

Quarterly report

Gibbons of Peninsular Malaysia (UNGA) Outreach Programme 2023

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May 2023

Contents

Background.....	3
Activity highlights	3
Tenby International School, Ipoh (30 January 2023)	3
Ruang Kongsi, Penang (3 February 2023).....	4
Pocket guide.....	7
	Financial report
.....	9 Planning
ahead.....	10 Taiping,
Perak (2 – 3 June 2023).....	10 Kluang,
Johor (29 – 30 June 2023).....	10 Kluang,
Johor (1 July 2023).....	10

Background

The research project (Grant/Award Number: 26530-1) with the title “Population Densities of Agile Gibbon (*Hylobates agilis*) and their relationship With Habitat Characteristics and History of Disturbance in the Ulu Muda Forest Reserve, Malaysia” was concluded with the publication of the same title on [American Journal of Primatology](#) in May 2022. In order to fully utilise the remaining Small Grant by Rufford Foundation, this project leader will be conducting outreach programmes in various cities in Peninsular Malaysia.

The content of the programme includes 1) introducing the tropical rainforest of Malaysia, 2) overview of primates in Malaysia, 3) the biology of gibbons, 4) conservation issues in Malaysia and 5) how can we contribute towards the protection of gibbons.

Activity highlights

Prince of Wales Island International School (26 May 2023)

UNGKA was invited by The Habitat Foundation to give the talk on gibbons to the school as their extracurricular activities focusing on environmental conservation. A total of **10 students** attended the outreach programme.



Sentosa Villa, Taiping, Perak (2 & 3 June 2023)

This is a collaboration between UNGKA and Nature Classroom, a local environment education social enterprise, and the programme was held at Sentosa Villa, a small resort that is located next to a virgin forest, where agile gibbons visit frequently. **30 individuals of students and parents** participated in the talk. We had the privilege to have a short walk into the forest of Maxwell Hill, locally known as Bukit Larut, to look at the habitat of agile gibbon.



Agape Presbyterian Church, Kluang, Johor (29 & 30 June 2023)

UNGKA has collaborated with The Boys' Brigade of Johor, and members from four companies, namely the 1st Kluang Company, 1st Kulai Company, 1st Muar Company and 1st Johor Bahru Company joined the session. **37 individuals** were in attendance. The students took an examination to earn their environmental conservation badge. We had the privilege to have a short walk into the forest of Gunung Lambak, a hill lock celebrated by the locals for recreation, to look at the habitat of lar gibbon.



Sentosa Villa, Taiping, Perak (16 & 17 September 2023)

We revisited this location as the response was good and highly anticipated. UNGKA and Nature Classroom collaborated again for the programme at Sentosa Villa, a small resort that is located next to a virgin forest, where agile gibbons visit frequently. **35 individuals of students and parents** participated in the talk.



Prince of Wales Island International School (20 Oct 2023)

UNGKA was invited by The Habitat Foundation to give the talk on gibbons to the school as their extracurricular activities focusing on environmental conservation. A total of **7 students** attended the outreach programme.

Pocket guide

As UNGKA is one of the projects under the NGO Malaysian Primatological Society (MPS), we also took the opportunity to promote the sale of the newly launched 'Primates of Malaysia Pocket Identification Guide' at the end of the outreach programme. This is to raise fund for MPS's other education and conservation initiatives.



Financial report

The chart below provides a summary on the expenditure for the past programmes. Note that the expenses of the programme at Ruang Kongsi, Penang on 3 Feb 2023 was not included as the event took place close to my workplace, and there was no need for a mileage claim nor stipend.

Expenditure items	Mileage (MYR/km)	Estimated distance for return trip (km)	Cost per day (MYR)	Cost per unit (MYR)	Number of unit	Subtotal (RM)	Description
Mileage for return trip to Taiping (2 & 3 June 2023)	0.55	228				125.4	From Tg Bungah, Penang to Taiping, Perak
Accommodation						210.8	Sentosa Villa (after 15% discount); program venue
Food			40		2	80	Fixed daily rate of RM40/day; 2 days 1 night trip
Tolls						17.98	From Tg Bungah, Penang to Taiping, Perak
Flight (28 June - 1 July)				240	2	480	Return flight between Senai International Airport, Johor Bahru, Johor to Penang International Airport, Penang
Grab/taxi (Senai-Kluang)				200	2	400	Return trip Senai - Kluang
Grab/taxi (Tg Bungah - PIA)				30	2	60	Return trip Tg Bungah - Penang International Airport
Food				40	4	160	4 days trip, layover at Kluang
Mileage for return trip to Taiping (16 & 17 June 2023)	0.55	228				125.4	From Tg Bungah, Penang to Taiping, Perak
Accommodation						210.8	Sentosa Villa (after 15% discount); program venue
Food			40		2	80	Fixed daily rate of RM40/day; 2 days 1 night trip
Tolls						17.98	From Tg Bungah, Penang to Taiping, Perak
					Grand total (RM)	1968.36	

Table 1: Expenditure for a number of education programs from June to October 2023

Planning ahead

We have been in discussion with other collaborators for our education outreach in 2024, and we proposed to have the following prospective dates and locations. We should be able to fully utilise the remaining fund if we manage to complete all programmes below.

