

Sarawak
Biodiversity Centre



ANNUAL REPORT
2023

COVER DESCRIPTION

Long term microbial preservation of more than 30 years in glass ampoules can be achieved through lyophilization, a process where the water from the microbial cells is removed under vacuum.

To check the integrity of the ampoule made, a high frequency voltage visible as a purple beam is applied to the surface of the ampoule to detect defects such as pinholes or cracks.

The purple beam's distortion, variation in intensity, colour and in some cases where it produces sparks is a sign that the ampoule had defects and therefore not acceptable for long term storage.

Corporate Information

5

Statutory Provisions: Sarawak Biodiversity Centre Ordinance, 1997
Core Functions
Organisational Structure
Vision, Mission, and Tagline
Client's Charter
Sarawak Biodiversity Council
Sarawak Biodiversity Council Meetings

Committees under the Council

14

Committees under the Council
Establishment Committee
Finance and Investment Committee
Audit Committee
Technical Committee on Access and Benefit Sharing
Disciplinary Committee - Management and Professional Group
Disciplinary Committee - Support Group
Disciplinary Appeal Committee - Management and Professional Group
Disciplinary Appeal Committee - Support Group

Report on Receipt and Utilisation of Government Grants

26

Operating Grants

Financial Statements Analysis

28

Financial Year Ended 31st December 2023

Innovation and Commercialisation of Research

56

Commercialisation of Sarawak's Very Own Ganoderma
Sarawak Bioindustrial Park (SBP)

Sustainable Bioprospecting

59

Natural Product Library - Unlocking Therapeutic Leads
Extraction of Natural Products
Driving Sustainable Practices:
Ensuring Continuity in Raw Material Supply and Cultivation
Algae as Sustainable Solution in the Circular Economy:
Isochrysis sp for Aquaculture
Discoveries of Bioactive Compounds

Working with Communities

66

Traditional Knowledge Documentation and Preservation -
Pathway to Commercialization

Sekiu Oil - Golden Oil of Sarawak

*TERAJU Dana Pembangunan Usahawan Bumiputera (DPUB)
Project entitled "Improving Sarawak's Indigenous Community
Livelihoods Through Sustainable Production and
Commercialization of LitSara®"*

Highlights

74

Networking

Funding

Public Engagement

Local, Regional and Global

88

Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs)

Collaboration and Funding

International Meetings

Events

94

Official Launch of the CHITOSE Carbon Capture Central
Sarawak by The Right Honourable Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri
(Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang
Haji Openg, Premier of Sarawak

Benefit Sharing Agreement on Sekiu Project

Traditional Knowledge (TK) Seminar 2023

Building Bridges: An Inspiring Networking Dinner Hosted
by Dr John Cumbers and SBC

Mini Convention on Innovative and Creative Circle

25th Anniversary Celebration Dinner Celebrating 25 Years
of Innovation and Discovery!

Visits

100

Official Visits

Staff Achievements

116

Anugerah Perkhidmatan Cemerlang 2023

Sijil Perkhidmatan Cemerlang 2023

Certificate of Achievement for Without Sick Leave

Social Welfare and Sport Club

119

Activities

FOREWORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Sarawak Biodiversity Centre (SBC) celebrated a significant milestone - its 25th anniversary this year. Since its establishment in 1998, SBC remains steadfastly committed to its extraordinary mission of supporting Sarawak's innovation agenda.

The Centre remains dedicated to upholding the three fundamental pillars outlined in the Post-Covid Development Strategy (PCDS) 2030 - economic prosperity, social inclusivity and environmental sustainability.

In 2023, SBC continued its stewardship in Access and Benefit Sharing with the 3rd Benefit Sharing Agreement (BSA) for Sekiu, a prized edible oil popular among the Melanau communities, derived from the species *Madhuca motleyana*. There is a need to develop the commercial potential of this premium oil, boosting community income and generating spillovers that are economically viable and sustainable for years to come.

Embracing digital transformation, SBC has also launched the LitSara[®]-SiniSana Blockchain-Traceability platform, propelling Sarawak towards its aspiration of evolving into a thriving, data driven society.

In support of Sarawak's green energy initiatives as envisioned by the Right Honourable Premier of Sarawak, SBC has partnered with Sarawak Energy Berhad and Japan's Chitose Group to establish Sarawak's largest algae cultivation facility. Spanning an impressive five hectares, this pioneering facility utilises flue gas from a nearby coal-fired plant, showcasing effective carbon management within a circular economy framework.

These and many other dynamic efforts by SBC are in perfect harmony with Sarawak's Post Covid-19 Development Strategy (PCDS) 2030, championing economic prosperity, social inclusivity, and environmental sustainability.

I am pleased to extend my sincere congratulations to our newly appointed Council members, Mr. Dominic Chunggat and Mr. Jack Liam. I would also like to express our deepest gratitude to Mdm. Peggy Ronin Edin for her dedicated service to the Council.

Furthermore, I would like to convey our utmost appreciation to the Sarawak Government, under the leadership of the Right Honourable Premier of Sarawak, for their unwavering support of SBC throughout the year. Your continued support has been invaluable to our SBC's success.

Looking ahead, I am confident that SBC will continue to excel in integrating traditional knowledge with modern technologies, leading the way in sustainable practices and biodiversity preservation. Together, we can work towards a future where environmental sustainability, social inclusivity, and economic prosperity thrive in harmony.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Abu Bakar".

YB Datuk Amar Haji Mohamad Abu Bakar Bin Marzuki
Chairman, Sarawak Biodiversity Council

The background consists of several overlapping, curved, semi-circular shapes in various shades of blue, ranging from a light sky blue to a deep navy blue. The shapes are layered, creating a sense of depth and movement. The text is centered within the largest, most prominent shape.

CORPORATE INFORMATION

CORPORATE INFORMATION

Statutory Provisions: Sarawak Biodiversity Centre Ordinance, 1997

The Sarawak Biodiversity Centre (SBC) is established as a Statutory Body under the Sarawak Biodiversity Centre Ordinance, 1997. The Centre's initial role was primarily focused on inventory and regulatory functions, acting as the gatekeeper to Sarawak's rich biodiversity for those seeking access to and collection of biological resources for research or commercial purposes. This role was formalised with the enactment of the Sarawak Biodiversity Regulations in 1998.

In December 2003, the State Legislative Assembly passed the Sarawak Biodiversity Centre (Amendment) Ordinance 2003 and revised the Sarawak Biodiversity Regulations in 2004. These amendments shifted the Centre's focus from general biodiversity inventory and regulation to initiating intensive biotech research and development, particularly on resources utilised by indigenous communities.

The Centre was tasked with documenting the rapidly disappearing traditional knowledge of these communities. In 2014, the State Legislative Assembly further strengthened the rules and procedures on Access and Benefit Sharing by passing the Sarawak Biodiversity Ordinance (Amendment) 2014.

Core Functions

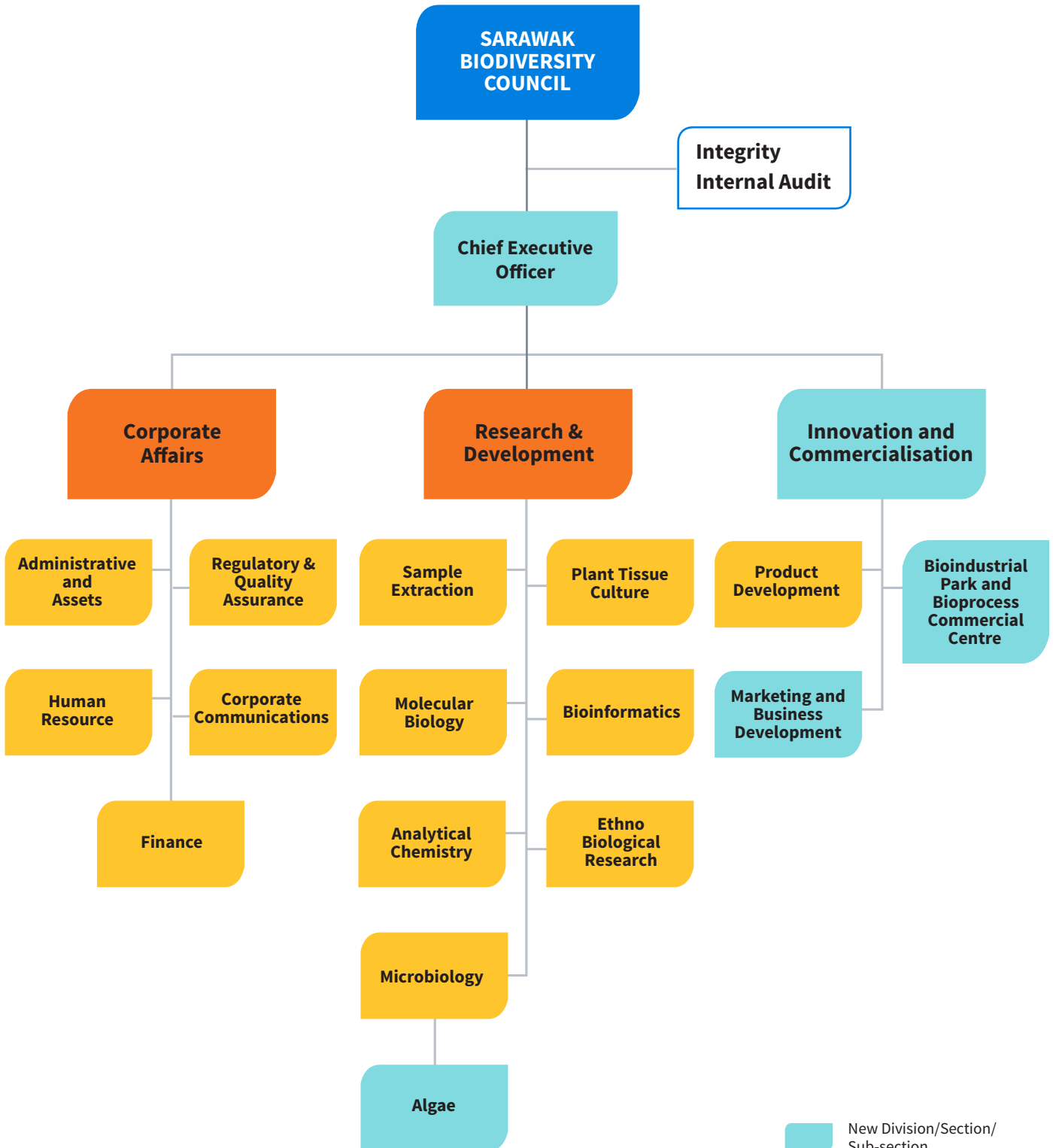
The Sarawak Biodiversity Centre is entrusted with the following statutory functions:


- to conduct bioprospecting or Research and Development (R&D) on the biodiversity of Sarawak, and maintain a library of extracts for R&D;
- to implement the Traditional Knowledge Documentation Programme among the ethnic communities in Sarawak;
- to provide facilities for R&D;
- to establish and maintain a database on information related to the biological resources of Sarawak;
- to implement Prior Informed Consent (PIC) and ensure that the traditional knowledge in relation to the biological resources is obtained and a benefit sharing is carried out based on agreed terms;
- to commercialise SBC's R&D discoveries;
- to regulate biodiversity related research with commercial potential through the Research Permit System; and
- network with organisations with similar interests and to carry out biodiversity-biotechnology awareness and appreciation programmes.

In 2018, the Centre was mandated to establish and manage the Sarawak Bioindustrial Park and the SBC Bioprocess Commercial Centre at Samarahan, as well as a 20-acre land for commercial farming. In 2027, 100 hectares microalgae production facility at Gedong will be built at Samarahan for economic rationality and environmental sustainability.

CORPORATE INFORMATION

Organisation Structure



 New Division/Section/
Sub-section

CORPORATE INFORMATION



Sarawak
Biodiversity Centre

Our Vision

**Enriching Lives with Breakthrough
Innovations in Biodiversity**

Our Mission

**To Decode Biodiversity for the
Benefit of Sarawak**

Tagline

Biodiversity for a Better Tomorrow

CORPORATE INFORMATION

Client's Charter

General Public

- To respond to general enquiries on biodiversity, biotechnology and bioprospecting, SBC and related activities within 7 working days.
- To prepare answers to oral and written questions brought up in the State Legislative Assembly within 14 working days upon receiving the questions/official instructions.
- To prepare and submit speeches for Ministers and other dignitaries within 14 working days of receiving official instructions.
- To process and make payment to creditors upon receipt of original invoice, within 14 working days.

Research Community

- To respond to enquiries applications to carry out biodiversity research in Sarawak within 7 working days.
- To process research applications and seek approval from the Sarawak Biodiversity Council within 30 working days from the date the application is completed.
- To prepare the research agreement and necessary permits for signing within 14 working days after application is approved.

CORPORATE INFORMATION

SARAWAK BIODIVERSITY COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN



**YB Datuk Amar Haji Mohamad Abu Bakar
Bin Marzuki**

Sarawak State Secretary

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN



Tuan Haji Azmi Bin Haji Bujang

Permanent Secretary

Ministry of Education, Innovation and Talent Development

SECRETARY



Dr Yeo Tiong Chia

Chief Executive Officer

Sarawak Biodiversity Centre

MEMBERS



**YA Dato Sri Talat Mahmood
Bin Abdul Rashid**

State Attorney General
2016 - 2023



YA Datu Saferi bin Ali

State Attorney General
w.e.f. 7th September 2023



YBhg Datu Sr. Zaidi Bin Haji Mahdi

Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Natural Resources and
Urban Development



**YBhg Dato Sri Dr Wan
Lizozman Bin Wan Omar**

State Financial Secretary



**YBhg Datu Dr Muhammad
Abdullah Bin Haji Zaidel**

Deputy State Secretary
(Economic Planning and Development)



**YBhg Datu Hamden
Bin Haji Mohammad**

Director of Forests
Forest Department Sarawak



Mr Dominic Anak Chungat

Director
Department of
Agriculture Sarawak



**YBhg Professor Datu Dr Andrew
Kiyu Dawie**

Professor of Public Health,
Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences,
University Malaysia Sarawak



Mdm Peggy Anak Ronin Edin

Controller of Environmental Quality
Natural Resources and
Environmental Board
2021 - 2023



Mr Jack Anak Liam

Controller of Environmental
Quality Natural Resources and
Environmental Board
w.e.f. 1st May 2023



Mdm Anne Kung Soo Ching

Chief Executive Officer
Instacom Engineering Sdn. Bhd.
w.e.f. 1st March 2022



YBrs Dr Mary Jane Cardoso

Chief Technical Officer
Integrated Research Associates LLC
w.e.f. 1st March 2022

CORPORATE INFORMATION

63rd Sarawak Biodiversity Council Meeting [1/2023]

[Date & Time] 16th June 2023, 3.30pm

[Venue] Meeting Room, State Secretary's Officer, Level 20, Wisma Bapa Malaysia, Petra Jaya, 93502 Kuching/Zoom Platform.

No	Name	Position	Attendance
1	YB Datuk Amar Haji Mohamad Abu Bakar Bin Marzuki Sarawak State Secretary	Chairman	Unable to attend
2	Tuan Haji Azmi Bin Haji Bujang Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education, Innovation and Talent Development	Deputy Chairman	Chaired the 63 rd Meeting
3	YA Dato Sri Talat Mahmood bin Abdul Rashid State Attorney General	Member	Represented by Tuan Nur Azhar Bin Bujang, State Counsel, State Attorney General's Chambers
4	YBhg Dato Sri Dr Wan Lizozman Bin Wan Omar State Financial Secretary	Member	Attended
5	YBhg Datu Dr Muhammad Abdullah Bin Zaidel Deputy State Secretary (Economic Planning and Development)	Member	Attended
6	YBhg Datu Sr. Zaidi bin Haji Mahdi Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development and Natural Resources	Member	Represented by Ms Tang Hung Huong, Ketua Bahagian, Biodiversiti dan Alam Sekitar, Ministry of Urban Development and Natural Resources
7	YBhg Datu Hamden bin Mohammad Director, Forest Department Sarawak	Member	Attended
8	Mr Dominic Anak Chunggat Director, Department of Agriculture, Sarawak	Member	Represented by Dr Margaret Abat, Senior Research Officer, Department of Agriculture
9	Mr Jack Liam Controller, Natural Resources and Environmental Board	Member	Attended
10	YBhg Prof Datu Dr Andrew Kiyu Professor of Public Health, Faculty of Medicine & Health Sciences, University Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS)	Member	Unable to attend
11	Dr Mary Jane Cardoso Chief Technical Officer, Integrated Research Associates LLC	Member	Attended Online
12	Mdm Anne Kung Soo Ching Chief Executive Officer, Instacom Engineering Sdn Bhd	Member	Attended
13	Dr Yeo Tiong Chia Chief Executive Officer, Sarawak Biodiversity Centre	Secretary	Attended

CORPORATE INFORMATION

64th Sarawak Biodiversity Council Meeting [2/2023]

[Date & Time] 7th September 2023, 11.30am

[Venue] Meeting Room, State Secretary's Officer, Level 20, Wisma Bapa Malaysia, Petra Jaya, 93502 Kuching/Zoom Platform.

