rates of packages –

\*Beach Front Chalet:

RM 280 per adult per night – Twin Share/ Double Share

RM 265 per adult per night – Triple Share

RM 335 per adult per night – Single Occupancy

RM 145 per child per night (7-14yrs)

RM 100 per child per night (3-6yrs)

Room rate includes breakfast, lunch, and dinner per person per day.

This chalet does not have hot water showers.

\*Family Chalet:

RM 920 per night for 2 adults and 2 children

RM 310 per adult per night if adults only (minimum of 3 adults)

Room rate includes breakfast, lunch, and dinner per person per day.

This chalet has two rooms, one with a double bed and one with 2 single beds and a bunk bed.

\*Island Suite:

RM 700 per night (2 adults)

RM 285 per night – 3rd adult sharing

RM 145 per child per night (7-14yrs)

RM 100 per child per night (3-6yrs)

Room rate includes breakfast, lunch, and dinner per person per day.

This chalet is our largest chalet. It is extremely private with beautiful views of the ocean and neighbouring islands.

It offers its own fridge, tea + coffee and a hot water shower.

**Boat Transfer from Tanjung Leman jetty:**

RM 90 per adult return.

RM 50 per child return.

**Land Transfer Options:**

**\***Shuttle service from/to Singapore: RM 200 per person return. (RM 100 each way)

The pick-up and drop off location is 77 Prinsep Street.

This is a subsidised shuttle service for all our guests.

The tide changes daily, our shuttle times are set depending on the tide. When you book with us we will confirm transfer times.

Where possible it will be 7.30am and 6.30pm.

TIDE DEPENDANT. This will be confirmed when you make a booking with us.

\*Private mini bus from Singapore to Tanjung Leman: RM 550 per vehicle one way

Pick up from any one location between 8am – 5pm

(RM 50 Surcharge applies before 8am or after 5pm)

Maximum of 9 guests per vehicle

\*Private taxi service Singapore to Tanjung Leman

RM 450 per trip one way

Pick up from any one location at any time.

Maximum of 4 guests per vehicle

\*Private pick up from Changi Airport, Singapore:

1 – 4 people – RM 500 per vehicle one way

5 – 9 people – RM 600 per vehicle one way

\*Private pick up from Johor Bahru:

1 – 4 people – RM 200 per vehicle one way

5 – 9 people – RM 400 per vehicle one way

\*Private pick up from Kuala Lumpur:

1 – 4 people – RM 700 – RM 900 per vehicle one way

5 – 9 people – RM 900 – RM 1,200 per vehicle one way

1. Tourism products – Jungle trekking, snorkelling, scuba diving, and beach.
2. Sewage type and capacity – Septic tank
   * 1. Sea Gypsy Resort (Middle range)
3. How long in operation – 25 years
4. What are their capacity – 28 rooms & 100pax
5. Monthly occupancy rates –
6. Type and rates of packages –

\*Regular chalets:

RM 230 per night – per person, 2 adults

RM 100 per night – single occupancy supplement, i.e. total of Rm 330 per night

RM 100 per night – each extra child’s bed in chalet, 2 to 16 years old inclusive

A welcome cocktail, free pour drinking water, breakfast, lunch & dinner daily is included in the room & board rate.

\*Family chalets:

RM 740 per night – Family chalet minimum charge 2 adults + 2 children (4 people)

RM 100 per night – each extra child, 2 to 16 years old inclusive

RM 190 per night – for an adult in the children’s room

RM 130 per night – for a maid in the children’s room

A welcome cocktail, free pour drinking water, breakfast, lunch & dinner daily is included in the room & board rate.

\*\*RM 15 per dinner – supplement for kids eating dinner rather than Kids Tea

\*A Frames:

RM 190 per night – per person, twin sharing or triple sharing

RM 65 per night – single occupancy supplement, i.e. total of Rm 255 per night

**Boat Transfers**

RM 90 per passenger return, return.

RM 40 per child under 12 years of age, return.

\*\*There is a surcharge of Rm 10 per adult, Rm 5 per child on boat transfers after 6PM

**Road Transfer from Grange Car Park off Orchard Road, Singapore**

Sunday through Friday at 11am for the 2pm boat PLUS 6pm Friday for the 9pm boat

RM 80 per passenger each way

RM 100 per passenger if only travelling one way

**Private Vehicle Hire**

RM 560 per vehicle & driver Singapore one way

RM 450 per vehicle & driver Johor Bahru one way

1. Tourism products – School groups, jungle trekking, village tour, snorkelling, scuba diving, and beach.
2. Sewage type and capacity –
   * 1. Sari Pacifica Island Resort (Luxury)
3. How long in operation – 6 years
4. What are their capacity – 46 rooms (but only 35 operational) & 100pax
5. Monthly occupancy rates –
6. Type and rates of packages –
7. Tourism products – Snorkelling and beach.
8. Sewage type and capacity –
   * 1. Coconut Resort (Middle range)
9. How long in operation – 23 years
10. What are their capacity – 23 rooms & 80pax
11. Monthly occupancy rates –
12. Type and rates of packages –
13. Tourism products – Snorkelling and fishing trip.
14. Sewage type and capacity –
    * 1. Twin beach Resort (Middle range)
15. How long in operation – 24 years
16. What are their capacity – 30 rooms & 60pax
17. Monthly occupancy rates –
18. Type and rates of packages –
19. Tourism products – School groups, snorkelling, kayaking, and beach.
20. Sewage type and capacity –
    * 1. unansa (Middle range) – NOT OPERATIONAL FOR 3 YEARS
21. How long in operation – About 20 years
22. What are their capacity –
23. Monthly occupancy rates –
24. Type and rates of packages –
25. Tourism products – Snorkelling and beach.
26. Sewage type and capacity –
27. **Consultations**

