



**Local Community Empowerment on Tiger and Its
conservation in Southeastern Aceh, Indonesia**

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List of Abbreviation

ADK	Alokasi Dana Gampong(Village Development Fund Allocation)
APBDes	Anggaran Pendapatan Belanja Desa (Village Annual Budget)
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species
GLNP	Gunung Leuser National Park
GVEGWT	Good Village Environmental Governance Workshop Training
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
PHPA	Perlindungan Hutan dan Pelestarian Alam (Nature Conservation and Forest Protection)
SRI	Sumatra Rainforest Institute
WCS	Wildlife Conservation Society

Table of Content

Chapter		Page
	List of Abbreviation	i
	Table of Content	ii
	Executive Summary	iii
I	Background	1
II	Gunung Leuser National Park	3
III	South Eastern (South East & Gayo Lues District)	4
IV	Tiger in Sumatra	5
V	Project Objectives	6
VI	Project Achievements	6
VII	Project Out Comes	9
VIII	Project Unforeseen difficulties	9
IX	Involvement of local communities	10
X	Important Next Step	10
XI	Time Scale	11
XII	Conclusion	12
XIII	Appendixes	13
	Appendix 1. Map of Project Location	13
	Appendix 2. Participant List	14
	Appendix.3. Photos of Indoor Activities	15
	Appendix.4. Photos of Outdoor Activities	16
	Appendix.5. Photos of Training Modules/Material Produces	17
	Appendix.6. Budget	18

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The biggest threat to the existence of Sumatran tiger are human activities, mainly forest conversion for plantation, mining, community residence, transmigration, and other infrastructure development. Besides as source of habitat fragmentation, several activities always stimulate conflict between human and tiger, so that resulted the victims for both side, even ended by the take tiger out from their habitat.

Leuser forest encroachment is increasing and Human-Tiger conflicts are ongoing. Base on the situation, the trainings that urgently undertaken are tiger conservation cadre training that aimed to sharpen teacher ability in tiger conservation knowledge and then good environmental governance training that aimed to strengthen village heads capacity in sustainable development leadership.

The conservation capacity building scheme was conducted for 22 local teachers and 22 village formal leader during 14 months in the southeastern of Aceh region and also coordination with relevance local government have done with harmonious.

The program is needed to be continue and support the initiative of green generation in school and green village development in field level which aimed to make acceleration of conservation knowledge in future time especially to bring Sumatran tiger habitat conservation sensitivities and issues.

I. Background

The biggest threat to the existence of Sumatran tiger are human activities, mainly forest conversion for plantation, mining, community residence, transmigration, and other infrastructure development. Besides as source of habitat fragmentation, several activities always stimulate conflict between human and tiger, so that resulted the victims for both side, even ended by the take tiger out from their habitat.

The other human activities which direct caused of take this charismatic animal out from their natural habitat is the illegal trade of Sumatran tiger with their derivative products. The poorness of people around the forest as well as highly commercial demand of illegal product of tiger like skin, bone, jaw, and meat have been driving the increase of illegal hunting of that animal.

Huge and fast of Forest losses in the last 30 years has causes decrease of sumatran tiger habitat and fragmented to be small piece which separate one with another. Increasing of human population and economics development in and around habitat of sumatran tiger have caused the need of land conversion for plantation and farming, which trigger the conflict between human and tiger. Even, these conflicts believed as a major threat of tiger existence. However, poverty factor and the lack of employment have caused people hunting wild animal, not only for their subsistence needs, but also for their poverty alleviation way by selling them to local markets.

Because of that, it is important to building the people awareness , especially for people in and around the forest for conservation sumatran tiger and their habitats. Empowerment of education and awareness to the village leader as a local leader as well as teachers is the one of the most important ways to conserve the sumatran tiger and their habitat.