No	Name	Position	Attendance
1	YB Datuk Amar Haji Mohamad Abu Bakar Bin Marzuki Sarawak State Secretary (Chairman)	Chairman	Attended
2	Tuan Haji Azmi Bin Haji Bujang Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education, Innovation and Talent Development	Deputy Chairman	Represented by Asha Devi Kaushal, Principal Assistant Secretary (Innovation), Ministry of Education, Innovation and Talent Development
3	Yang Arif Datu Saferi Bin Ali State Attorney General	Member	Attended
4	YBhg Dato Sri Dr Wan Lizozman Bin Wan Omar State Financial Secretary	Member	Attended
5	YBhg Datu Dr Muhammad Abdullah Bin Zaidel Deputy State Secretary (Economic Planning and Development)	Member	Attended
6	YBhg Datu Sr. Zaidi bin Haji Mahdi Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development and Natural Resources	Member	Represented by Ms Tang Hung Huong Ketua Bahagian, Biodiversiti & Alam Sekitar, Ministry of Urban Development and Natural Resources
7	YBhg Datu Hamden bin Mohammad Director, Forest Department Sarawak	Member	Represented by Mr Mohamad Fuad Bin Ahmad Legal Officer, Forest Department Sarawak
8	Mr Dominic Anak Chunggat Director of Agriculture, Sarawak	Member	Represented by Dr Margaret Abat, Senior Research Officer, Department of Agriculture
9	Mr Jack Liam Controller, Natural Resources and Environmental Board	Member	Unable to attend
10	YBhg Prof Datu Dr Andrew Kiyu Professor of Public Health, Faculty of Medicine & Health Sciences, University Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS)	Member	Attended
11	Dr Mary Jane Cardoso Chief Technical Officer, Integrated Research Associates LLC	Member	Attended Online
12	Mdm Anne Kung Soo Ching Chief Executive Officer, Instacom Engineering Sdn Bhd	Member	Unable to attend
13	Dr Yeo Tiong Chia Chief Executive Officer, Sarawak Biodiversity Centre	Secretary	Attended

CORPORATE INFORMATION

65th Sarawak Biodiversity Council Meeting [2/2023]

[Date & Time] 20th September 2023, 10.30am

[Venue] Meeting Room, State Secretary's Officer, Level 20, Wisma Bapa Malaysia, Petra Jaya, 93502 Kuching/Zoom Platform.

No	Name	Position	Attendance
1	YB Datuk Amar Haji Mohamad Abu Bakar Bin Marzuki Sarawak State Secretary	Chairman	Unable to attend
2	YBhg Datu Haji Azmi Bin Bujang Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education, Innovation and Talent Development	Deputy Chairman	Chaired the 65 th Meeting
3	Yang Arif Datu Saferi Bin Ali State Attorney General	Member	Represented by Mr Mcwillyn Ak Jiok Senior Counsel, State Attorney General's Chambers
4	YBhg Dato Sri Dr Wan Lizozman Bin Wan Omar State Financial Secretary	Member	Represented by Pn Noor Rasyidah Bt Abdullah Director of Finance and Administration, State Financial Secretary's Office
5	YBhg Datu Dr Muhammad Abdullah Bin Zaidel Deputy State Secretary (Economic Planning and Development)	Member	Unable to attend
6	YBhg Datu Sr. Zaidi bin Haji Mahdi Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development and Natural Resources	Member	Represented by Pn Ismewatti Haji Narawi Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Natural Resources and Urban Development
7	YBhg Datu Hamden bin Mohammad Director, Forests Department Sarawak	Member	Represented by Mr Semilan Ak Apot Deputy Director, Department of Forests Sarawak
8	Mr Dominic Anak Chunggat Director of Agriculture, Sarawak	Member	Represented by Dr Maclin Dayod Head of Crop Research and Development Division, Agriculture Research Centre
9	Mr Jack Liam Controller, Natural Resources and Environmental Board	Member	Represented by Mr Paul Bond Ak Chamberlin Deputy Controller, Natural Resources and Environment Board Sarawak
10	YBhg Prof Datu Dr Andrew Kiyu Professor of Public Health, Faculty of Medicine & Health Sciences, University Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS)	Member	Unable to attend
11	Dr Mary Jane Cardoso Chief Technical Officer, Integrated Research Associates LLC	Member	Attended
12	Mdm Anne Kung Soo Ching Chief Executive Officer, Instacom	Member	Attended
13	Dr Yeo Tiong Chia Chief Executive Officer, Sarawak Biodiversity Centre	Secretary	Attended

Council Member Training

[Title] Leadership Forum 2024 Program

[Venue] The Ritz-Carlton, Langkawi

[Date] 26th - 28th January 2023

[Attended by] Dr Mary Jane Cardoso

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**COMMITTEES
UNDER THE
COUNCIL**

COMMITTEES UNDER THE COUNCIL

Establishment Committee

CHAIRMAN



YBhg Datu Dr Muhammad Abdullah Bin Haji Zaidel
Deputy State Secretary
(Economic Planning and Development)

MEMBERS



YBhg Datu Sr. Zaidi Bin Haji Mahdi
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Natural Resources and Urban Development



Mr Dominic Anak Chungat
Director
Department of Agriculture Sarawak



YBhg Datu Haji Ismail Bin Mohamad Hanis
Director
Human Resource Development and Management Unit

SECRETARY



Dr Yeo Tiong Chia
Chief Executive Officer
Sarawak Biodiversity Centre

COMMITTEES UNDER THE COUNCIL

40th Meeting of SBC Establishment Committee [1/2023]

[Date & Time] 3rd April 2023, 2.30pm

[Venue] Meeting Room, Level 12, Deputy State Secretary's Officer, Wisma Bapa Malaysia, Petra Jaya, 93502 Kuching.

No	Name	Position	Attendance
1	YBhg Datu Dr Muhammad Abdullah Bin Zaidel Deputy State Secretary (Economic Planning and Development)	Chairman	Chaired the 40 th EC Meeting
2	YBhg Datu Sr. Zaidi bin Haji Mahdi Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development and Natural Resources	Member	Represented by Hajah Hairani Bt Mohamad Ismail Head of Administration, Management Services and Finance, Ministry of Natural Resources and Urban Development
3	Mr Dominic Chunggat Director, Department of Agriculture, Sarawak	Member	Attended
4	YBhg Datu Haji Ismail bin Mohamad Hanis Director, Human Resource Development and Management Unit	Member	Represented by Cik Fifi Khairunnisa binti Haji Hamzah Pegawai Tadbir, Human Resource Development and Management Unit
5	Dr Yeo Tiong Chia Chief Executive Officer, Sarawak Biodiversity Centre	Secretary	Attended
6	Dr Maclin Dayod Head of Crop Research and Development Division, Agriculture Research Centre		In attendance

41st Meeting of SBC Establishment Committee [2/2023]

[Date & Time] 13th September 2023, 9.30am

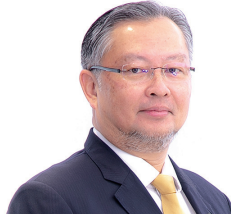
[Venue] Meeting Room, Level 12, Deputy State Secretary's Officer, Wisma Bapa Malaysia, Petra Jaya, 93502 Kuching.

No	Name	Position	Attendance
1	YBhg Datu Dr Muhammad Abdullah Bin Zaidel	Chairman	Chaired the 41 st EC Meeting
2	YBhg Datu Sr. Zaidi bin Haji Mahdi Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development and Natural Resources	Member	Represented by Hajah Hairani Bt Mohamad Ismail Head of Administration, Management Services and Finance, Ministry of Natural Resources and Urban Development
3	Mr Dominic Chunggat Director, Department of Agriculture, Sarawak	Member	Attended
4	YBhg Datu Haji Ismail bin Mohamad Hanis Director, Human Resource Development and Management Unit	Member	Represented by Cik Fifi Khairunnisa binti Haji Hamzah Pegawai Tadbir, Human Resource Development and Management Unit
5	Dr Yeo Tiong Chia Chief Executive Officer, Sarawak Biodiversity Centre	Secretary	Attended

COMMITTEES UNDER THE COUNCIL

Finance and Investment Committee

CHAIRMAN



YBhg Dato Sri Dr Wan Lizozman Bin Wan Omar
State Financial Secretary

MEMBERS



Tuan Haji Azmi Bin Haji Bujang
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Education, Innovation and Talent Development



Mr Dominic Anak Chunggat
Director
Department of Agriculture Sarawak



YBhg Datu Hamden Bin Haji Mohammad
Director of Forests
Forest Department Sarawak

SECRETARY



Dr Yeo Tiong Chia
Chief Executive Officer
Sarawak Biodiversity Centre

COMMITTEES UNDER THE COUNCIL

SBC Finance & Investment Committee Special Meeting [1/2023]

[Date & Time] 11th July 2023, 3.30pm

[Venue] Meeting Room, Level 9, Menara Pelita, Jalan Tun Abdul Rahman Yaakub, Petra Jaya, 93050 Kuching.

No	Name	Position	Attendance
1	YBhg Dato Sri Dr Wan Lizozman bin Wan Omar State Financial Secretary	Chairman	Mdm Hasmawati Binti Sapawi, Deputy State Financial Secretary, State Financial Secretary Office. Designated by SFS to chair the meeting
2	Tuan Haji Azmi Bin Haji Bujang Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education, Innovation and Talent Development	Member	Represented by Mdm Anielia anak Siam, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education, Innovation and Talent Development
3	YBhg Datu Hamden Bin Haji Mohammad Director of Forests, Forest Department Sarawak	Member	Represented by Mdm Azimah Binti Bunyok, Executive Forester, Forest Department Sarawak
4	Mr Dominic Anak Chunggat Director, Department of Agriculture, Sarawak	Member	Represented by Dr Margaret Abat, Senior Research Officer, Agriculture Research Centre
5	Dr Yeo Tiong Chia Chief Executive Officer, Sarawak Biodiversity Centre	Secretary	Attended

53rd SBC Finance & Investment Committee Meeting [2/2023]

[Date & Time] 8th August 2023, 3.00pm

[Venue] Meeting Room, Level 15, Menara Pelita, Jalan Tun Abdul Rahman Yaakub, Petra Jaya, 93050, Kuching.

No	Name	Position	Attendance
1	YBhg Dato Sri Dr Wan Lizozman bin Wan Omar State Financial Secretary	Chairman	Mr Jeferi Bin Darhman, Director of Financial Compliance and Asset Management, State Financial Secretary Office. Designated by State Financial Secretary to chair the meeting.
2	Tuan Haji Azmi Bin Haji Bujang Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education, Innovation and Talent Development	Member	Represented by Mdm Anielia anak Siam, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education, Innovation and Talent Development
3	YBhg Datu Hamden Bin Haji Mohammad Director of Forests, Forest Department Sarawak	Member	Represented by Mr Mohamad Fuad Bin Ahmad, Legal Officer, Forest Department Sarawak
4	Mr Dominic Anak Chunggat Director, Department of Agriculture, Sarawak	Member	Represented by Dr Maclin Dayod, Head of Crop Research & Development, Agriculture Research Centre
5	Dr Yeo Tiong Chia Chief Executive Officer, Sarawak Biodiversity Centre	Secretary	Attended

54th SBC Finance & Investment Committee Meeting [3/2023]

[Date & Time] 14th December 2023, 2.30pm

[Venue] Meeting Room, Level 15, Menara Pelita, Jalan Tun Abdul Rahman Yaakub, Petra Jaya, 93050, Kuching

No	Name	Position	Attendance
1	YBhg Dato Sri Dr Wan Lizozman bin Wan Omar State Financial Secretary	Chairman	Chaired the 54 th FIC Meeting
2	Tuan Haji Azmi Bin Haji Bujang Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education, Innovation and Talent Development	Member	Represented by Mr Donald Henry Nohed, Principal Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Education, Innovation and Talent Development
3	YBhg Datu Hamden Bin Haji Mohammad Director of Forests, Forest Department Sarawak	Member	Represented by Mr Oscar Johin, Senior Assistant Director, Forest Department Sarawak
4	Mr Dominic Anak Chunggat Director, Department of Agriculture, Sarawak	Member	Attended
5	Dr Yeo Tiong Chia Chief Executive Officer, Sarawak Biodiversity Centre	Secretary	Attended

COMMITTEES UNDER THE COUNCIL

Audit Committee

CHAIRMAN



Mr John Kennedy Janang

Director
State Financial Compliance Unit
State Financial Secretary's Office



Mr Jeferi bin Darhman

Director
Financial Compliance Unit,
State Financial Secretary's Office
w.e.f. 17th July 2023

MEMBERS



Mr Dominic Anak Chungat

Director
Department of Agriculture Sarawak



Mr Jack Anak Liam

Controller of Environmental Quality
Natural Resources and Environmental Board
w.e.f. 1st May 2023

SECRETARY



Ms Munawarah binti Mahran

Secretary
Accountant

COMMITTEES UNDER THE COUNCIL

30th Meeting of SBC Audit Committee [1/2023]

[Date & Time] 6th April 2023, 3.00pm

[Venue] SBC R&D Lab Office Conference Room, Sarawak Biodiversity Centre, KM20, Jalan Borneo Heights, Semengoh, 93250 Kuching.

No	Name	Position	Attendance
1	Mr John Kennedy Janang Director of Financial Compliance Unit, State Financial Secretary's Office	Chairman	Chaired the 30 th Audit Committee Meeting
2	Mr Dominic Anak Chunggat Director, Department of Agriculture, Sarawak	Member	Represented by Dr Margaret Abat, Senior Research Officer, Agriculture Research Centre
3	Mdm Peggy Anak Ronin Edin Controller of Environmental Quality Natural Resources and Environment Board	Member	Represented by Mdm Lai Mei Mei, Assistant Administrative Officer (Finance), Natural Resources and Environment Board (NREB)
4	Ms Christina Wong Hie Ping Accountant, Sarawak Biodiversity Centre	Secretary	Attended
5	Dr Yeo Tiong Chia Chief Executive Officer, Sarawak Biodiversity Centre		Attended

31st Meeting of SBC Audit Committee [2/2023]

[Date & Time] 30th November 2023, 2.30pm

[Venue] Bilik Mesyuarat Tingkat 9, Menara Pelita, Petra Jaya, 93050 Kuching.