**6.1 Responses from the local islanders of Pulau Sibu**

* Locals are aware of the island’s status as Marine Park but some are confused of its boundary and authority since the involvement of TLSI.
* There is also a concern for some locals that there is no way of knowing how to know where is the 2 nautical miles boundary.
* They know that the rules of Marine Park are there to protect the environment, but they don’t see the benefit for them.
* Some claimed that their quality of life went down since the gazzetment of the Marine Park.
* Some also mention that if Marine Park were to promote tourism, then they have failed because the economy is not improving and the number of tourist is still low.
* There is not enough opportunity for locals to be involved in tourism thus making them dependent to the sea resources as their source of food and income.
* Locals felt robbed because before the gazzetment, they are free to fish around the island. Therefore, they are not too worry about not earning much money to buy food.
* When asked about the enforcement, the majority of the locals said that there is a lack of enforcement by the Marine Park officers.
* TL should conduct more patrols at night as many trawlers can be commonly seen encroaching inside the Marine Park at night.
* Many of them claimed the damages to the corals and reducing fish stock are caused by trawlers. They believe they poses little threat and small damages because they only take what they need and they never put their net or anchor on coral reefs.
* Some locals claimed that the TL staffs are bias and corrupt. They said the TL is only out to arrest locals that fish to feed themselves but allows big boats or trawlers from Kuala Sedili/Mersing/Endau.
* Marine park officers were slow to react to reports and usually ignore reports from the locals. They also complained that TL staff often cited broken boats as excuses to not responding to reports.
* Some suggested to set up a committee for locals which can take action against trawlers, so that they don’t have to rely on TL staffs to take action.
* Locals complained with small boat, it is difficult to go out 2 nautical miles to fish. Also, there are not many fishes out there.
* They suggested that there should be a designated area for the locals to fish for personal consumption and build more *‘tukun tiruan’* for the fishes to breed.
* Locals feel that government does not consult them before taking action or implementing rules and they want to be more involved in decision making. Some also said it is good to take care of the environment but the welfare of the locals should be an importance as well.
* When asked about Dugong, majority of the local know the Dugong can be found in the area and most of them have either seen them alive or dead while out fishing at sea.
* They know the Dugong eat seagrass but only know one type as they call it ‘*rumput stu’*.
* Most of them also know where Dugongs are usually seen and the location of the seagrass meadows. But some claimed that the seagrass coverage area is getting smaller now.
* Locals also know the population of Dugongs are getting smaller and the needs of protecting them, but only a handful are showing interest to participate. The main issue is they think it will make their life even more difficult with added rules and regulation.
* At the moment, most of them don’t know what’s the benefit of protecting dugong. Some also mentioned that if there are monetary value in the conservation of dugongs, then they will think more highly of it.
* Electricity cut off is often and which sometimes can last for more than 20 days. When reported to TNB, their response action is very slow. Resort operators on the other hand are still using their own generator which they claimed expensive to run.
* Other common issue includes water shortage and polluted aquafer. Locals and resort operators are using water well to extract groundwater and some complained that their water well is getting drier and the water quality is bad. Some locals and resort operators had to buy clean water from mainland because - (i) Not enough water. (ii) The water quality is not good for consumption.
* Many locals complained about the demolition of Kelong. Some of them don’t even know what’s the real reason why it’s being demolished. The locals were not given ample notification and authority does not even consult the locals over the action
* Majority of the locals said the Kelong used to provide them with income and the island received a steady number of tourists over the years. Now, they are left jobless and the locals rarely see tourist coming in to the village.
* Locals complained the government does not give support and provide them with alternative income after the Kelong were demolished.
* Some locals are also concern about the trash because they said many beaches are littered with trash and TL does not conduct clean-up. They think that TL is the one who should do the clean-up.
* Head of village is appointed by Mersing Council, not elected by the locals. Therefore, he is not well respected by locals. Most of them want him to step down because people think he is not doing his job and corrupt.

**6.2 Common issues**

* High cost of boat transfers from Tanjung Leman to Pulau Sibu
* Water shortage and bad water quality at some places
* Electricity cut-off which sometimes can last for days
* Grocery shops and restaurants are not always open. Sometimes they are closed for days

**6.3 Community Consultative Committee (CCC) Participatory Assessment**

The sample used in this survey is composed of 27 re-visited interviews in which reference persons identified themselves as locals, individuals whom resided in Pulau Sibu (>10yrs) and resort managers. This report is to provide a preliminary understanding of community’s interest to be involve in the management of the sanctuary.