The teachers are person who take very important player in early youth education of basic values implanting on student mind set as future generation. The well information, knowledge, teaching skill refreshing is significant positive as campaigner functional in local community especially among young students. The good skill teachers will make strong conservation mindset building among students who live surrounding leuser ecosystem that recognized as Sumatran tiger corridor. Furthermore, The village heads and secretary village heads as Mandatory of Village Autonomy Governance are someone in charged on formal village development of (planning, implementing, controlling) and also playing as important decision making in village level, some cases like forest encroachments, animal hunting and trading are needed to be undertaken crucial seriously attention by village decision makers. So, the strengthening of their capacity will be expected can carry out sustainable development in rainforest sustainable management especially endangered species conservation like Sumatran tiger. The teacher and village head and secretary village position are urgent/important positions that had been evaluated in implementing of the long term of strategic development directional on sustainable development especially pro-tiger conservation and sustainable forest management in field level (villages) especially tiger and its habitat.

Finally, Leuser forest encroachment is increasing and Human-Tiger conflicts are ongoing. Base on the situation, the trainings that urgently undertaken are tiger conservation cadre training that aimed to sharpen teacher ability in tiger conservation knowledge and then good environmental governance training that aimed to strengthen village heads capacity in sustainable development leadership.

II. Gunung Leuser National Park

Gunung Leuser National Park (GLNP) is a national park covering 7,927 km² in northern Sumatra, Indonesia, straddling the border of North Sumatra and Aceh provinces. The national park, named after 3,381 m height of Mount Leuser, protects a wide range of ecosystems. Gunung Leuser National Park is 150 km long, over 100 km wide and is mostly mountainous. 40% of the park, which is mainly in the north, is steep, and over 1,500 m. 12% of the Park only, in the lower southern half, is below 600 meters but for 25 km runs down the coast. 11 peaks are over 2,700 m and the highest point is Gunung Leuser, which 3,466 m high.

Gunung Leuser National Park is one of the two remaining habitats for Sumatran Orangutans (*Pongo abelii*). Other mammals found in the park are the Sumatran Elephant, Sumatran tiger, Sumatran rhinoceros, Siamang, Mainland Serow, Sambar deer, and Leopard Cat.

Agriculture is a major source of income for the local communities around Leuser. Large rubber and oil palm plantations in northern Sumatra play a major role in the national economy. Almost all remaining lowland forest has been given out officially for oil palm plantations. Yield decline has been recorded, however, in several Leuser regencies. This decline can be ascribed mainly to a deterioration of nutrients in the soil, along with soil erosion, drought and floods, and an increase in weeds. Clearly, these causes of decline are linked to the deforestation of Leuser. For example, the logging of water-catchment areas in Leuser is found to be responsible for taking 94% of failed irrigation areas out of production

Several districts, such as Aceh Tenggara, have hydro-electricity plants that use water from Leuser. The plants operated in Aceh Tenggara are designed as small-scale economic activities. It appears that the operational conditions for the hydro-plants have worsened in recent years. Increased erosion of the waterways has forced the operators to remove excessive sediments from their turbines. This has led to frequent interruption of the power supply, higher operational costs and

damage to the blades of the turbines. One plant closed down due to lack of water supply. Most of these disturbances are considered abnormal and may therefore be attributed to deforestation.

People living in areas with a high biodiversity value tend to be relatively poor. Hence, the highest economic values for biodiversity are likely to be found within institutions and people in wealthy countries. Anthropogenic increases in the concentrations of greenhouse gases (such as CO₂) in the atmosphere are widely believed to lead to climate change. Carbon sequestration by rainforest ecosystems therefore has an economic value, since the carbon fixed in the ecosystem reduces atmospheric concentrations.