No	Name	Position	Attendance
1	Mr Jeferi bin Darhman Director of Financial Compliance Unit, State Financial Secretary's Office	Chairman	Mr Jeferi bin Darhman, Director of Financial Compliance Unit, State Financial Secretary's Office, Designated to chair the meeting.
2	Mr Dominic Anak Chunggat Director, Department of Agriculture, Sarawak	Member	Represented by Dr Margaret Abat, Senior Research Officer, Agriculture Research Centre
3	Mdm Peggy Anak Ronin Edin Controller of Environmental Quality Natural Resources and Environment Board	Member	Represented by Mdm Felica Simud, Accountant, Natural Resources and Environment Board (NREB)
4	Mdm Lai Sin Chai Research Officer, Sarawak Biodiversity Centre	Secretary	Attended
5	YBhg Dato Dr Yeo Tiong Chia Chief Executive Officer, Sarawak Biodiversity Centre		Attended
6	Mdm Gladys Lim Ai Hui Juruaudit, Jabatan Premier Department (Unit Audit Dalam)		Attended

COMMITTEES UNDER THE COUNCIL

Technical Committee on Access and Benefit Sharing

CHAIRMAN



YBhg Datu Sr Zaidi Bin Haji Mahdi

Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Natural Resources and Urban Development

MEMBERS



YBhg Datu Dr Muhammad Abdullah Bin Haji Zaidel

Director
Economic and Planning Unit
2019 - 2022



Mr Lester Matthew

Director
Economic and Planning Unit
w.e.f. 1st January 2023



YBhg Datu Hamden Bin Haji Mohammad

Director of Forests
Forest Department Sarawak



Mr Dominic Anak Chungat

Director
Department of Agriculture Sarawak



Tn Hj Zolkipli Bin Mohamad Aton

Chief Executive Officer
Sarawak Forestry Corporation



Dr Yeo Tiong Chia

Chief Executive Officer
Sarawak Biodiversity Centre



Ts Dr Peter Morin Nissom

General Manager
Sarawak Research and Development Council



YBhg Datu Ronnie Edward

Head of Council
Council for Native Customs and Traditions

Note: No meetings were held in 2023

COMMITTEES UNDER THE COUNCIL

Disciplinary Committee - Management and Professional Group

CHAIRMAN



YB Datuk Amar Haji Mohamad Abu Bakar Bin Marzuki
Sarawak State Secretary

MEMBERS



YA Dato Sri Talat Mahmood Bin Abdul Rashid
State Attorney General



YBhg Datu Saferi bin Ali
State Attorney General
w.e.f. 7th September 2023



Tuan Haji Azmi Bin Haji Bujang
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Education, Innovation and Talent Development



YBhg Datu Dr Muhammad Abdullah Bin Haji Zaidel
Deputy State Secretary
Economic Planning and Development
1st July 2022

Note: No meetings were held in 2023

COMMITTEES UNDER THE COUNCIL

Disciplinary Committee - Support Group

CHAIRMAN



Mr Dominic Anak Chunggat
Director
Department of Agriculture Sarawak

MEMBERS



YBhg Datu Hamden Bin Haji Mohammad
Director of Forests
Forest Department Sarawak



YBhg Datu Haji Ismail Bin Mohamad Hanis
Director
Human Resource Development and Management Unit



Dr Yeo Tiong Chia
Chief Executive Officer
Sarawak Biodiversity Centre

Note: No meetings were held in 2023

COMMITTEES UNDER THE COUNCIL

Disciplinary Appeal Committee - Management & Professional Group

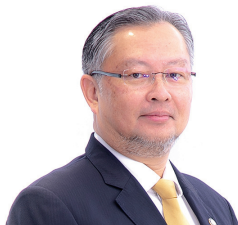
CHAIRMAN



YB Datuk Roland Sagah Wee Inn

Minister for Education, Innovation and Talent Development Sarawak

MEMBERS



YBhg Dato Sri Dr Wan Lizozman Bin Wan Omar

State Financial Secretary



YBhg Datu Hamden Bin Haji Mohammad

Director of Forests
Forest Department Sarawak

Note: No meetings were held in 2023

COMMITTEES UNDER THE COUNCIL

Disciplinary Appeal Committee - Support Group

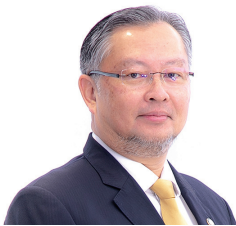
CHAIRMAN



Tuan Haji Azmi Bin Haji Bujang

Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Education, Innovation and Talent Development

MEMBERS



**YBhg Dato Sri Dr Wan Lizozman
Bin Wan Omar**

State Financial Secretary



Mdm Peggy Anak Ronin Edin

Controller of Environmental Quality
Natural Resources and Environment Board
2021 - 2023



Mr Jack Anak Liam

Controller of Environmental Quality
Natural Resources and Environmental Board
w.e.f. 1st May 2023

Note: No meetings were held in 2023

The background consists of several overlapping, curved, semi-circular shapes in various shades of blue, creating a dynamic, layered effect. The text is centered within the largest, most prominent of these shapes.

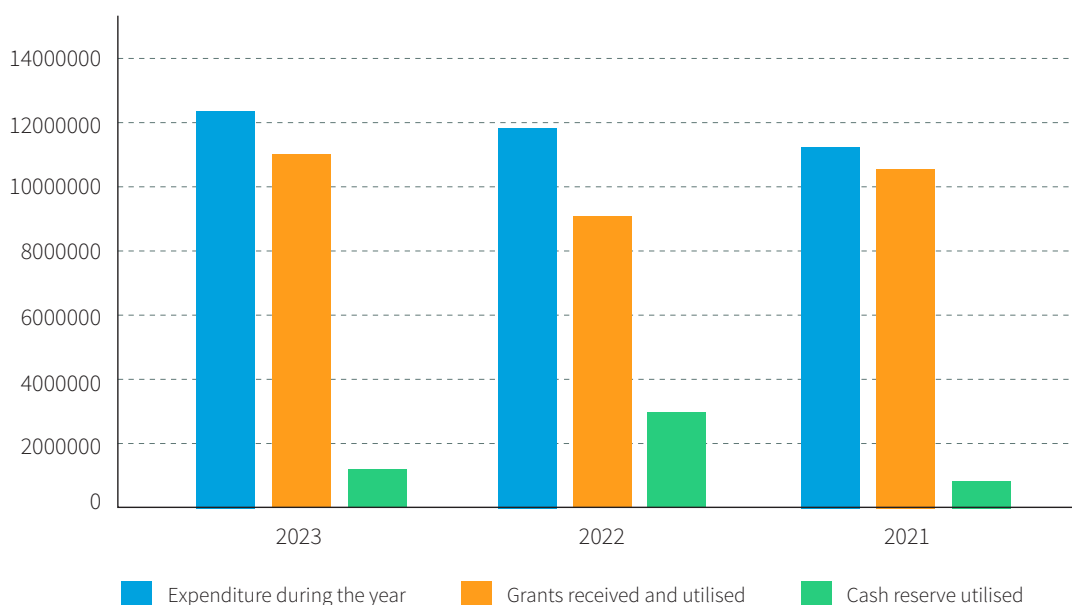
REPORT ON RECEIPT AND UTILISATION OF GOVERNMENT GRANTS

REPORT ON RECEIPT AND UTILISATION OF GOVERNMENT GRANTS

OPERATING GRANTS

Description	2023 RM	2022 RM	2021 RM
Grants received	11,000,000	9,000,000	10,550,000
Expenditure during the year	(12,299,281)	(11,853,581)	(11,294,380)
Grants utilised	11,000,000	9,000,000	10,550,000
Cash reserve utilised	1,299,281	2,853,581	744,380

Receipt and Utilisation of Operating Grants



Over the years, SBC has fully utilised the grants received from the State Government for its operations, where the balance required was covered by cash reserves.

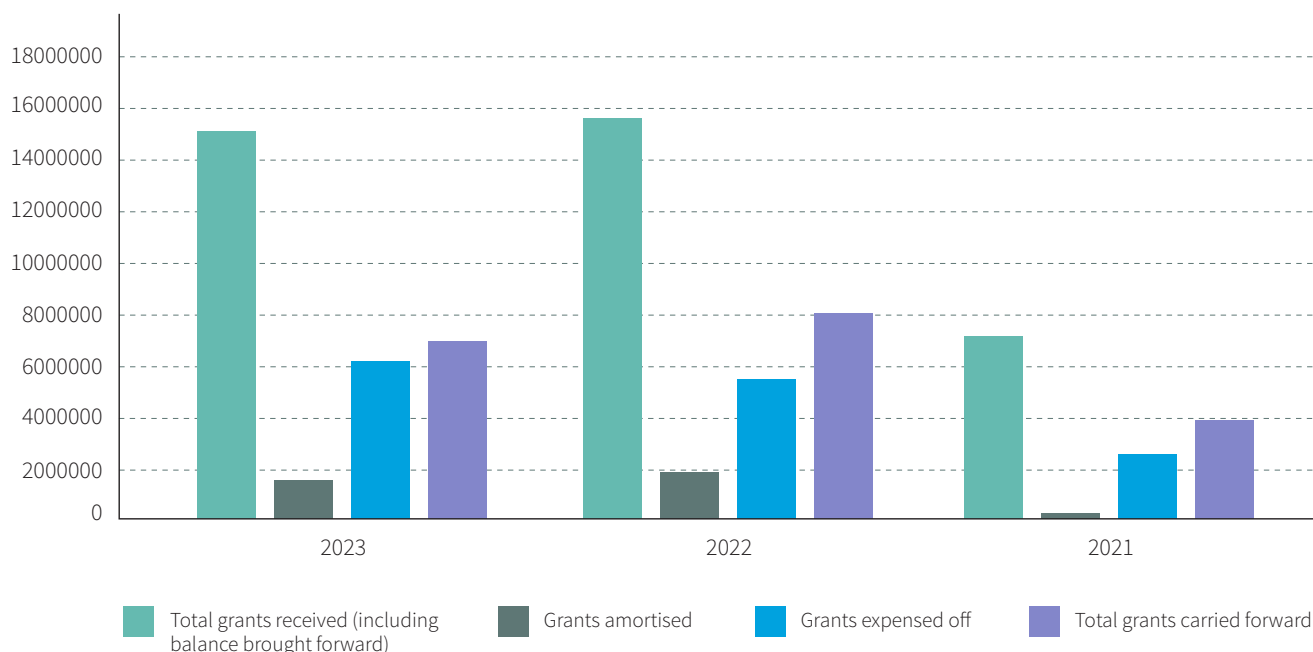
In Year 2023, SBC received operating grant of RM11,000,000. The grant was used for emoluments expenses, repair and maintenance, professional services, hospitality, and other services such as consultancy services, medical expenses, and conference and seminar fees with total expenditure amounting to RM12,299,281. SBC utilised its cash reserve of RM1,299,281 in Year 2023 to fund the rest of the operating costs.

REPORT ON RECEIPT AND UTILISATION OF GOVERNMENT GRANTS

OPERATING GRANTS

Description	Year	2023 RM	2022 RM	2021 RM
Balance brought forward		7,955,675	3,869,059	-
Grants received		7,100,000	11,600,000	7,000,000
Total grants		15,055,675	15,469,059	7,000,000
Grants utilised:				
Amortised		(1,446,381)	(2,017,296)	(336,665)
Expensed off		(6,411,038)	(5,496,088)	(2,794,276)
Balance carried forward		7,198,256	7,955,675	3,869,059

Development Grants



SBC also received development grants from the State Government to fund seven (7) projects under the 12th Malaysian Plan Projects from Year 2021 until Year 2025. The grants are for five (5) non-physical projects and two (2) physical projects involving ceiling value up to RM60.5 million.

From Year 2021 to Year 2023, SBC has received a total of RM25.7 million of the approved amount and has utilised 72% of the grants as at 31st December 2023. The balance of the grants from each year is carried forward to the following year as all the projects are still ongoing, including RM4.0 million received in Year 2022 that will be utilised in Year 2025 for the construction of Bioindustrial Park and Bioprocess Commercial Centre at Samarahan.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Officers and Professional Advisors	29
Penyata Pengerusi dan Timbalan Pengerusi	30
Pengakuan oleh Pegawai Utama yang Bertanggungjawab ke atas Pengurusan Kewangan	31
Sijil Ketua Audit Negara	32
Statement of Financial Position	36
Statement of Comprehensive Income	37
Statement of Changes in Equity	38
Statement of Cash Flows	39
Notes to the Financial Statements	40

OFFICER AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

Chief Executive Officer

YBhg Dato Dr Yeo Tiong Chia

Registered office

Lot 724, Block 3, Sentah-Segu Land District
KM20 Jalan Borneo Heights
Semengoh, Locked Bag No. 3032
93990 Kuching, Sarawak

Auditor

Ketua Audit Negara Malaysia

Bankers

Malayan Banking Berhad
Level 1, Wisma Satok, Jalan Satok
93400 Kuching, Sarawak

RHB Bank Berhad
12 & 13, Eastern Commercial Centre
17th Mile, Kuching Serian Road
94200 Kuching, Sarawak

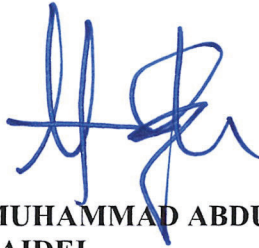
Public Bank Berhad
384-388, Sentosa Central
Batu 7, Jalan Penrissen
93250 Kuching, Sarawak

Development Bank of Sarawak
Level 2, Menara SEDC, Lot 2878
The Isthmus, Off Jalan Bako
93050 Kuching, Sarawak

PENYATA Pengerusi dan Timbalan Pengerusi

Kami, **DATU DR MUHAMMAD ABDULLAH BIN HAJI ZAIDEL** dan **HAJI ADANA BIN HAJI JED** yang merupakan Pengerusi dan Timbalan Pengerusi **MAJLIS KEPELBAGAIAN BIOLOGI SARAWAK** dengan ini menyatakan bahawa, pada pendapat Ahli-ahli Majlis, Penyata Kewangan yang mengandungi Penyata Kedudukan Kewangan, Penyata Pendapatan Komprehensif, Penyata Perubahan Ekuiti dan Penyata Aliran Tunai yang berikut ini berserta dengan nota-nota kepada Penyata Kewangan di dalamnya, adalah disediakan untuk menunjukkan pandangan yang benar dan saksama berkenaan kedudukan **MAJLIS KEPELBAGAIAN BIOLOGI SARAWAK** pada **31 DISEMBER 2023** dan hasil kendaliannya serta perubahan kedudukan kewangannya bagi tahun berakhir pada tarikh tersebut.

Bagi pihak Majlis,



**DATU DR MUHAMMAD ABDULLAH
BIN HAJI ZAIDEL**

Tarikh: **04 SEP 2024**

KUCHING, SARAWAK

Bagi pihak Majlis,



HAJI ADANA BIN HAJI JED

Tarikh: **04 SEP 2024**

KUCHING, SARAWAK

PENGAKUAN OLEH PEGAWAI UTAMA YANG BERTANGGUNGJAWAB KE ATAS PENGURUSAN KEWANGAN MAJLIS KEPELBAGAIAN BIOLOGI SARAWAK

Saya, **DATO DR YEO TIONG CHIA**, pegawai utama yang bertanggungjawab ke atas pengurusan kewangan dan rekod-rekod perakaunan **MAJLIS KEPELBAGAIAN BIOLOGI SARAWAK** dengan ikhlasnya mengakui bahawa Penyata Kedudukan Kewangan, Penyata Pendapatan Komprehensif, Penyata Perubahan Ekuiti dan Penyata Aliran Tunai **dalam kedudukan kewangan** yang berikut ini berserta dengan nota-nota kepada Penyata Kewangan di dalamnya, pada pendapat saya, adalah betul dan saya membuat ikrar ini dengan sebenarnya mempercayai bahawa ianya adalah benar dan atas kehendak-kehendak Akta Akuan Berkanun, 1960.

Sebenarnya dan sesungguhnya)
diakui oleh penama di atas)
di KUCHING, SARAWAK)
pada **04 SEP 2024**)
pada



.....
DATO DR YEO TIONG CHIA
(K/P. NO: 660420-13-5379)

Di hadapan saya,

HAIROL NIZAM BIN MORSHIDI
2nd Class Magistrate
Kuching District Office
State Of Sarawak



.....
MAGISTRATE



SIJIL KETUA AUDIT NEGARA



SIJIL KETUA AUDIT NEGARA MENGENAI PENYATA KEWANGAN MAJLIS KEPELBAGAIAN BIOLOGI SARAWAK BAGI TAHUN BERAKHIR 31 DISEMBER 2023

Sijil Mengenai Pengauditan Penyata Kewangan

Pendapat

Saya telah mengaudit Penyata Kewangan Majlis Kepelbagaian Biologi Sarawak. Penyata kewangan tersebut merangkumi Penyata Kedudukan Kewangan pada 31 Disember 2023 Majlis Kepelbagaian Biologi Sarawak dan Penyata Pendapatan Komprehensif, Penyata Perubahan Ekuiti serta Penyata Aliran Tunai bagi tahun berakhir pada tarikh tersebut dan nota kepada penyata kewangan termasuklah ringkasan polisi perakaunan yang signifikan seperti yang dinyatakan pada muka surat 9 hingga 30.