Rimba Ilmu Botanic Garden, Universiti Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur (January 2024)

This is also a collaboration between UNGKA and Rimba Ilmu Botanic Garden, an 80-hectare botanic garden located within the Universiti Malaya campus in Kuala Lumpur. This will be a two-days-one-night trip. We will conduct the education programme for the participants, followed by a short guided walk in the garden to talk about fruit trees that are preferred by gibbons.

Kuantan, Pahang (February 2024)

We are planning to share knowledge on gibbons to the members of Malaysian Nature Society (MNS) Pahang Branch to pave the way for an upcoming canopy connectivity study in the forest fragments in the city of Kuantan, Pahang. There will be an indoor sharing session, followed by visiting the forest fragments to observe gibbons on the next day.

Penang Chinese Girl Primary School, Penang (February 2024)

We are working with the primary school teacher to organise a talk on primate and gibbons on their co-curriculum day.

Nan Hwa High School, Sitiawan, Perak (March 2024)

The Chinese independent school has been working on enriching their curriculum with a message of environment conservation. This will be a two-days-one-night trip. We will conduct the education programme for the students and teachers.

Pulau Betong Chinese National Primary School - SJK(C) Pulau Betong, Penang (March 2024)

We are planning with the head of the co-curriculum activities to organise a talk on primate and gibbons. This is an underprivileged rural school tucked away from the metropolis of Penang.

Nan Hwa High School, Sitiawan, Perak (March 2024)

The Chinese independent school has been working on enriching their curriculum with a message of environment conservation. This will be a two-days-one-night trip. We will conduct the education programme for the students and teachers.

Tenby International School, Ipoh, Perak (April 2024)

We had a session in January 2023 and a total of 200 students attended the outreach programme. We would like to perform the program at the same premise again.

Sungai Sedim Tree Top Walk, Kulim, Kedah (April 2024 & July 2024)

Together with Nature Classroom, UNGKA is planning an extension of the outreach program at a resort near the recreational forest. This will be a two-days-one-night trip, and we will conduct the education programme for the participants (students and their parents) on the first day, followed by a short field trip to the gibbon habitat and walk on the canopy bridge, hopefully we can observe gibbons, which are known to be seen around the facility.

Sentosa Villa, Taiping, Perak (May 2024)

Through the collaboration between UNGKA and Nature Classroom, we have been to the venue in 2023, twice, for its popularity. This will be a two-days-one-night trip, and we will conduct the education programme for the participants (students and their parents) on the first day, followed by a short field trip to the gibbon habitat at Maxwell Hill, Taiping.

Gunung Pulai, Johor (May 2024)

Together with Nature Classroom, UNGKA is planning an extension of the outreach program at a resort near the recreational forest. This will be a three-days-two-nights trip, and we will conduct the education programme for the participants (students and their parents) on the first day, followed by a short field trip to the gibbon habitat on the next day.

Tenby International School, Kuala Lumpur (June 2024)

We are planning with the teacher to conduct a talk on primate and gibbons. This will be a three-days-two-nights trip.

Johor Bahru, Johor (September 2024)

UNGKA is planning an education program with Into The Woods, an insect hobbyist enterprise that does nature education programmes for kids. This will be a three-days-two-nights trip, and we will conduct the education programme for the participants (students and their parents). We may be able to do an excursion to Gunung Pulai to visit gibbon habitat.

Timeline for 2024

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Perak			Nan Hwa High School, Sitiawan	Tenby International School	Sentosa Villa, Taiping with Nature Classroom							
Penang		Penang Chinese Girl Primary School	SJK(C) Pulau Betong									
KL/Klang Valley	Rimba Ilmu Botanic Garden, Universiti Malaysia (Thaipusam)					Tenby International School (Hari Raya Haji)						
Johor					Nature Classroom, Gunung Pulai (Labour Day)				Into The Woods (Malaysia Day)			
Pahang		MNS Pahang/THF										
Kedah				Nature Classroom, Sungai Sedim Tree Top Walk, Kulim			Nature Classroom, Sungai Sedim Tree Top Walk, Kulim (George Town Heritage Day)					