III. South Eastern Region (South East & Gayo Lues District)

Geographically, Aceh Tenggara district is situated on 30° 55'230 – 40° 16'370 north latitude and 96° 43'230 – 98° 10'320 east longitude. This district is located on mountain area with 1000 asl, part of mount of Bukit Barisan, GLNP. Aceh Tenggara district which mother city in Kutacane has 4.231,41 km dedided to 11 sub districts and 164 villages. Be adjacent to Gayo lues in north side, Aceh Selatan district and Aceh Singkil district in South side, Aceh Selatan district in west side, and North Sumatra Province in east side. The world lung is situated ini Aceh Tenggara district, because in this area is the owner of GLNP, which has 1.094.692 Ha covered district of Aceh Tenggara, Aceh Barat, Aceh Timur, Aceh Selatan, Aceh Tengah, Gayo Lues, dan Langkat (North Sumatra Province). GLNP has specific biodiversities of flora and fauna, like *Rafflesia atjehensis* dan *johanesteinimania altifrons* and *rizanthus zippelii*.

Gayo Lues has 5.719 km² area and situated on 3°40'46,13" - °16'50,45" north latitude and 96°43'15,65" - 97°55'24,29" East Longitude. This is one district in Aceh province (NAD) and separating from Aceh Tenggara district by the UU No.4 Tahun 2002 on April, 10, 2002. This district is located in Bukit Barisan Mountain, which

most of the area is part of GLNP. This district is most isolated then the others. Gayo Lues next known as land of thousand mountain. Majority of people in gayo is Goyo ethnicity, also Aceh, Alas, Batak, and Java. Gayo Lues area covers 57 persen from the origin of Aceh Tenggara, and devided to 11 sub districts.

IV. Tiger in Sumatra

Indonesia had three from eight sub species of tiger in the world, but two of them, i.e. java tiger (*Panthera tigris sondaica*) and Bali Tiger (*Pathera tigris balica*) was gone/extinct, in 1940s and 1980s. Nowadays, only sub species sumatran tiger (*Panthera tigris sumatrae*) which exist and live in their habitat that fragmented and isolated one to another. Sumatran tiger only found in sumatra and the smallest tiger among other specieses. The male sumatran tiger has 240 cm long and 120 kg weight. whereas, the female has 220 cm long and 90 kg weight.

Currently in natural populations of Sumatran tiger is estimated that only approximately 400 individuals who live scattered in some forest areas that are fragmented due to various causes, especially logging and forest conversion. Sumatran tiger is one of the legacy of Indonesia's natural wealth is still left.

Since 1996, Sumatran tigers are categorized as highly threatened with extinction (Critically endangered) by the IUCN (Cat Specialist Group, 2002). In 1992, the Sumatran tiger population is distribute in some conservation areas, it likes: Gunung Leuser National Park, Kerinci Seblat National Park, Way Kambas National Park, and Bukit Barisan Selatan Berbak national Park, Batang Gadis National Park, Kerumutan & Rimbang Wildlife reserves, Barumon Wildlife Preserve Area (PHPA 1994).

Sumatran tiger (*Panthera tigris sumatrae*) is one of the only pride of rare animals living on the island of Sumatra. Animal species that occupy the top of the pyramid in Sumatra forest ecosystem is being protected by the Indonesian government and be

categorized by the IUCN (international conservation organization) as the animals approached extinction. Meanwhile, the CITES (Convention on trade in endangered animals and plants) have banned the trade and poaching of these animals. Attempts to save the Sumatran tiger has long and continuously carried out by the Indonesian government and various parties who care about the preservation of these animals either from domestic or foreign. However, because these efforts are often not integrated with the pace of economic development on the island of Sumatra, so far the results are less encouraging. Currently in natural populations of Sumatran tiger is estimated that only approximately 400 individuals especially Gunung Lueser National Park is estimated have 168 individuals only in live scattered in some forest areas that are fragmented due to various causes, especially logging and forest encroachments.