Pada pendapat saya, penyata kewangan ini memberikan gambaran yang benar dan saksama mengenai kedudukan kewangan Majlis Kepelbagaian Biologi Sarawak pada 31 Disember 2023 dan prestasi kewangan serta aliran tunai bagi tahun berakhir pada tarikh tersebut selaras dengan Piawaian Pelaporan Entiti Persendirian Malaysia (MPERS) dan keperluan The Statutory Bodies (Financial and Accounting Procedure) Ordinance, 1995 serta The Sarawak Biodiversity Centre Ordinance, 1997.

Asas Kepada Pendapat

Pengauditan telah dilaksanakan berdasarkan Akta Audit 1957 dan International Standards of Supreme Audit Institutions. Tanggungjawab saya dihuraikan selanjutnya di perenggan Tanggungjawab Juruaudit Terhadap Pengauditan Penyata Kewangan dalam sijil ini. Saya percaya bahawa bukti audit yang diperoleh adalah mencukupi dan bersesuaian untuk dijadikan asas kepada pendapat saya.

Kebebasan dan Tanggungjawab Etika Lain

Saya adalah bebas daripada Majlis Kepelbagaian Biologi Sarawak dan telah memenuhi tanggungjawab etika lain berdasarkan International Standards of Supreme Audit Institutions.

SIJIL KETUA AUDIT NEGARA

Maklumat Lain Selain Daripada Penyata Kewangan dan Sijil Juruaudit Mengenainya

Ahli Majlis, Majlis Kepelbagaian Biologi Sarawak bertanggungjawab terhadap maklumat lain dalam Laporan Tahunan. Pendapat saya terhadap Penyata Kewangan Majlis Kepelbagaian Biologi Sarawak tidak meliputi maklumat lain selain daripada penyata kewangan dan Sijil Juruaudit mengenainya dan saya tidak menyatakan sebarang bentuk kesimpulan jaminan mengenainya.

Tanggungjawab Ahli Majlis Terhadap Penyata Kewangan

Ahli Majlis bertanggungjawab terhadap penyediaan Penyata Kewangan Majlis Kepelbagaian Biologi Sarawak yang memberi gambaran benar dan saksama selaras dengan Piawaian Pelaporan Entiti Persendirian Malaysia (MPERS) dan keperluan The Statutory Bodies (Financial and Accounting Procedure) Ordinance, 1995 serta The Sarawak Biodiversity Centre Ordinance, 1997. Ahli Majlis juga bertanggungjawab terhadap penetapan kawalan dalaman yang perlu bagi membolehkan penyediaan Penyata Kewangan Majlis Kepelbagaian Biologi Sarawak yang bebas daripada salah nyata yang ketara, sama ada disebabkan fraud atau kesilapan.

Semasa penyediaan Penyata Kewangan Majlis Kepelbagaian Biologi Sarawak, Ahli Majlis bertanggungjawab untuk menilai keupayaan Majlis Kepelbagaian Biologi Sarawak untuk beroperasi sebagai satu usaha berterusan, mendedahkannya jika berkaitan serta menggunakannya sebagai asas perakaunan.

Tanggungjawab Juruaudit Terhadap Pengauditan Penyata Kewangan

Objektif saya adalah untuk memperoleh keyakinan yang munasabah sama ada Penyata Kewangan Majlis Kepelbagaian Biologi Sarawak secara keseluruhannya adalah bebas daripada salah nyata yang ketara, sama ada disebabkan fraud atau kesilapan, dan mengeluarkan Sijil Juruaudit yang merangkumi pendapat saya. Jaminan yang munasabah adalah satu tahap jaminan yang tinggi, tetapi bukan satu jaminan bahawa audit yang dijalankan mengikut International Standards of Supreme Audit Institutions akan sentiasa mengesan salah nyata yang ketara apabila ia wujud. Salah nyata boleh wujud daripada fraud atau kesilapan dan dianggap ketara sama ada secara individu atau agregat sekiranya boleh dijangkakan dengan munasabah untuk mempengaruhi keputusan ekonomi yang dibuat oleh pengguna berdasarkan penyata kewangan ini.

Sebagai sebahagian daripada pengauditan mengikut International Standards of Supreme Audit Institutions, saya menggunakan pertimbangan profesional dan mengekalkan keraguan profesional sepanjang pengauditan. Saya juga:

SIJIL KETUA AUDIT NEGARA

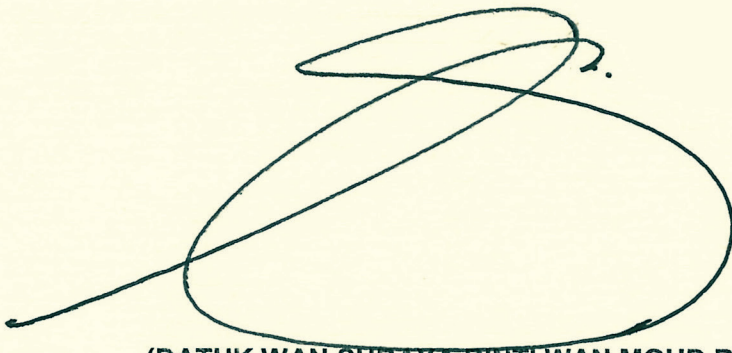
- a. mengenal pasti dan menilai risiko salah nyata ketara dalam Penyata Kewangan Majlis Kepelbagaian Biologi Sarawak, sama ada disebabkan fraud atau kesilapan, merangka dan melaksanakan prosedur audit yang responsif terhadap risiko berkenaan serta mendapatkan bukti audit yang mencukupi dan bersesuaian untuk memberikan asas kepada pendapat saya. Risiko untuk tidak mengesan salah nyata ketara akibat daripada fraud adalah lebih tinggi daripada kesilapan kerana fraud mungkin melibatkan pakatan, pemalsuan, ketinggalan yang disengajakan, representasi yang salah, atau mengatasi kawalan dalaman;
- b. memahami kawalan dalaman yang relevan untuk merangka prosedur audit yang bersesuaian tetapi bukan untuk menyatakan pendapat mengenai keberkesanan kawalan dalaman Majlis Kepelbagaian Biologi Sarawak;
- c. menilai kesesuaian dasar perakaunan yang diguna pakai, kemunasabahan anggaran perakaunan dan pendedahan yang berkaitan oleh Ahli Majlis;
- d. membuat kesimpulan terhadap kesesuaian penggunaan asas perakaunan untuk usaha berterusan oleh Ahli Majlis dan berdasarkan bukti audit yang diperolehi, sama ada wujudnya ketidakpastian ketara yang berkaitan dengan peristiwa atau keadaan yang mungkin menimbulkan keraguan yang signifikan terhadap keupayaan Majlis Kepelbagaian Biologi Sarawak sebagai satu usaha berterusan. Jika saya membuat kesimpulan bahawa ketidakpastian ketara wujud, saya perlu melaporkan dalam Sijil Juruaudit terhadap pendedahan yang berkaitan dalam Penyata Kewangan Majlis Kepelbagaian Biologi Sarawak atau, jika pendedahan tersebut tidak mencukupi, pendapat saya akan diubah. Kesimpulan saya dibuat berdasarkan bukti audit yang diperolehi sehingga tarikh Sijil Juruaudit. Bagaimanapun, peristiwa atau keadaan pada masa hadapan berkemungkinan menyebabkan Majlis Kepelbagaian Biologi Sarawak tidak lagi berupaya meneruskan operasi secara usaha berterusan; dan
- e. menilai persembahan secara keseluruhan, struktur dan kandungan Penyata Kewangan Majlis Kepelbagaian Biologi Sarawak, termasuk pendedahannya, dan sama ada penyata kewangan tersebut telah melaporkan asas-asas urus niaga dan peristiwa-peristiwa yang memberikan gambaran saksama.

Ahli Majlis telah dimaklumkan, antaranya mengenai skop dan tempoh pengauditan yang dirancang serta penemuan audit yang signifikan termasuk kelemahan kawalan dalaman yang dikenal pasti semasa pengauditan.

SIJIL KETUA AUDIT NEGARA

Hal-hal Lain

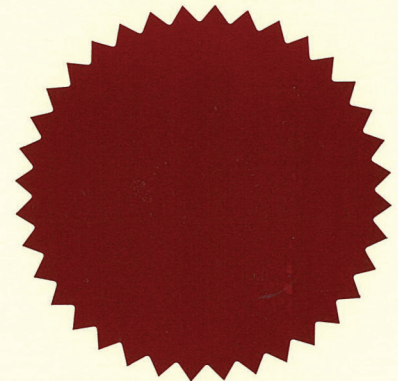
Sijil ini dibuat untuk Ahli Majlis, Majlis Kepelbagaian Biologi Sarawak berdasarkan keperluan The Statutory Bodies (Financial and Accounting Procedure) Ordinance, 1995 serta The Sarawak Biodiversity Centre Ordinance, 1997 dan bukan untuk tujuan lain. Saya tidak bertanggungjawab terhadap pihak lain bagi kandungan sijil ini.



(DATUK WAN SURAYA BINTI WAN MOHD RADZI)
KETUA AUDIT NEGARA
MALAYSIA

PUTRAJAYA

4 OKTOBER 2024



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	2023 RM	2022 RM
Assets			
Non-Current Asset			
Property, plant and equipment	4	25,248,931	26,197,229
Total non-current assets		<u>25,248,931</u>	<u>26,197,229</u>
Current Assets			
Inventories	5	68,723	98,283
Trade and other receivables	6	698,053	501,222
Tax refundable	12	-	116,748
Fixed deposits	7	17,005,000	22,005,000
Cash and bank balances	8	7,818,446	532,477
Total current assets		<u>25,590,222</u>	<u>23,253,730</u>
Total Assets		<u><u>50,839,153</u></u>	<u><u>49,450,959</u></u>
Equity and Liabilities			
Equity			
Retained surplus		32,086,160	34,176,523
Total Equity		<u>32,086,160</u>	<u>34,176,523</u>
Non-Current Liability			
Provision for retirement benefits	9	167,664	168,784
Total non-current liability		<u>167,664</u>	<u>168,784</u>
Current Liabilities			
Development grants	10	16,717,552	14,447,843
Trade and other payables	11	1,822,409	644,170
Provision for retirement benefits	9	21,338	13,639
Provision for Indigenous Knowledge Benefit Sharing	19	4,194	-
Provision for tax	12	19,836	-
Total current liabilities		<u>18,585,329</u>	<u>15,105,652</u>
Total Liabilities		<u>18,752,993</u>	<u>15,274,436</u>
Total Equity and Liabilities		<u><u>50,839,153</u></u>	<u><u>49,450,959</u></u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the financial statements.

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	2023 RM	2022 RM
Revenue	13	651,076	644,250
Government grants	14	13,835,714	12,720,867
Total revenue		14,486,790	13,365,117
Less: Expenditure			
Staff costs	15	(9,216,522)	(9,123,767)
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	4	(4,038,299)	(4,211,673)
Other operating expenses	16	(3,082,759)	(2,729,814)
		(16,337,580)	(16,065,254)
Deficit before taxation		(1,850,790)	(2,700,137)
Income tax expense	12	(141,290)	(102,046)
Deficit for the financial year		(1,992,080)	(2,802,183)

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Retained Surplus RM
At 1 January 2022	36,880,423
Deficit for the financial year	(2,802,183)
	34,078,240
Add: Prior year adjustment (Note 5)	98,283
At 31 December 2022 and 1 January 2023	34,176,523
Less: Prior year adjustment (Note 5)	(98,283)
	34,078,240
Deficit for the financial year	(1,992,080)
At 31 December 2023	32,086,160

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	2023 RM	2022 RM
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Deficit before taxation		(1,850,790)	(2,700,137)
Adjustments for:			
Amortisation of development grant	10	(2,835,714)	(3,720,867)
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	4	4,038,299	4,211,673
Fixed deposit interest income	13	(533,393)	(425,192)
Provision for Indigenous Knowledge Benefit Sharing	19	4,194	-
Provision for retirement benefits	9	21,338	74,386
Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment	16	-	1,224
Operating deficit before changes in working capital		<u>(1,156,066)</u>	<u>(2,558,913)</u>
<u>Changes in working capital:</u>			
(Increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables		(179,727)	125,096
Decrease in inventories		29,560	-
Increase in trade and other payables		1,178,239	165,709
Cash used in from operations		<u>(127,994)</u>	<u>(2,268,108)</u>
Retirement benefits paid	9	(14,759)	(8,871)
Income tax refunded	12	103,294	-
Income tax paid	12	(108,000)	(112,000)
Net cash used in from operating activities		<u>(147,459)</u>	<u>(2,388,979)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	4	(3,090,001)	(3,818,828)
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant and equipment		-	1,180
Fixed deposits interest income received		624,024	436,090
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(2,465,977)</u>	<u>(3,381,558)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Development and research grants received		7,100,000	11,600,000
External research collaboration grants received		6,439,873	4,035,535
Research and development expenditures paid	10	(8,640,468)	(8,498,955)
Withdrawals/(placements) of fixed deposits with maturity terms of more than three months		5,000,000	(5,014,780)
Net cash generated from financing activities		<u>9,899,405</u>	<u>2,121,800</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		7,285,969	(3,648,737)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year		532,477	4,181,214
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	8	<u>7,818,446</u>	<u>532,477</u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

The registered address and principal place of business for Sarawak Biodiversity Council (Council) is Lot 724, Block 3, Sentah-Segu Land District, KM 20 Jalan Borneo Heights, Semengoh, Locked Bag No. 3032, 93990 Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia.

The Council which is a body incorporated in accordance with the Sarawak Biodiversity Centre Ordinance, 1997 (Chapter 24, Laws of Sarawak), is a Sarawak State Government - owned statutory body and its vision is “Enriching lives with breakthrough innovations in Biodiversity”.

Since then, two amendments, i.e. Sarawak Biodiversity Centre (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003 [Chapter A106, Laws of Sarawak] and the Sarawak Biodiversity Centre (Amendment) Ordinance, 2014 [Chapter A163, Laws of Sarawak] came into force on 1 April 2004 and 1 June 2015 respectively, Sarawak Biodiversity Centre is now entrusted with the following statutory functions:

- (a) conduct bioprospecting/R&D Programme on the biodiversity of the State and maintain a library of extracts for R&D;
- (b) implement the Traditionally Knowledge Documentation Programme among the ethnic communities in Sarawak;
- (c) provide facilities for research and development and carry out contract research;
- (d) establish linkages and partnerships to undertake research and development;
- (e) promote education and knowledge of biodiversity of Sarawak;
- (f) establish and maintain a database on information related to the biological resources of Sarawak;
- (g) implement Prior Informed Consent (PIC) to ensure benefit sharing with the ethnic communities of Sarawak when traditional knowledge associated with a biological resource is accessed and benefits are shared through mutually agreed terms;
- (h) commercialise research discoveries, and manage the Sarawak BioIndustrial Park at Samarahan as well as the 20-acre land for commercial farming.

The functional currency of the Council is Ringgit Malaysia (RM). The financial statements of the Council were authorised for issue by the Council Members during its 66th Meeting held on 17 April 2024. The financial statements had been retabled to the Council Members via Council Circular No.26 and was approved on 4 September 2024.

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of the Council have been prepared in accordance with the Malaysian Private Entities Reporting Standard (“MPERS”), Statutory Bodies (Financial and Accounting Procedure) Ordinance, 1995 and Treasury Instructions.