From the survey, majority (74%) of the respondents are aware of the upcoming dugong sanctuary. The respondents cited Program Jelajah Kembara Pulau Sultan Johor 2016 and the information board at the dugong monument as the reason they knew about the sanctuary. It is also noted that 59.3 percent of the respondents are expressing their interest to be involved in the CCC. Old age, gender, time availability, lack of knowledge and lack of interest are the factors claimed by the remaining respondents whom are not interested to be involved.

All interviewed respondents who are interested to be involved in CCC shared same views about their community. They claimed that they can take care of their island resources but other fishermen communities who encroached in this are the ones taking everything for granted. They believed that this issue strongly linked to the management of the sanctuary because if encroachment activities kept in check, marine resources can thrive. The respondents felt the needs of involvement from local community to protect this area because they are dependent on its resources.

Listed below are the opinions shared by majority of the respondents:

* Uncontrolled destructive fishing methods such as trawling and ‘rawai hantu’ are commonly used in the area by outsiders and pose great threat to marine resources. Respondents highly disapprove these type of fishing methods as it disturbs their fishing activities and damaging the marine resources. Therefore, respondents felt there is an urgency to control these activities.
* Respondents also complained other fishermen communities are taking too much catch and fishing in areas where even they themselves considered too fragile to do fishing activities such as Sibu Kukus. Therefore, there is need to control volume of catch and area where they are not supposed to do fishing activities.

**6.4 Involvement in Management**

From the survey, the respondents provided inputs on how they would like to be involved in the management of the sanctuary. Listed below are the inputs that were suggested by 16 of the respondents:

1. Seven respondents suggested for direct involvement with the authority, where participants engage in controlling the encroachment activities such as conducting patrol and chasing away illegal trawlers or fishing boats from the area.
2. Five respondents suggested to act as eyes and ears to the authority and provide information for any events happening in the area.
3. Four respondents suggested to provide opinion and consultation to the management of the sanctuary

**6.5 Other inputs from respondents during the interview:**

1. **Repeatedly mentioned several times by respondents:**

* CCC as proper legislative local body to govern the area’s fishing activities and marine resources with the involvement of local community and a proactive role from the authority
* Request for authority to be transparent and play the same proactive role in governing the area. For example, if the locals mobilize and provide information for illegal trawling activities, the authority should take proper measures to solve the issues at first contact. It will be pointless if the effort only comes from the locals.
* Enforcement identification card for CCC members and to be equipped boat for patrolling activities
* Prepare CCC members with relevant training such as handling conflict situation skills.
* Young people have the chance to participate in CCC.
* CCC not only just to control maritime activities but also to address the cleanliness issues in the village.
* CCC to hire or pay locals to provide additional income

1. **Mentioned only one time by respondents:**

* Control tourist arrivals and activities
* CCC to focus on local economic activities and to protect fishermen’s right
* CCC as tools to increase the standard of education for locals and raising their awareness to adopt self-mobilization practice
* Make use of marine police officer stationed on the island to be a part in the CCC as enforcement supremacy. Otherwise, they are on paid holiday.
* Contrastingly, one respondent does not want the involvement from government. He wanted it to be a fully local initiative because the government officials are corrupt.
* CCC as way to manage marine park area – manage snorkel and dive sites, responsible tourism etc.

**6.6 Incentives and future hopes of the islanders**

Respondents were asked for their hopes for the benefit of the island community in the future. Listed below are their responses:

* For their economy to grow – variety source of income and chance to do business. For example, handicraft, coconut-based product and homestay.
* Basic amenities to be top priority to focus if wants to grow local businesses. For example, transportation (Mersing – Tg Leman and Tg Leman – Sibu) should be more accessible to all type of tourist. Advertisements and promotions should also be enhanced to boost up P. Sibu’s profile as tourist destination.
* Some respondents also suggested to pass the regulation to start small scale fish farming industry to create alternative source of income.
* Set up a cooperative for locals to manage their business activity (ONLY ONE PERSON MENTION THIS).
* Few respondents raised concern of the cleanliness of the area suggesting creating a job potential for locals to clean the area.
* Request for more religious programmes
* Loosening the rules to continue fishing as it is the only way they know
* Sports facilities and development for locals to play

**6.7 Household expenditure structures**

Based on survey from a sample of 13 individuals, the average household income for resident of Pulau Sibu is RM22,542, annually. The distribution of the household income is skewed where most households sampled are on the lower end of the income range. It is noted that more than 35 percent of the households’ income fall between RM15,000 – RM25,000.

The households’ expenditure averaged RM14,409, which is 63.9 percent of their average household income. The amount spent on fuel (RM4,670) consumed the biggest portion of annual expenditures, accounting for one-third of the total. This was followed by food (RM3,738) and fishing gears (RM1,615). The remaining expenditure made up about 30 percent of total expenditure: spouse and child expenditures, car loan, electric bill, phone bill, transportation and tobacco.