V. Project Objectives

- To create training modules that needed with local situation and conditions
- To increase local village heads and secretary in understanding of sustainable forest management and Sumatran tiger conservation issues
- To Increase local teachers understanding of sustainable forest management and Sumatran tiger conservation issues

VI. Project Achievement

- 5 meeting coordination with local government & relevance stakeholders conducted.
- 11 key person's involved in preparing modules for training
- 22 local teachers trained by Conservation Cadre
- 22 village officers trained by Good Village Environmental Governance Training
- Some important lesson socialized, its like Biology of Sumatran tiger, Environmental laws, illegal trading of tiger, principles of sustainable forest management, Strategy& Action Plan – Sumatra Tiger Conservation 2007-2017.
- obtain information about the vulnerability of the village administration, it likes:

Village Governance Issues:

- **Village Government Does Not Have a Permanent Office**
Due to lack of office, during this time the village head's house located in village governance led to Up to no good, so the mind to the seriousness of the problem is not the focus of forestry development
- **Education Training for Officers Village Very Minimal**
During this training facility is only for the village head, while the training of administrative and financial and governance for village officials did not even exist, so the ability of personnel in the planning and budgeting, environmental friendly village development can not be done due to the capacity of village officials is below standard
- **Honor/Salary the Village Head**
During the time that get honorariums only village head and village secretaries, while the other apparatus, such as the head of village affairs and treasurer are not feasible, even under the minimum wage could reach.
- **Many other Village Government do not understand Sustainable Development**
Many other village government in other region around lueser national park do not understand and apply the principles of sustainable development and why biodiversity must be preserved under development mechanism in their village governance implementation.
- **Alokasi Dana Kampong (Village Development Fund Allocation).**
Government Development Fund allocations are often not liquid village on time, so that development funds are often late and could even die, other potential outside the Village Development Fund Allocation (ADK) was not flown due to low capacity of village officials the ability

- Low Income People's/dweller Economy

Low income people's economic conditions by the village leaders to make the people of Aceh the southeast (south-east Aceh and Gayo Lues) were oriented to cutting down trees/ illegal logging communities. These conditions caused the help of nature conservation have been directed more timber planting of non-economic and socialization of the boundary with no consideration for improving the local economy. Suppose education technical assistance and aid for the cultivation of coffee Gayo seedling, so the old can be more productive land, and slowly people are not extend to land and take the orientation of wood. Earth of Gayo been famous for its coffee Gayo. Gayo Lues and Aceh covers the southeast, but did not get real results, so far it didn't middle-Takengon district that favors picking "big names: Gayo Coffee and the society Southeast Aceh district of Gayo and ourselves have not can be proud again, this is due to the conflict 25 year to make the people/generation lose the freedom of science and improve the economic reach, and finally coffee Gayo do not belong anymore. As a result, local people involve with illegal business in illegal wood supply workers and a post military conflict era then people starter oriented to land expansion

Teacher and Education Issues

- The lack of School cooperation with the External Parties

The lack of micro grant funding and capacity-building assistance to make the initiative of environmentally friendly school
- Many teachers who do not sensitive to the issue of Forestry

Conditions of school locations are far from the teacher/student residential caused the children had to leave school early, so the lack of extracurricular activities.
- The requirement for children working in the fields/gardens on the edge of the forest and open forest, and it causing the student do not have extra time

after school with teachers to make systematic conservation mindset cultivation in school times.

➤ Many teachers have not certified

The certified teacher status made their salary become double then un-certified teacher. Many teachers devotion in a remote area in the rural mountains had failed to get certified that caused of bureaucratic problems and procedurals. This conditions had caused the welfare (income) of teachers is still low, event the location of schools and residential areas far away makes the cost increase, and teachers must be careful through the woods toward the school, whether the presence of wild animals and weather.

VII. Project Out Comes

- There is an increasing public awareness about the importance of conservation of Sumatran tigers and their habitats especially in local teachers and local informal leaders.
- The existence of an understanding of various risk reduction measures the conflict between humans and tigers after get training session
- Obtain some important information regarding real grass root facts that causing lack of habitat protection concern.