(a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements are prepared using cost bases and fair value bases.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(b) Property, plant and equipment

The cost of an item of property, plant and equipment is recognised as an asset when it is probable that the future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the Council and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. After recognition as an asset, all items of property, plant and equipment are measured at cost less any accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Depreciation is provided on a straight-line method so as to write off the depreciable amount of the following assets over their estimated useful lives. The rates of depreciation are as follows:-

Leasehold land	1.67% p.a.
Buildings	5% p.a.
Office equipment	15-20% p.a.
Furniture, fixtures and fittings	10% p.a.
Computers and accessories	15-20% p.a.
Office renovations	10-15% p.a.
Motor vehicles	20% p.a.
Specialised equipment (equipment)	15% p.a.
Specialised equipment (computer)	20% p.a.
Specialised equipment (software)	20% p.a.
Temporary office	10% p.a.
Nursery sheds	10% p.a.
Lab specialised equipment	15% p.a.
Lab furniture and fittings	10-15% p.a.

Depreciation of an asset begins when it is ready for its intended use. Fully depreciated assets are retained in the financial statements until they are no longer in use. Leasehold land is amortised over a leasehold term of 60 years.

The gain or loss arising from the disposal or retirement of an item of property, plant and equipment is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset and is recognised in profit or loss.

If there is an indication that there has been a significant change since the last annual reporting date in the pattern by which the Council expects to consume an asset future economic benefit, the Council would review its present depreciation method and if current expectations differ, the Council would amend the residual value, depreciation method or useful life to reflect the new pattern.

Capital work-in-progress are not depreciated but are subject to impairment test if there is any indication of impairment.

(c) Operating grant

Grant received from the State Government for the operation or maintenance of the Council's activities that do not impose specified future performance criteria is credited to Statement of Comprehensive Income.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(d) Development grant

The Council receives development grants from the State Government in order to finance activities and projects related to biodiversity research and development protection. This is in line with the functions and powers of the Council, as provided by the Sarawak Biodiversity Centre Ordinance, 1997. The grants received that impose specified future performance conditions are credited to the development grants under liability and offset against future costs when incurred.

(e) Impairment of property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of the asset may not be recoverable. Whenever the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its recoverable amount, an impairment loss is recognised in profit and loss for items property, plant and equipment carried at cost. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's net selling price and value in use. The net selling price is the amount obtainable from the sale of an asset in an arm's length transaction.

Value in use is the present value of estimated future cash flows expected to arise from the continuing use of an asset and from its disposal at the end of its useful life. Recoverable amounts are estimated for individual assets or, if it is not possible, for the cash-generating unit.

Reversal of an impairment loss recognised in prior years is recorded when there is an indication that the impairment loss recognised for an asset no longer exists or has decreased. The reversal is recorded in profit or loss.

(f) Employee benefits

(i) Short-term benefits

Wages, salaries, bonuses and social security contributions are recognised as an expenses in the year in which employees of the Council render the associated services. Short-term accumulating compensated absences, such as paid annual leave are recognised when services rendered by the employees that increase their entitlement to future compensated absences; and short-term non-accumulating compensated absences, such as sick leave are recognised when the absences occur.

(ii) Long-term benefits

Long-terms benefits recognised as accruals is for the *Gantian Cuti Rehat* (GCR) that is based on the accumulated leave for an employee until it reaches a maximum of 160 days before compulsory retirement. The present value of the future estimated basic salary at a discount factor of 2.75% (2022: 2.75%) has been applied for the calculation of the liability.

(iii) Defined contribution plan

The Council's statutory contributions to defined contribution plans is charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Income in the period in which it relates. Once the contributions have been paid, the Council has no further payment obligations.

As required by law, the Council makes contributions to the Employee Provident Fund (EPF). Such contributions are recognised as an expense in the Statement of Comprehensive Income as incurred.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(g) Financial assets and liabilities

Financial assets and liabilities are recognised in the statement of financial position when the Council has become a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. The particular recognition methods are dissolved below:-

(i) Other receivables

Other receivables are carried at amortised cost. Bad debts are written off when identified. An estimate is made for doubtful debts based on review of all outstanding accounts as at the reporting date.

(ii) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents in the statement of cash flows comprise cash and bank balances which are readily convertible to cash and which are subjected to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

(iii) Fixed Deposits

Fixed deposits comprise long-term bank deposits with original maturity periods of more than three (3) months.

(iv) Trade and other payables

Trade and other payables are stated at amortised cost. Which is fair value of the consideration paid in the future for goods and services received.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(h) Revenue recognition

- Revenue from sales of products is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable, net of any trade discounts and indirect taxes applicable to the revenue. Revenue is recognised in profit or loss when it is probable that the economic benefits associated with transaction will flow to the Council and the amount of the revenue can be measured reliably.
- Fixed deposit interest income is recognised as it accrued using the effective interest method.
- Other income is recognised at the point of receipt or sales by the Council or when the rights to receive the income is established.

(i) Research and development

Research and development expenditure comprise deferred direct project costs and related overheads incurred for projects ranging from 2 to 30 years. These research and development expenditures are recognised as project costs when the research and development are completed and offset against development grant received.

(j) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when there is a present obligation, legal or constructive, as a result of a past event, when it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. Provisions are reviewed at each reporting date and adjusted to reflect the current best estimate.

(k) Taxation

Income tax on the profit or loss for the financial year comprises current tax. Current tax is the expected amount of income tax payable or receivable in respect of the taxable profit or loss for the financial year and is measured using the tax rates that have been enacted or substantially enacted at the reporting date and any tax adjustment payable in respect of previous financial years.

(l) Inventories

Inventories are stated at the lower cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost is determined on the weighted average cost method and comprises the purchase price and incidentals incurred in bringing the inventories to their present location and condition. For manufactured goods or goods produced in-house at the Council, cost includes conversion costs of labour and variable and fixed production overheads. For homogeneous items of inventory, cost is determined by the weighted average cost formula. Net realisable value is determined on an item-by-item basis or on group of similar item basis.

At each reporting date, the Council assesses whether any inventories are impaired by comparing the carrying amount of each item of inventory with its selling price less costs to complete and sell. If an item of inventory is impaired, the carrying amount is reduced to its selling price less costs to complete and sell. Any impairment losses or provision for slow moving inventories are recognised in profit or loss immediately.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

3. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

(a) Critical judgments in applying the accounting policies

There is no critical judgement made by the management in the process of applying the accounting policies that have significant effect on the amount recognised in the financial statements.

(b) Key sources of estimation uncertainty

The key assumptions concerning the future, and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date, that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are as follows:

(i) Change of estimated useful lives for property, plant and equipment

The Council reviews the estimated useful lives of property, plant and equipment and depreciation policy annually.

(ii) Impairment loss of property, plant and equipment

The Council's property, plant and equipment comprise a significant portion of the Council's total assets.

Changes in technology or industry conditions may cause the estimated period of use of the value of these assets to change. Long-live assets are reviewed for impairment at least annually or whenever events or changes in circumstances have indicated that their carrying amounts may not be recoverable. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount is estimated.

The recoverable amount of an asset is the higher of an asset's net selling price and value in use. The net selling price is the amount obtainable from the sale of an asset in an arm's length transaction. Value in use is the present value of estimated future cash flows using a pretax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset, which requires significant judgement relating to level of revenue and amount of operating costs. The Council uses all readily available information in determining an amount that is a reasonable approximation of the value in use, including estimates based on reasonable and supportable assumptions and projections of revenue and operating costs. Changes in these estimates could have a significant impact on the carrying value of the assets and could result in additional impairment charge or reversal of impairment in future periods.

(iii) Provision for retirement benefits

Long-terms benefits recognised as accruals is for the *Gantian Cuti Rehat* (GCR) that is based on the accumulated leave for an employee until it reaches a maximum of 160 days before compulsory retirement. The present value of the future estimated basic salary at a discount factor of 2.75% (2022: 2.75%) has been applied for the calculation of the provision.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

4. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

2023

	Buildings RM	Leasehold land RM	Furniture, fixtures and fittings RM										Total RM								
			Office equipment RM	Office renovations RM	Computers and accessories RM	Motor vehicles RM	Specialised equipment RM	Temporary office RM	Nursery sheds RM	Lab specialised equipment RM	Lab furniture and fittings RM										
Cost																					
At 1 January 2023	17,283,491	6,616,000	1,144,838	1,204,281	2,545,741	584,209	1,358,198	100,208	372,473	94,068	30,829,679	648,240	62,781,426								
Additions	32,046	-	941,584	7,000	131,748	-	113,490	-	-	-	1,694,799	-	2,920,667								
Additions-Work-in-progress	169,334	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	169,334								
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-								
At 31 December 2023	17,484,871	6,616,000	2,086,422	1,211,281	2,677,489	584,209	1,471,688	100,208	372,473	94,068	32,524,478	648,240	65,871,427								
Accumulated depreciation																					
At 1 January 2023	8,907,460	248,596	918,682	863,218	2,272,179	563,480	1,220,539	100,173	372,472	94,063	20,400,793	622,542	36,584,197								
Chargers	864,175	110,487	163,249	79,144	114,438	7,788	85,285	-	-	-	2,600,443	13,290	4,038,999								
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-								
At 31 December 2023	9,771,635	359,083	1,081,931	942,362	2,386,617	571,268	1,305,824	100,173	372,472	94,063	23,001,236	635,832	40,622,496								
Carrying amounts																					
	7,713,236	6,256,917	1,004,491	268,919	290,872	12,941	165,864	35	1	5	9,523,242	12,408	25,248,931								

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

4. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (continued)

	2022											Total RM	
	Buildings RM	Leasehold land RM	Office equipment RM	Furniture, fixtures and fittings RM	Computers and accessories RM	Office renovations RM	Motor vehicles RM	Specialised equipment RM	Temporary office RM	Nursery sheds RM	Lab specialised equipment RM		Lab furniture and fittings RM
Cost													
At 1 January 2022	17,288,691	6,616,000	1,082,982	1,204,281	2,475,252	584,209	1,358,198	106,530	372,473	94,068	27,214,957	648,240	59,045,881
Additions	-	-	89,746	-	95,911	-	-	-	-	-	3,633,171	-	3,818,828
Disposals	(5,200)	-	(27,890)	-	(25,422)	-	-	(6,322)	-	-	(18,449)	-	(83,283)
At 31 December 2022	17,283,491	6,616,000	1,144,838	1,204,281	2,545,741	584,209	1,358,198	100,208	372,473	94,068	30,829,679	648,240	62,781,426
Accumulated Depreciation													
At 1 January 2022	8,046,145	138,109	874,252	782,386	2,069,653	555,381	1,101,115	106,494	372,472	94,063	17,704,621	608,712	32,453,403
Chargers	864,175	110,487	72,270	80,832	227,938	8,099	119,424	-	-	-	2,714,618	13,830	4,211,673
Disposals	(2,860)	-	(27,840)	-	(25,412)	-	-	(6,321)	-	-	(18,446)	-	(80,879)
At 31 December 2022	8,907,460	248,596	918,682	863,218	2,272,179	563,480	1,220,539	100,173	372,472	94,063	20,400,793	622,542	36,584,197
Carrying amounts													
	8,376,031	6,367,404	226,156	341,063	273,562	20,729	137,659	35	1	5	10,428,886	25,698	26,197,229

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

5. Inventories

	2023 RM	2022 RM (Restated)
At cost:		
LitSara® line products	51,073	57,063
NatureSara® line products	17,650	41,220
	<u>68,723</u>	<u>98,283</u>

Inventories were recognised during the year. Changes in accounting policy shall be accounted retrospectively where the restatement of total inventory RM98,238 will be restated at the end of Year 2022.

The restatement of total inventory at the end of Year 2022 results in the financial statements providing reliable and more relevant information about the effects if transactions on the entity's financial position and performance

6. Trade and other receivables

	2023 RM	2022 RM
Trade receivables	6,668	11,425
Other receivables	383,496	37,616
Contractual prepayments	165,367	219,109
Interest receivables	142,522	233,072
	<u>698,053</u>	<u>501,222</u>

Other receivables include reimbursements receivable for research and development expenditure of RM233,108 (RM27,090) (Note 10).

Contractual prepayment is for preventive maintenance of eight (8) equipment for 2-3 years.

7. Fixed deposits

	2023 RM	2022 RM
Fixed deposits with licensed banks	<u>17,005,000</u>	<u>22,005,000</u>

Fixed deposits with licensed banks of the Council at the end of the reporting period having maturity periods ranging from three (3) to twelve (12) months and bore effective interest rates ranging from 2.20% to 4.10% (2022: 2.10% to 2.20%) per annum.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

8. Cash and cash equivalents

	2023 RM	2022 RM
Cash on hand	677	508
Cash at banks	7,817,769	531,969
Total cash and bank balances	<u>7,818,446</u>	<u>532,477</u>

9. Provision for retirement benefits

	2023 RM	2022 RM
Balance at 1 January	182,423	116,908
Paid during the year	(14,759)	(8,871)
Provision for the year (Note 15)	21,338	74,386
Balance at 31 December	<u>189,002</u>	<u>182,423</u>
Current provision for retirement benefits	21,338	13,639
Non-current provision for retirement benefits	167,664	168,784
	<u>189,002</u>	<u>182,423</u>

This provision is for the *Gantian Cuti-Rehat* (GCR) which is based on the accumulated leave for an employee until it reaches a maximum of 160 days before compulsory retirement. Only one (1) staff retired in 2023.

10. Development grants

	2023 RM	2022 RM
Balance as at 1 January	14,420,753	11,005,040
Recognised during the year	13,539,873	15,635,535
Amortised during the year (Note 14)	(2,835,714)	(3,720,867)
Offset against research and development expenses	(8,640,468)	(8,498,955)
Balance as at 31 December	<u>16,484,444</u>	<u>14,420,753</u>
Add: Reclassification as other receivables (Note 6)	233,108	27,090
Balance at 31 December	<u>16,717,552</u>	<u>14,447,843</u>

Development grants comprise grants received from the Sarawak Government and collaborators for research and development. At 31 December 2023, reimbursements receivable for research and development expenditure of **RM233,108** (2022: RM27,090) were reclassified as other receivables.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

11. Trade and other payables

	2023 RM	2022 RM
Trade and other payables	1,356,039	464,004
Refundable deposits	20,335	-
Accruals	446,035	180,166
	1,822,409	644,170

12. Provision for tax/Taxation

In exercising the powers under Section 127(3)(b) of Income Tax Act 1967, YB Menteri Kewangan Malaysia has made a new order: **Income Tax (Exemption) (No.22) Order 2006 [P.U. (A) 207 @ 01 June 2006]**. This order is applicable to Sarawak Biodiversity Council where the Minister has exempted:

- (a) any person from the payment of income tax in respect of income relating to the allocations given by the Federal or State Government in the form of grant or subsidy; and
- (b) a statutory body from the payment of income tax in respect of income derived from:
 - (i) the income received in respect of an amount chargeable and collectible from any person in accordance with the provisions of the Act regulating the statutory authority; or
 - (ii) any donations or contribution received.

This Order shall have effect from the Year of Assessment 2006. Income Tax (Exemption) (No.17) Order 1995 [P.U. (A) 213/1995] and Income Tax (Exemption) (No.4) Order 2003 [P.U. (A) 33/2003] are revoked from the Year of Assessment 2006.

The provision for tax is made based on the fixed deposit interest and certain income only.

	2023 RM	2022 RM
Tax refundable:		
Balance at 1 January	(116,748)	(106,794)
Current year's provision at 24%	-	102,046
Tax refunded	103,294	-
Taxes paid	(108,000)	(112,000)
Balance at 31 December	(121,454)	(116,748)
Provision for tax:		
Current year tax at 24%	107,104	-
Deferred tax liability - interest receivable	34,186	-
Balance as at 31 December	141,290	-
Presented as Net Provision/(Tax refundable)	19,836	(116,748)
Income tax expense for the year	141,290	102,046

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

13. Revenue

	2023 RM	2022 RM
Fixed deposit interest income (Note 18)	533,393	425,192
Tender document fee	12,450	14,200
Other income	105,233	204,858
	<u>651,076</u>	<u>644,250</u>

The Other Income includes sales of LitSara® line products and NatureSara® line products, where the amount disclosed in 2023 recognised the sales margin only, while in 2022, the amount of sales revenue was recognised as a whole.