VIII. Project Unforeseen difficulties.

There are not unforeseen difficulties during overall project implementation, since preparation, socialization, implementation and reporting. Th

IX. Involvement of local communities

The involvement of local communities in projects of this first phase, still limited as a participant activities. All training and workshop hoped that their involvement can be a resource person as well as perpetrators of tigers and their habitat conservationists in the future. However, enthusiasm and community participation at all good enough. It is characterized by high participation and enthusiasm of the participants in following the activities carried out during training days. Involvement is also shown by the local government at village level who enthusiastically sending apparatus to be present as participants in the training activities undertaken.

X. Important Next Step

Of course, this activity is recognized as the foundation for the next step. I.e Sumatran tiger rescue measures and their habitats in the region of GLNP in the district of Gayo Lues and Aceh Tenggara. This important step in the future can be realized in the form of community engagement in the field more concrete action, such as the transformation of public conservation awareness to others through intensified conservation extension activities to villagers by the village officials. Teachers need support in doing conservation education to students through the support of learning materials and other information materials conservation education with their call as green generation program.

Along with this step, also important in other strategic action in the form of a concrete field of action, such as population and potential for conflict monitoring group should tiger and human. Then that is not less important is finding a way out for efforts to increase the welfare of the community around the region through sustainable economic activity.

XI. Time Scale

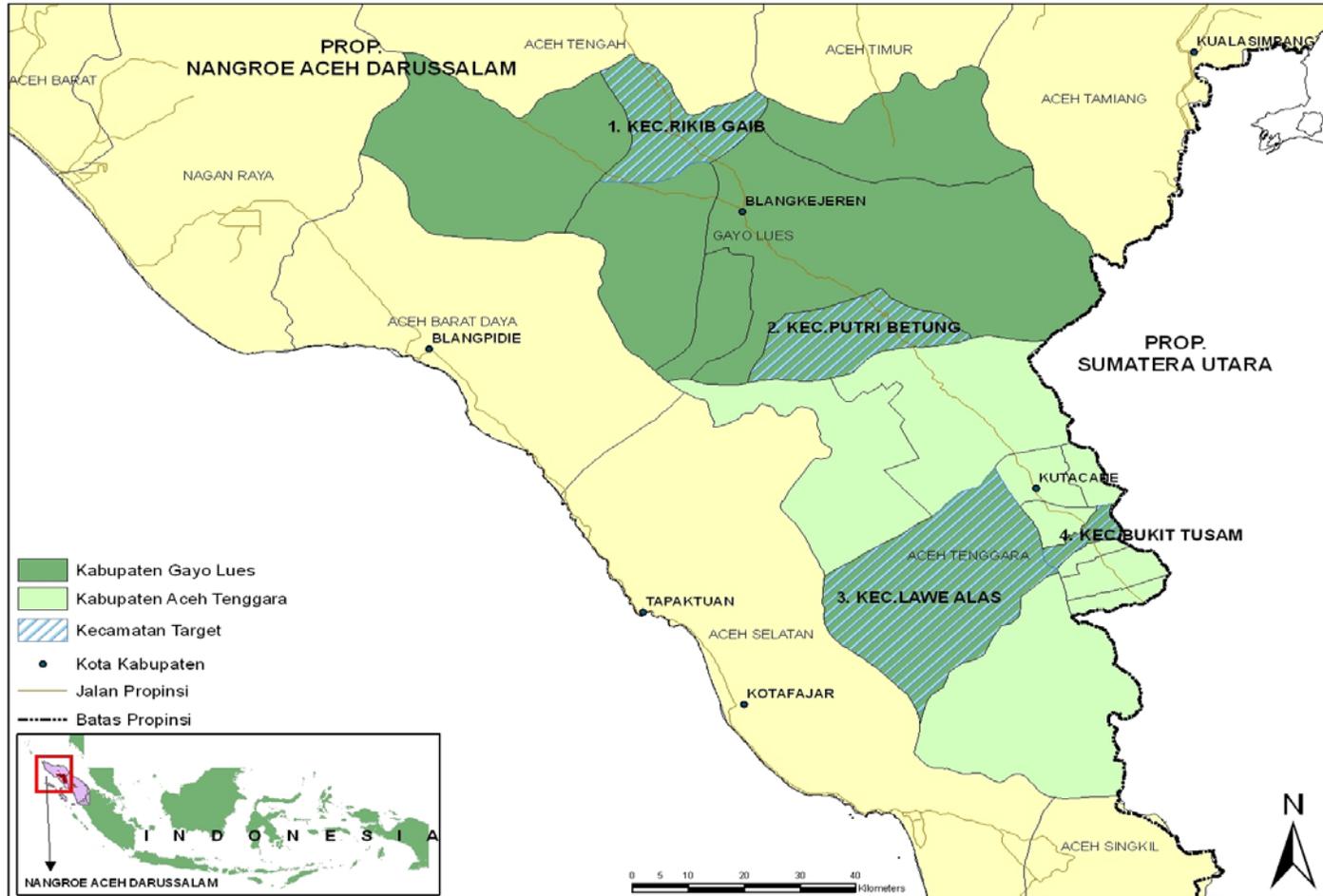
No	Activity	2009										2010				
		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	
I	Project Preparation and Internal Staff Capacity Building	v														
II	Field Visit Orientation and Coordination		V				v				v	v	v			
III	Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) With Local Government			v												
IV	Training Module Drafting by Team				v	v										
V	Module Finalization Workshop						v									
VI	Training Module Printing							v								
VII	Coordination With Local Government and District Education Board for Training Preparation								V							
VII	Tiger Conservation Cadre for Local Teachers										v					
VIII	Good Environmental Governance Training for Village Heads and Administration Secretary														v	
IX	Preparation of Final Report															v