14. Government grants

	2023 RM	2022 RM
Operating grant	11,000,000	9,000,000
Amortisation of development grant (Note 10)	2,835,714	3,720,867
	<u>13,835,714</u>	<u>12,720,867</u>

The operating grant received from State Government is mainly for operating expenditures. The development grant is amortised for the cost of property, plant and equipment capitalised for the year.

15. Staff costs

	2023 RM	2022 RM
Personnel emolument and fixed allowances	6,669,856	7,409,303
Provision for retirement benefits (Note 9)	21,338	74,386
Staff incentives and other financial benefits	999,594	153,667
EPF contributions	932,899	930,197
SOCSO contributions	89,046	86,127
Overtime allowances	82,856	77,862
Transport and travelling	281,151	197,695
Medical expenses	105,972	103,627
Staff uniform	33,810	90,903
	<u>9,216,522</u>	<u>9,123,767</u>
Number of employees at end of year	137	130
Number of retirees at end of year	1	1
	<u>138</u>	<u>131</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

16. Other operating expenses

	2023 RM	2022 RM
Advertisement	17,218	20,182
Audit and accounting fees	9,646	9,646
Bank charges	1,671	1,498
Computer and accessories	203,335	200,223
Consultancy and professional fees	120,566	84,323
Conference and seminar fees	39,393	87,987
Council Members' allowances and sitting fees	110,665	106,571
Electricity charges and distribution	316,095	311,256
Entertainment and hospitality	100,759	96,417
Food and beverages	23,790	-
Fuel and lubricants	25,472	21,346
Human resource development expenses	157,683	104,686
Lab consumables	106,909	105,286
Lab and research maintenance	290,157	305,677
Loss on disposal of PPE	-	1,224
Indigenous Knowledge Benefit Sharing	7,125	6,717
Insurance charges	89,148	49,940
Motor vehicle road tax	1,533	2,032
Newspapers and magazines	37,558	20,604
Other electrical equipment	19,582	-
Office/lab equipment, furniture and fittings, and etc	56,950	-
Office expenses	232,355	272,453
Office maintenance	763,128	622,173
Other purchased services	1,335	-
Photography and camera equipment	399	-
Postage and courier	3,779	2,314
Printing and stationery	84,275	24,284
Repairs and maintenance-motor vehicles	74,091	49,019
Telecommunication and internet charges	36,547	31,066
Venue, transport and event cost	80,494	170,422
Water charges	17,359	22,468
Warranty written off	53,742	-
	3,082,759	2,729,814

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

16. Other operating expenses (continued)

(b) Reclassification of disclosure items

Due to the adoption of a new Chart of Account in January 2023, the disclosure of the following items is as follows:

- Research Facilities and Other Facilities Maintenance Expenses were previously reported under Office Maintenance and is now reported under Lab and Research Maintenance.

These have caused the Office Maintenance expenses to decrease, while the Lab and Research Maintenance expenses to increase.

- Printing of Forms/Cards and Etc., Binding and Printing Services and Microfilm, Blue-print and Photographic expenses were previously reported as Office Expenses and is now reported under Printing and Stationery expenses.

These have caused the Printing and Stationery expenses to increase while the Office Expenses decrease.

(c) Increase and decrease in expenses

- The decrease in Conference and Seminar Fees expenses is related to the increase in Human Resource Development expenses, as more expenses were on staff development if compared to fees for conference and seminar.
- The increase in Insurance Charges expenses is in relation to insurance subscribed for new assets and lab equipment purchased during the year.
- The increase in Entertainment and Hospitality and Newspapers and Magazines expenses are in relation to the expenses incurred for SBC's 25th Anniversary celebration in 2023.

17. Capital commitments

	2023 RM	2022 RM
Capital expenditures:		
Capital expenditure approved but not contracted for	835,000	812,400
Capital expenditures:		
Capital expenditure approved and contracted for	2,026,837	1,210,647

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

18. Financial instruments

18.1 Categories of financial instruments

	2023 RM	2022 RM
<u>Financial assets measured at amortised cost</u>		
- Trade and other receivables (excluding prepayments) (Note 6)	532,686	282,113
- Cash and cash equivalents (Note 8)	7,818,446	532,477
- Fixed deposits (Note 7)	<u>17,005,000</u>	<u>22,005,000</u>
<u>Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost</u>		
- Trade and other payables (Note 11)	1,822,409	644,170
- Provision for retirement benefits (Note 9)	<u>189,002</u>	<u>182,423</u>

18.2 Net gains arising from financial instruments

	2023 RM	2022 RM
Net gains on financial assets measured at amortised costs:		
- Fixed deposit interest income (Note 13)	<u>533,393</u>	<u>425,192</u>

19. Provision for Indigenous Knowledge Benefit Sharing

The Council contributes 10% of the margin earned from the sale of LitSara® line products to designated communities in Sarawak annually.

20. Comparative Figures

Certain comparatives have been restated in accordance with MPERS 10 - Accounting Policies, Estimates and Errors as follow:

Financial Position (Extract)	As previously state RM	Adjustment RM	As restated RM
<u>Current Assets:</u>			
Inventories	<u>-</u>	<u>98,283</u>	<u>98,283</u>
<u>Equity:</u>			
Retained surplus	<u>34,078,240</u>	<u>98,283</u>	<u>34,176,523</u>

a) As of 31 December 2022, inventory is recognised for the financial year 2022. The amount of inventories is restated at RM98,283. Therefore, the comparative figures for inventories and current assets increased.

b) Due to the restatement of inventories in the financial year 2022 amounting to RM98,283, the retained surplus for the financial year 2022 also increased by RM98,283, from RM34,078,240 to RM34,176,523.

The background consists of several overlapping, curved, semi-circular shapes in various shades of blue, ranging from a light sky blue to a deep navy blue. The shapes are layered, creating a sense of depth and movement. The text is centered within the largest, darkest blue area.

INNOVATION AND COMMERCIALISATION OF RESEARCH

INNOVATION AND COMMERCIALISATION OF RESEARCH



Commercialisation of Sarawak's Very Own Ganoderma

The study on the local *Ganoderma* species has progressed to the pre-commercialisation stage where cultivation of Sarawak's local *Ganoderma* in the SBC's mushroom pilot plant, known as Ganoderma Cultivation Facility (GCF) has been optimised. The current capacity allows for up to 18,000 blocks per cycle (3 months).

In 2023 SBC carried out the scale-up production of the commercialised *Ganoderma* candidate for health supplement products. This production occurs in different batches to access their quality, safety, and chemical content. This rigorous process ensures stringent quality control and testing of the material. These steps are essential for formulating and manufacturing purposes, utilising the raw materials produced from GCF. The prototypes of health supplement products made from Sarawak's local *Ganoderma* are expected to be ready by the end of 2024. It is also aligned with the Post Covid-19 Development Strategy (PCDS) 2030, aiming to contribute to the economic prosperity of Sarawak, creating new source of income.

INNOVATION AND COMMERCIALISATION OF RESEARCH

Sarawak Bioindustrial Park

The rich biodiversity gives Sarawak its strong, latent potential and capability to spearhead the development of bioeconomy, from the jungle to the lab, to the global market. To materialise this idea, the Sarawak Bioindustrial Park (SBP) was introduced as a catalytic initiative under Post Covid Development Strategy (PCDS) 2030. SBP is located in Kota Samarahan and focuses in fostering bio-based industries in five niche areas of Bioactives, Biohealth, Biomaterials, Bioenergy and Bioenvironmental.

The commencement of earthworks in May 2023 signifies the tangible transformation of the landscape, symbolising the transition from vision to concrete reality. The scope of earthwork covers site clearing, grading, and preparation of essential utilities, which will lay the groundwork for future industrial operations within the park.

The earthwork phase is projected to be completed by the second quarter of 2025, paving the way for the construction of the Central Hub. The Central Hub will serve as a one-stop centre of innovation and collaboration within the park offering bioprocessing facilities, co-working lab spaces and versatile office spaces to support companies at various stages of growth. By accommodating the operational needs of startups and growing enterprises, the Central Hub will play a key role in nurturing bio-based innovation and facilitating seamless transitions as companies scale their operations.



Artist impression of The Central Hub



Aerial view of the SBP showcasing the ongoing earth filling activities in the Phase 1 area as of 25th December 2023

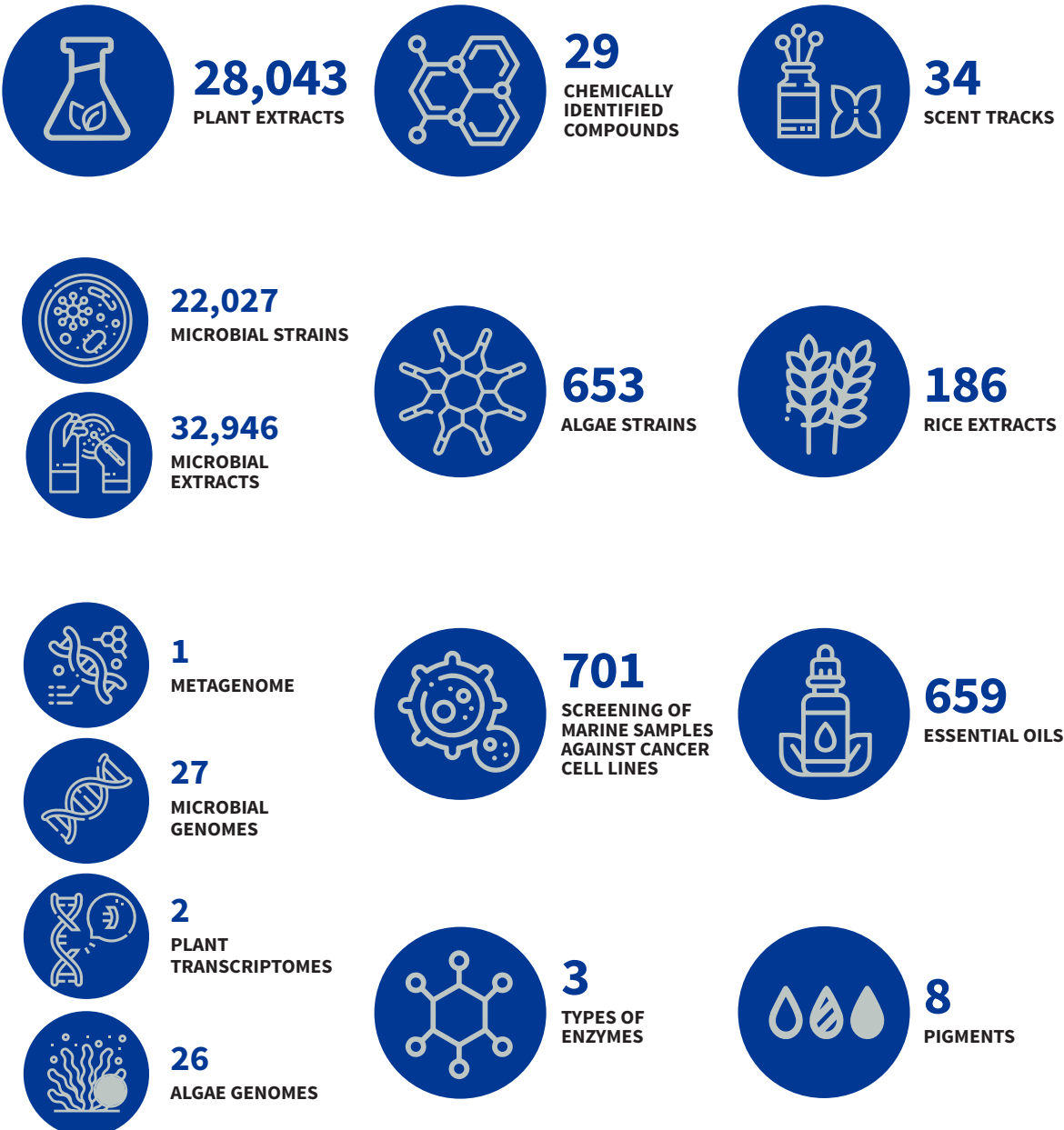
The background consists of several overlapping, curved shapes in various shades of blue, creating a dynamic, layered effect. The colors range from a deep navy blue to a bright cyan. The shapes are smooth and fluid, suggesting movement and depth.

SUSTAINABLE BIOPROSPECTING

SUSTAINABLE BIOPROSPECTING

NATURAL PRODUCT LIBRARY - UNLOCKING THERAPEUTIC LEADS

SBC's natural product library was developed to systematically collect, extract, and characterise compounds from various biological sources. The NPL serves as a valuable repository of chemical diversity, offering researchers access to biological resources that offers a wide range of extracts with potential therapeutic applications. Through innovative screening approaches and interdisciplinary collaborations, scientists can harness the benefit of natural product libraries to identify lead compounds for the treatment of various diseases. In year 2023, the NPL comprised of:



SUSTAINABLE BIOPROSPECTING



EXTRACTION OF NATURAL PRODUCTS

The Sample Extraction Laboratory specialises in extracting active components and essential oils from medicinal and aromatic plants, employing various extraction techniques tailored to each sample's characteristics and economic feasibility. These methods yield extracts in semi-solid, liquid, or powder form, achieved through decoctions, maceration, hydro-distillations, or Cleverger techniques, using either aqueous or organic solvents.

To ensure the quality of these extracts, High-Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) and Liquid Chromatography Mass Spectrometry (LCMS) are employed for chemical profiling. Additionally, Gas Chromatography Mass Spectrometry (GCMS) is utilised for quality control of essential oils and oils.

An alternative extraction method offered is Supercritical Fluid Extraction (SFE) which minimises organic solvent usage and increases sample throughput while preserving thermolabile compounds due to its low-temperature extraction process.

The extraction of natural products has significantly expanded the number of plant and microbial extracts in SBC's Natural Products Library (NPL). In year 2023, SBC successfully achieved its key performance indicator (KPI) by depositing 1,000 barcoded extracts into the NPL bringing the total number of extracts to 60,989. This milestone not only strengthens SBC's library but also enhances its ability to explore and harness the potential of these natural products for research, drug discovery, and other innovative applications.

SUSTAINABLE BIOPROSPECTING

DRIVING SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES: ENSURING CONTINUITY IN RAW MATERIAL SUPPLY AND CULTIVATION



SBC's commitment to sustainability drives our strategic focus on ensuring the continuity of raw materials for our commercial product line. This involves prioritising the supply of planting stocks for large-scale cultivation, which is crucial for maintaining a steady and dependable supply chain. This strategic emphasis not only supports the growth of the industry but also ensures its long-term success.

In Plant Tissue Culture Laboratory, SBC continuously works on the mass propagation of tissue culture of *Litsea cubeba*, to facilitate the rapid propagation, enable efficient growth and continuous cultivation to consistently deliver high-quality planting stock while minimising environmental impacts.

As of December 2023, SBC has successfully subcultured 3,437 plantlets from superior candidates of *L. cubeba*, distinguished by traits such as high fruit yield, superior essential oil production and high oil yield content. The plantlets demonstrate a high sensitivity to environmental changes during the acclimatisation and hardening process, posing challenges in achieving optimal survival rates.

To address this, SBC is actively refining the acclimatisation methods, especially for outdoor conditions, to ensure the successful adaptation and growth of the plantlets.

SBC is also advancing plans to engage anchored farmers for contract farming and to develop 20 acres of land for sustainable and smart farming of high-value species for product commercialisation.



SUSTAINABLE BIOPROSPECTING



ALGAE AS SUSTAINABLE SOLUTION IN THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY: *ISOCHRYSIS* SP. FOR AQUACULTURE

Brown microalgae, specifically *Isochrysis* sp. is rich in docosahexaenoic acid (DHA) and eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA) and can be found in marine environments. It is one type of the microalgae that SBC had isolated from Sarawak under its microalgae research, which started in 2012.