XII. Plans to continue this work and Share the result with others

- The village officials ask, if this Rufford small program continued with technical assistance to increase production and supply of coffee seedlings native Gayo coffee as superior native village, it means that by local economic development for poor people around forest is expected can reduce local people involvement in national park encroachment and animal wildlife poaching & trading especially for tiger habitat
- The teacher asks if the Rufford small grant program assistance can support our initiative in green generation program by teacher training graduates. This program aims to build green school and its involve student participating.
- This project result will share with local government and District Education Boards

XIII. Appendixes

Appendix 1. Map of Project Location



Appendix.2.Participants List

Tiger Conservation Cadre Training

NO	NAME	INSTITUTION	GENDER
1.	Siti Nasro, S.Pd.	SMA Negeri 1 Blang Kejeren	Female
2.	Ely Rosdiana, S.Pd.	SMA Negeri 1 Blang Pegayon	Female
3.	Andri Astuti, S.Pd.	SMP Negeri 1 Rikit Gaib	Female
4.	Khalidin, S.Pd.	SMA Negeri 1 Blang Pegayon	Male
5.	Eva Novita, S.Pd.	SMA Negeri Seribu Bukit	Female
6.	Yusuf, S.Pd.	SMP Negeri 1 Blang Pegayon	Male
7.	Kamaruddin, ST.	SMA Negeri 1 Blang Kejeren	Male
8.	Sahermawati, S.Pd.	SMP Negeri 2 Blang Kejeren	Female
9.	Sri Wahyuni, S.Pd.	SMP Negeri 2 Blang Kejeren	Female
10.	Asiyah Jabo, S.Pd.	SMA Negeri 1 Putri Betung	Female
11.	Sari Juliana, S.Si.	SMA Negeri 1 Putri Betung	Female
12.	Mahdalyna	SMP Negeri 1 Blang Kejeren	Female
13.	Lailan Rafina, S.Pd.	SMP Negeri 1 Dabun Gelang	Female
14.	Rabudin Ramli, S.Pd.	SMP Negeri 1 Blang Kejeren	Male
15.	Jamaludin, S.Pd.	SMP Negeri 1 Rikit Gaib	Male
16.	Mhd. Amin, S.Pd.	SMP Negeri 1 Blang Kejeren	Male
17.	Syukur Karya Iman, S.Pd.	SMP Negeri 1 Blang Kejeren	Male
18.	Wivi Suriani, SE.	SMP Negeri 1 Dabun Gelang	Female
19.	Henny Sari	SMP Bukit Tusam	Female
20.	Anita P	SMP Bukit Tusam	Female
21.	Kurniawati,SPd	SMAP Lawe Alas	Female
22.	Nenny Kunia,SPd	SMP Lawe Alas	Female

Good Environmental Governance Training

NO	NAME	VILLAGE	GENDER
1.	Usman Randi	Blang Bengkik	Male
2.	Ridwan	Blang Bengkik	Male
3.	Saripudin	Gele	Male
4.	Saripuddin	Gele	Male
5.	Mat Rahim	Cempa	Male
6.	M. Kasim	Cempa	Male
7.	Mustaruddin	Akang Suah	Male
8.	Adenan	Sere	Male
9.	Saripudin	Sere	Male
10.	Sabdin	Cinta Maju	Male
11.	Kemidin	Cinta Maju	Male
12.	Ali Akbar	Lempuh	Male
13.	Alim	Pendahra	Male
14.	Saleh	Lempuh	Male
15.	Abdul Rahman	Penggalangan	Male
16.	Ramli	Penggalangan	Male
17.	M. Naen	Akang Suah	Male
18.	Abdul Kadir	Umelah	Male
19.	Muhammad Amin	Umelah	Male
20.	M. Saleh	Bener Baru	Male
21.	Ali Amsah	Bener Baru	Male
22.	Anis	Pendahra	Male

Appendix 3. Photos of Indoor Activities

Separate attachment

Appendix.4. Photos of Outdoor Activities

Separate attachment

Appendix.5. Photos of Training Modules/Material Produces

Separate attachment

Appendix.6. Budget

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
1. MoU, Planning and Implementing Activities				
1.1 Meeting Discussion (Stakeholders)	80	80	0	
1.2 Car rental and Gasoline 1 unit for 5 months	1,167	1,167	0	
Sub Total	1,247	1,247	0	
1. Implementation				
2.1 Workshop : Training Module Development	400	400	0	
2.1.1 Experts Incentive	400	400	0	
2.1.2 Transport, hotel, consumption (expert from out of town)	260	260	0	
2.1.3 Equipment and material (certificate, trainingkits, ink, etc)	67	67	0	
Sub Total	727	727	0	
2.2 Tiger Cinservation Cadre Workshop Training :				
2.2.1 Material and equipment (certificate, training kits, ink, papers)	73	73	0	
2.2.2 Expert Facilitator Incentive	240	240	0	
2.2.3 Transport, hotel, consumption (expert from out of town)	260	260	0	
2.2.4 Participant transport fee	533	533	0	
2.2.5 Participant (hotel and consumption) for 4 days+1 night	827	827	0	
2.2.6 Bus rental for field trip	67	67	0	
Sub Total	2,000	2,000	0	
2.3 Good Environmental Governance Workshop Training :				
2.3.1 Material and equipment (certificate,	73	73	0	

training kits, ink, papers)				
2.3.2 Expert facilitator incentive	240	240	0	
2.3.3 Transport and hotel (expert from out of toen)	260	260	0	
2.3.4 Participant transport fee	533	533	0	
2.3.5 Participant (hotel and consumption) for 4 days+1 night	827	827	0	
2.3.6 Bus rental for field trip	67	57	10	as a result of the funding has been cut by 10 £ sterling by the bank, the cost for bus rentals are charged less than the budget
Other expense :				
Bank Transfer charge	-	10	(10)	Fund received have been charged for 10 £ sterling by the bank as the bank transfer charge
TOTAL	5,973	5,973	0	

Budget: All figures should be in £ sterling, indicating the local exchange rate used.