Isochrysis sp. is optimised in the laboratory, and brought from indoor to outdoor for cultivation, in SBC's 81 m² experimental plot using a semi-continuous cultivation technique. The culture has successfully adapted to outdoor conditions, yielding an average of approximately 0.5g/L of dry biomass. Throughout the year, diligent cultivation practices were maintained to ensure optimal growth and productivity.

One of the current on-going applications of *Isochrysis* sp. is as live feed to nauplii, serving as an essential component of aquaculture feed. Recent in-situ studies have demonstrated that *Isochrysis* sp. culture can exert up to a 60% influence on nauplii growth and survivability, underscoring its significance in aquaculture operations.

In addition to fulfilling aquaculture requirements, efforts were made to further explore the potential applications of *Isochrysis* biomass. Dried biomass was accumulated for internal analysis, with a focus on extracting valuable compounds such as fucoxanthin. These endeavors aim to unlock additional value from *Isochrysis* cultivation beyond its primary use in aquaculture.

In 2023, SBC met its key performance indicator (KPI) by producing 1,200 liters of *Isochrysis* sp. culture, achieving a total of 7,290 liters for the year. This supply successfully fulfilled the demand from the aquaculture farm.

SUSTAINABLE BIOPROSPECTING

DISCOVERIES OF BIOACTIVE COMPOUNDS

Plant-Derived Molecule for the Treatment of Epilepsy

Teaming up with the University of Macau, SBC's research focuses on exploring natural compounds derived from plants for the treatment of epilepsy. A total of 20 plant extracts were evaluated for their anti-epileptic effects using a PTZ-induced seizure zebrafish model. Through bioassay-guided fractionation, a naturally occurring pentacyclic triterpenoid was successfully isolated from one promising plant, *Acranthera* sp., which previously unexplored for its anti-epileptic properties. This compound demonstrated notable anti-epileptic effects, suggesting its therapeutic potential for treating neurodegenerative disorders.

The project met its key performance indicator (KPI) and achieved its target by discovering one bioactive compound with potential therapeutic applications in neurodegenerative disorders, through joint research with the University of Macau. Moving forward, future efforts could benefit from expanding the range of plant extracts tested and exploring more compounds to improve the overall understanding and effectiveness of potential treatments.

Discoveries of Microbial Enzymes for Industrial Application

The discovery of microbial enzymes from actinobacteria marks a significant advancement in research and development. SBC's research team have identified classes of enzymes produced by the actinobacteria species, known for their exceptional enzymatic capabilities that offer a circular economy gain, with various prospecting industrial applications including biomass processing, biofuels and renewable energy sector.

Advances in genome sequencing and bioinformatics analysis revealed the greater potential of actinobacteria as bio-factory for various type of enzymes. To date, SBC has an increasing number of genomes available in its database with twenty-one (21) actinobacteria genomic sequences, ten (10) algae genomic sequences that serve as gold mines for the discovery of novel enzymes. From the genome data mining, out of the 4,088 shortlisted gene of interest (GOI) from actinobacteria, there are ninety-four (94) GOI classified as cellulases, one hundred and eighty-seven (187) GOI as xylanases and twenty-seven (27) GOI as acetyl xylan esterases. Following the GOI selection, candidates will be validated for desired properties by cloning and expressing them in a heterologous expression system followed by experimental validation.

In 2023, cellulase production was screened from rare actinobacteria strains; *Verrucosispora* sp. AC08611, *Micromonospora* sp. AC03275, *Micromonospora* sp. AC03293, *Plantactinospora* sp. AC09618 and *Streptacidiphilus* sp. AC09406, with thirteen (13) known genes for endoglucanase and further validated via CMC-zymogram. Cloning these genes allows SBC to replicate the GOI and produce cellulase that breaks down cellulose. Currently, SBC is working tremendously on optimising their expression, characterisation and function for various industrial and environmental purposes.

SUSTAINABLE BIOPROSPECTING



Towards the Production of a Reference Material in Compliance with Standard (Silvestrol)

Silvestrol, a unique compound extracted from the *Aglaia* sp. plant, has been extensively studied for its diverse effects, including anti-cancer, anti-microbial, anti-viral and anti-inflammatory properties. It is one of the natural products that SBC is developing as a clinical candidate for pharmaceutical applications. While our studies have demonstrated its preclinical efficacy and safety, standardisation in the production of silvestrol is crucial. This will not only strengthen the compound's credibility but also ensure its quality for future R&D studies and manufacturing purposes.

A reference material is a substance or material with well-characterised properties, used as a standard or reference in analytical measurements. It serves as a benchmark for calibrating measuring instruments, evaluating test procedures and for quality control purposes. These materials are typically produced by accredited as a benchmark to ensure their competency, consistency and following internationally recognised standards.

SBC is currently undertaking the development of a reference material for its flagship organic compound in compliance with standards such as MS ISO/IEC 17034:2016. This guideline delineates the necessary procedures, protocols and quality assurance measures to ensure accuracy and reliability in the production of a reference material. This endeavour encompasses the characterisation of the compound's property values using validated procedures, assessing homogeneity and stability through precise measurements, as well as documenting all aspects of the reference material production process.

This will be the first record on development and registration of reference material for new chemical entity in Malaysia.



The background consists of several overlapping, curved, organic shapes in various shades of blue, ranging from a deep navy to a bright cyan. The shapes create a sense of movement and depth, framing the central text.

WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES

WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES

Traditional Knowledge Documentation and Preservation - Pathway to Commercialization

Continuing its commitment in preserving Sarawak's Traditional Knowledge (TK), SBC has actively pursued its TK Documentation Programme, focusing on plants and their traditional uses among indigenous communities. This initiative aims to safeguard and promote valuable TK, ensuring that crucial information about their uses, preparation methods, and cultural significance is preserved for future generations while promoting sustainable resource utilisation.



TK Documentation Programme utilises Prior Informed Consents (PIC) and Access Benefit Sharing (ABS) mechanisms to establish a mutually beneficial model that benefits the community through product development, commercialisation, income generation and knowledge transfer. This is in line with Sarawak Post Covid-19 Development Strategy (PCDS) 2030 and the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing.

Since its inception in 2002, the TK Documentation Programme has organised TK Documentation workshops / field works in 118 villages / areas across Sarawak, engaging with 17 ethnic groups and 9 sub-ethnic groups in Sarawak. Through these efforts, SBC has successfully documented 7,177 plant species to date.

In 2023, TK Documentation Programme successfully achieved its key performance indicators (KPI) by organising six (6) TK Consultative Meetings, six (6) 1st TK Documentation Workshops, and six (6) TK Follow-Up Trips with participating villages, which led to the inclusion of one new ethnicity, the Sebop community.

During the TK Documentation journey, the team identified a risk i.e. limited interest and awareness within the community regarding the documentation and preservation of TK practices. To address this, the team plans to integrate the community's interests into capacity-building sessions, covering topics such as the use of blockchain platforms for secure and transparent documentation and AI-driven tools for enhancing the preservation and accessibility of TK practices.

WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES

Six (6) TK Consultative Meetings

No	Date	Location	Community Involved
1	9 th May 2023	Kabong District Office	Malay & Iban
2	16 th May 2023	Kapit District Office	Bagatan & Melanau Rajang
3	8 th June 2023	Balingian Sub-district Office	Melanau
4	27 th June 2023	Nanga Budu Sub-district Office	Iban
5	17 th November 2023	Belaga District Office	Kajang
6	27 th November 2023	Beluru District Office	Bakong

Six (6) 1st TK Documentation Workshops

No	Date	Location	Community Involved
1	21 st - 25 th March 2023	Kampung Sapit, Padawan, Kuching	Bidayuh
2	27 th - 30 th March 2023	Long Mekaba, Ulu Baram, Miri	Kenyah
3	10 th - 13 th April 2023	Long Jekitan, Ulu Baram, Miri	Penan
4	3 rd - 6 th July 2023	Kampung Betanak, Pulau Bruit, Daro, Mukah	Melanau
5	7 th - 10 th August 2023	Kampung Sungai Pinang, Balai Ringin, Serian	Iban
6	4 th - 7 th September 2023	Long Selapun, Ulur Tinjar, Miri	Sebop

Six (6) TK Follow-Up Trips with participating villages (on-going TK programme)

No	Date	Location	Community Involved
1	27 th February - 2 nd March 2023	Kampung Penibong, Pulau Bruit, Daro, Mukah	Melanau
2	27 th - 31 st March 2023	Pa' Derung, Bario, Miri	Kelabit
3	25 th - 28 th April 2023	Long Pelutan, Baram, Miri	Kenyah
4	24 th - 27 th April 2023	Kampung Bra'ang Timurang, Padawan, Kuching	Bidayuh
5	3 rd - 7 th July 2023	Kampung Lahanan, Belaga	Lahanan
6	25 th - 28 th July 2023	Kampung Engkeranji, Sri Aman	Iban

WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES

The number of plants documented and collected:

Community	No	Location	Number of plants documented	
BIDAYUH	1	Kampung Kiding, Padawan, Kuching	530	1,272
	2	Kampung Semadang, Penrissen, Kuching	311	
	3	Kampung Semban, Padawan, Kuching	124	
	4	Kampung Serin, Serian	17	
	5	Kampung Lanchang, Serian	59	
	6	Kampung Simuti, Padawan, Kuching	50	
	7	Kampung Chupak & Skuduk, Siburan, Serian	14	
	8	Kampung Peninjau Baru, Serumbu, Bau, Kuching	48	
	9	Kampung Tringgus, Bau, Kuching	16	
	10	Kampung Tepoi, Tebedu, Serian	13	
	11	Kampung Rejoy, Padawan, Kuching	12	
	12	Kampung Bra'ang Timurang, Padawan, Kuching	35	
	13	Kampung Sebobok, Bau, Kuching	27	
	14	Kampung Sapit, Padawan, Kuching	16	
IBAN	1	Rumah Skatap, Betong	276	1,680
	2	Rumah Janang (previously known as Rumah Nyambong), Selangau, Sibu	89	
	3	Rumah Emak, Kapit	89	
	4	Rumah Changai, Song, Kuching	86	
	5	Rumah Simon/ Rumah Baia Panjai, Batang Ai, Lubok Antu, Sri Aman	86	
	6	Rumah Patric (previously known as Rumah Bana), Sebauh, Bintulu	86	
	7	Rumah Roland (previously known as Rumah Lulut), Kapit	55	
	8	Rumah Rapak Tepus, Pantu, Sri Aman	54	
	9	Rumah Bajau, Julau, Sarikei	71	
	10	Rumah Ngumbang, Nanga Sumpa, Batang Ai, Sri Aman	32	
	11	Kampung Sual, Simunjan, Samarahan	53	
	12	Ulu Mentawai Expedition, Limbang	51	
	13	Rumah Entakong, Nanga Medamit, Limbang	54	
	14	Rumah Misoon, Sibuti, Miri	45	
	15	Kampung Sungai Rama, Sebuyau, Samarahan	48	
	16	Karangan Mong, Lubok Antu, Sri Aman	33	
	17	Rumah Kino, Lubok Antu, Sri Aman	39	
	18	Rumah Tanjung Baru, Maludam, Betong	16	
	19	Kampung Jambu Kelampak, Ulu Layar, Betong	16	
	20	Rumah Sabang Babang, Krian, Saratok, Sarikei	14	
	21	Rumah Charlie, Nanga Melipis, Kanowit, Sibu	14	
	22	Rumah Abok/ Kampung Mulong, Beluru, Miri	20	
	23	Rumah Encharang, Banting, Lingga, Sri Aman	53	
	24	Kampung Pulau Sibau, Balleh, Kapit	52	
	25	Rumah Nyalong, Pakan, Sarikei	34	
	26	Rumah Tengah (Marcus Minggu), Tinjar, Sg Peking, Tinjar, Miri	17	
	27	Rumah Machup, Roban, Betong	18	
	28	Rumah Kenedy, Beletik Undop, Sri Aman	23	
	29	Kampung Terasi Iban, Sadong Jaya, Samarahan	14	
	30	Kampung Semada, Gedong, Serian	21	
	31	Kampung Engkeranji, Sri Aman	32	
	32	Kampung Sepaya Ulu, Batang Air, Lubok Antu, Sri Aman	27	
	33	Rumah Lidi, Ulu Debak, Betong	30	
	34	Kampung Tinting Tuba, Gedong, Samarahan	11	
	35	Kampung Sungai Pinang, Balai Ringin, Serian	21	

WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES

Community	No	Location	Number of plants documented	
KAYAN	1	Rumah Lesong, Sungai Asap, Belaga, Kapit	81	251
	2	Long Bedian, Baram, Miri	75	
	3	Uma Bawang, Long Lama, Baram, Miri	29	
	4	Long Amo, Belaga, Kapit	66	
KELABIT	1	Pa' Derung, Bario, Miri	32	520
	2	Pa'Lungan, Bario, Miri	303	
	3	Pa'Ukat, Bario, Miri	163	
	4	Long Lellang, Baram	22	
KENYAH	1	Long Pelutan, Baram, Miri	147	343
	2	Long Ikang, Marudi, Miri	79	
	3	Long Palai, Baram, Miri	31	
	4	Long Apu, Baram, Miri	14	
	5	Uma Kelep, Sungai Asap, Belaga, Kapit	52	
	6	Long Mekaba, Ulu Baram, Miri	20	
LUN BAWANG	1	Ba' Kelalan, Lawas, Limbang	48	702
	2	Long Kerebangan, Lawas, Limbang	184	
	3	Long Telingan, Lawas, Limbang	120	
	4	Long Sebangang Asal, Lawas, Limbang	49	
	5	Long Tuyo / Paya Maga Expedition, Lawas, Limbang	137	
	6	Long Tuyo / Long Sukang, Lawas, Limbang	59	
	7	Pa' Berunut, Lawas, Limbang	20	
	8	Long Tuan, Trusan, Lawas, Limbang	23	
	9	Kampung Long Kachu, Trusan, Lawas, Limbang	30	
	10	Kampung Long Semadoh, Lawas	32	
MELANAU	1	Kampung Jebungan, Mukah	96	301
	2	Kampung Pangtray, Daro, Mukah	48	
	3	Kampung Jemoreng, Matu, Mukah	30	
	4	Kampung Paloh, Belawai, Mukah	37	
	5	Kampung Igan, Mukah	21	
	6	Kampung Tanam, Dalat, Mukah	20	
	7	Kampung Penibong, Pulau Bruit, Daro, Mukah	32	
	8	Kampung Betanak, Pulau Bruit, Daro, Mukah	17	
PENAN	1	Long Iman, Mulu, Marudi, Miri	538	1,133
	2	Batu Bungan, Mulu, Marudi, Miri	452	
	3	Long Latei, Long Bedian, Marudi, Miri	6	
	4	Long Wat, Murum, Bintulu	51	
	5	Long Seridan, Baram, Miri	9	
	6	Long Malim, Murum, Bintulu	38	
	7	Long Sayan, Long Lama, Apoh Baram, Miri	18	
	8	Long Jekitan, Ulu Baram, Miri	21	

WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES

Community	No	Location	Number of plants documented	
MALAY	1	Sundar, Lawas, Limbang (with Lun Bawang & Chinese)	38	213
	2	Maludam area, Maludam, Betong (with Iban community)	25	
	3	Kampung Hulu, Bako, Kuching	30	
	4	Kampung Hilir, Bako, Kuching		
	5	Sebuyau area, Samarahan	48	
	6	Kampung Pasir Pandak, Santubong, Kuching	28	
	7	Kampung Selabat/ Pasir Putih, Muara Tebas, Kuching	24	
	8	Kampung Bangka Semong, Muara Tuang, Samarahan	20	
KEDAYAN	1	Rumah Ajan, Merapok area, Lawas, Limbang (with Iban & Lun Bawang communities)	85	85
TABUN	1	Kampung Kuala Medalam, Nanga Mendamit, Limbang	51	51
BISAYA	1	Kampung Bidang, Limbang	30	30
BAGATAN	1	Rumah Seking, Nanga Merit, Kapit	35	35
SA'BAN	1	Long Banga, Marudi, Miri (including expedition)	79	79
TAGAL	1	Long Tengoa, Lawas, Limbang	20	20
BERAWAN	1	Long Terawan, Mulu, Miri	22	22
Sub- ethnic Bidayuh: Selako	1	Kampung Pueh, Sematan, Kuching	112	137
	2	Kampung Temaga Dayak, Sematan, Kuching	25	
Sub- ethnic Bidayuh: Jagoi	1	Kampung Duyoh, Bung Jagoi, Bau, Kuching	46	46
Sub- ethnic Kajang: Sekapan	1	Kampung Sekapan Piit, Belaga, Kapit	33	33
Sub- ethnic Kajang: Tanjong	1	Kampung Man Ili, Kapit	24	24
Sub- ethnic Kajang: Punan	1	Rumah Ado, Tatau, Bintulu	39	39
Sub- ethnic Kajang: Kejaman	1	Kampung Kejaman Lasah, Belaga, Kapit	39	39
Sub- ethnic Kajang: Lahanan	1	Kampung Lahanan, Belaga, Kapit	55	55
Lakiput	1	Kampung Kuala Tutoh, Marudi, Miri	19	19
Sub- ethnic Kenyah: Seping	1	Uma Seping, Long Koyan, Sg Asap, Belaga, Kapit	30	30
Sub- ethnic Kenyah: Sebop	1	Long Selapun, Ulu Tinjar, Miri	18	18
Total Number of Plants Collected			7,177	

WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES



Sekiu Oil- Golden Oil of Sarawak

Sekiu oil, consumed as a food flavouring by the Melanau communities of Daro and Matu, is derived from a seasonal species known as *Madhuca motleyana* with a fruiting cycle occurring once every four (4) years. The oil is renowned for its golden colour and a rich flavour characterised by its bitter almond scent.

A Melanau culinary heritage, the limited availability of Sekiu oil due to the fruit's scarcity enhances its desirability, making it a coveted commodity. This economic importance not only creates opportunities for sustainable livelihoods but also encourages responsible trade practices, benefiting local communities.

On 27th May 2023, SBC inked the 3rd Benefit Sharing Agreement (BSA) for Sarawak, with Melanau communities on the Sekiu oil. The signing ceremony, witnessed by Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Roland Sagah Wee Inn, Minister for Education, Innovation and Talent Development, emphasising the commitment to equitable benefits sharing and community knowledge recognition.

In 2023, the communities involved in this project supplied a total of 8.7 liters of Sekiu oil, as part of the initial stages of the project. The communities have taken the initiative to plant Sekiu trees as part of their efforts to ensure a more sustainable harvest in meeting the growing demand for Sekiu oil supply.

WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES

TERAJU Dana Pembangunan Usahawan Bumiputera (DPUB) Project entitled “Improving Sarawak’s Indigenous Community Livelihoods Through Sustainable Production and Commercialization of LitSara®”

Dana Pembangunan Usahawan Bumiputera (DPUB) is the Federal Government’s initiative mandated to TERAJU through the Ministry of Economic Affairs (MEA). It is part of the Rancangan Malaysia Ke Sebelas (RMKe-11) and the Third Rolling Plan (RP3) to enhance Bumiputera agenda by strengthening the development of the people’s inclusivity and well-being.

The primary goals of this initiative are:

- Enhancing the community’s livelihood through the expansion and improvement of infrastructures for producing LitSara® oil from *Litsea cubeba*.
- Fostering the development of new products, improve marketing strategies, and promote the commercialisation of LitSara® products.
- Emphasising the continual preservation of traditional knowledge and the conservation of biological resources.

In 2023, the LitSara® project achieved its key performance indicator (KPI) by producing 635 litres of LitSara® oil supplied by the participating communities, contributing to the successful production of LitSara® products. Despite of having a seasonal fruiting period for the *Litsea* trees, these challenges were effectively managed by sustainable harvesting via Good Wild Craft practices.

The list of trips carried out in January - December 2023 for TERAJU project is as follows:

No	Location	Date	Activity
1	Kampung Kiding, Padawan	27 th January 2023	Preliminary fieldwork with UNIMAS Holdings Sdn. Bhd. to Kampung Kiding
		14 th February 2023	JKR site inspection of toilet and store facilities (30%)
		31 st March 2023	Site visit by Department of Agriculture (DOA) to community farm at Kampung Kiding for soil sampling
		4 th April 2023	Project Implementation Committee (PIC) Meeting with Kampung Kiding
		25 th April 2023	<i>Litsea</i> tree inventory work at Kampung Kiding
		10 th May 2023	JKR site inspection of toilet and store facilities (60%)
		12 th October 2023	Refresher course on distillation activity
		25 th October 2023	Video shooting for Sinisana blockchain application
2	Long Rusu, Ba’kelalan	24 th - 25 th February 2023	Preliminary fieldwork with UNIMAS Holdings Sdn. Bhd. to Long Rusu and soap-making workshop
		9 th - 10 th March 2023	Participated in Adan Rice Festival 2023
		20 th May 2023	Audit trip with Salihin Group at Long Rusu, Ba’kelalan
		27 th - 28 th July 2023	Refresher course on distillation activity, inventory of <i>Litsea</i> trees, and introducing Sinisana Blockchain Engage apps to community
		26 th October 2023	Follow up trip to Long Rusu
3	Long Telingan, Lawas	25 th - 26 th February 2023	Preliminary fieldwork with UNIMAS Holdings Sdn. Bhd. to Long Telingan and soap-making workshop
		19 th May 2023	Audit trip with Salihin Group at Long Telingan
		25 th October 2023	Refresher course on distillation activity, inventory of <i>Litsea</i> trees, and introducing Sinisana Blockchain Engage apps to community
		25 th - 26 th July 2023	JKR site inspection of toilet and store facilities (100%)

The background consists of several overlapping, curved shapes in various shades of blue, creating a dynamic, layered effect. The central focus is the word 'HIGHLIGHTS' in white, bold, uppercase letters.

HIGHLIGHTS

NETWORKING



FUNDING

The three-year joint project with Sarawak Research and Development Council (SRDC) since December 2021 is part of future preparedness in overcoming SARS-CoV-2 and other emerging infectious diseases. Funded by SRDC, this project focused on the discovery of compounds from SBC's Natural Product Library in search of novelty against SARS-CoV-2 infection. Thirty (30) plant species and three (3) microbial species have been identified to potentially contain novel compounds active against SARS-CoV-2 pathogenesis. Three (3) plant species and one (1) microbial species were selected for further assay-based fractionation for isolation and identification of the bioactive compounds. Two (2) compounds have been isolated and are in the progress of nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) structure elucidation and activity confirmation.



To further its ongoing commitment to corporate social responsibility, Mitsubishi Corporation Japan, through its wholly owned subsidiary Diamond Gas Holdings Sdn. Bhd., is providing funding from 2021 to 2024. This initiative supports SBC in driving innovations in green technology and advancing sustainable renewable energy production alternatives.

The two-year funding period on a project: Development of Production Technologies for Biofuel/Jetfuel/Research and Development on Establishment of a Large-Scale Microalgae Cultivation Facility by applying Flexible Plastic-Film-Type Photobioreactors Technologies and Large-Scale Demonstration of Long-Term Cultivation Utilising Flue Gas from a Power Plant under Tropical Outdoor Condition concluded on 31st March 2023. Subsequently, SBC and Chitose initiated a continuous collaboration agreement for the same project, capitalising on the funding provided by NEDO and Chitose. The objective is to demonstrate the continuous large-scale cultivation of microalgae using flue gas for two years, spanning from 2023 to 2025.



To enhance inclusivity and well-being, TERAJU under Dana Pembangunan Usahawan Bumiputera (DPUB) 2021 is funding the SBC's project "Improving Sarawak Indigenous Community Livelihoods through Sustainable Production and Commercialization of LitSara®." This five-year initiative (2021-2026) aims to uplift the community livelihood by upgrading facility of distillation, propagation and production for LitSara® oil production from *Litsea cubeba*, developing new products, and boosting marketing efforts. The project also emphasises preserving traditional knowledge and conserving biological resources for a sustainable future.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

BIODIVERSITY DAY 2023 IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY, 27TH MAY 2023

SBC hosted its annual event, SBC Biodiversity Day 2023, in conjunction with the International Day for Biological Diversity.

The theme for the International Day for Biological Diversity 2023 was “From Agreement to Action: Build Back Biodiversity,” which focused on promoting actions to support the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. SBC Biodiversity Day 2023 provided an opportunity to engage and educate the public, school students, universities, and research institutes about the importance of conserving biodiversity as well as to entice them into sciences.



The event offered a range of activities, including a science games exhibition, traditional knowledge showcase, guided jungle trekking, and exhibitions from various agencies and local co-mmunities. In 2023, SBC received a total of 414 visitors.

PUBLIC AWARENESS TALKS AND WEBINARS



25TH ANNIVERSARY
SBC PUBLIC AWARENESS TALK

Bats of Sarawak

DATE 24 February 2023, Friday
TIME 10.00 am

VENUE Seminar Room, Integrated Biodiversity Research Building (IBRB) Sarawak Biodiversity Centre

REGISTRATION FOR PHYSICAL ATTENDEE <https://bit.ly/3Kfas58>
REGISTRATION FOR ZOOM ATTENDEE <https://bit.ly/3595jXU>

Associate Professor Dr Faisal Ali Anwarali Khan
Lecturer at Animal Resource Science and Management Programme, Faculty of Resource Science and Technology, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS)

MORE INFO AT WWW.SBC.ORG.MY

Webinar on “Bats of Sarawak” by Associate Professor Dr Faisal Ali Anwarali Khan, Lecturer at Animal Resource Science and Management Programme, Faculty of Resource Science and Technology, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak at IBRB Seminar Room and via Zoom

On 24th February 2023, SBC hosted a webinar titled “Bats of Sarawak,” presented by Associate Professor Dr. Faisal Ali Anwarali Khan from the Animal Resource Science and Management Programme, Faculty of Resource Science and Technology, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak.

The session offered an overview of bat diversity, with a specific focus on their significance in the ecosystem. 80 participants took part in the webinar, both in person and via Zoom.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT



Taking Care of the Land: The Kenyah's Duty

28th February 2023, Tuesday
7.30PM - 9.00PM
Telang Usan Hotel, Kuching

Light refreshments provided

Physical Attendance Registration
<https://bit.ly/7f7jduo>



Zoom Registration
<https://bit.ly/7f7jduo>



Annina Aeberli, PhD
Institute of Social Anthropology,
University of Bern, Switzerland

Annina Aeberli is a social anthropologist whose research investigates human-nature relationships among the Kenyah. She has been researching and working in Sarawak for over ten years. Annina is always mesmerized by fields of golden paddy and enjoys sun-soaked, durian-filled picnics on the riverbanks of the Baram.

Co-hosted by



Supported by



fosm.events@gmail.com

Webinar on “Taking Care of the Land: The Kenyah’s Duty” by Dr Annina Aeberli, University of Bern, Switzerland at Telang Usan Hotel, Kuching

The talk was co-hosted by Friends of Sarawak Museum (FoSM) and SBC, supported by Telang Usan Hotel, Kuching on 28th February 2023.

The talk was delivered by Dr. Annina Aeberli from the University of Bern, Switzerland. Dr. Aeberli is a social anthropologist whose research investigates human-nature relationships among the Kenyah. A total of 120 participants joined the talk physically and via Zoom.

SARAWAK BIODIVERSITY CENTRE
Sarawak Biodiversity Centre
25th ANNIVERSARY

SBC PUBLIC AWARENESS TALK

**From Agreement to Action:
Saving Terrapins by Partnering with
Local Communities and Empowering Women**

Chen Pelf Nyok, Ph.D
Turtle Conservation Society
of Malaysia

DATE: 11 July 2023, Tuesday | TIME: 10.00am

REGISTRATION FOR ZOOM ATTENDEE
<https://bit.ly/terrapin-webinar>

Photo by Turtle Conservation Society of Malaysia

MORE INFO AT WWW.SBC.ORG.MY

Webinar on “From Agreement to Action: Saving Terrapins by Partnering with Local Communities and Empowering Women” by Co- Founder, Dr Chen Pelf Nyok, Turtle Conservation Society of Malaysia (TCS) via Zoom

On 11th July 2023, SBC hosted a webinar titled “From Agreement to Action: Saving Terrapins by Partnering with Local Communities and Empowering Women” at 10.00am. The webinar was delivered by Dr. Chen Pelf Nyok, Co-Founder of the Turtle Conservation Society of Malaysia (TCS). This session provided insights into the community-based river terrapin conservation project spearheaded by the Turtle Conservation Society of Malaysia, and efforts that were undertaken to save these terrapins. A total of 87 participants attended the talk.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

AWARENESS ON REGULATORY FUNCTION

Sarawak Biodiversity Centre Hosts R&D Webinar Showcasing Cutting-edge Research under Sarawak Biodiversity Regulations, 2016

On 4th December 2023, the Sarawak Biodiversity Centre hosted the Research and Development (R&D) Webinar which aimed to highlight the significant strides made by researchers who have obtained R&D permits under the Sarawak Biodiversity Regulations, 2016.

Dr Ngieng Ngui Sing, a Lecturer from Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) has presented his research entitled “Entomopathogenic fungi of sago worm (*Rhynchoporus* sp.): A potential source of active chemical constituent producer”. In his talk, he unveiled the discovery of entomopathogenic fungi as biocontrol agents and a rich source of natural products.

Meanwhile, Dr Kiew Siaw Fui, a Senior Researcher at Sarawak Biovalley Pilot Plant, Miri shared on the promising Daun Nyirik through her talk entitled “Transforming leaf waste of *Phacelophrynium maximum* into food additive with potential antibacterial effect”.

Also featured on the webinar was Ms Siti Zaleha Raduan, a Lecturer from Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) and a PhD student at International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM). She spoke on the medical prospect of Engkala through her research entitled “The neuroprotective effects of *Litsea garciae* bark extract in zebrafish Alzheimer’s model.”

SBC WEBINAR ON R&D BIOPROSPECTING ON SARAWAK BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Dr Ngieng Ngui Sing
Lecturer, Faculty of Resource Science and Technology, UNIMAS
Entomopathogenic fungi of sago worm (*Rhynchoporus* sp.): A potential source of active chemical Constituent Producer

Dr Kiew Siaw Fui
Senior Researcher, Curtin Biovalley, Curtin University Malaysia, Sarawak Biovalley Pilot Plant
Transforming leaf waste of *Phacelophrynium maximum* into food additive with potential antibacterial effect

Ms Siti Zaleha Raduan
Lecturer, Department of Paraclinical Sciences, UNIMAS / PhD Student, International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM)
The neuroprotective effects of *Litsea garciae* bark extract in zebrafish Alzheimer's model

DATE
4th December 2023, Monday

TIME
2.00 pm

REGISTRATION FOR ZOOM ATTENDEE
<http://bit.ly/SBC-RND-WEBINAR>

QR Code
www.facebook.com/sarawak.biodiversitycentre

For more information and inquiries on the talk, please contact Constance Vanessa Victor (016-972 3658) or Dr Mohd Farith bin Kota (014-682 9304)

MORE INFO AT WWW.SBC.ORG.MY

Webinar on “R&D Bioprospecting on Sarawak Biological Resources”, 4th December 2023

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

SCHOOL PROGRAMMES

18th July 2023 - National University of Singapore (NUS)

The visit from National University of Singapore (NUS) was led by Dr Corrine Ong, Director of Studies, Ridge View Residential College (RVRC), NUS and Ms Wong Soon Fen, Director of Study Life, Resident Fellow, RVRC, NUS. They were accompanied by Professor Dr Khong Heng Yen and Mdm Patricia Melvin Jussem from Universiti Teknologi MARA Sarawak.



NUS, a leading global university situated in Asia and Singapore's flagship university, is committed to promoting sustainable development and finding solutions against climate change. Their excursion to Sarawak, as part of their curriculum, aimed to bridge theoretical knowledge with practical field experiences, to enable their students gain an understanding of the interaction between communities and nature.

21st July 2023 - Lodge International School

Biology students from Lodge International School visited SBC for practical learning experience to support their knowledge of scientific concepts.

The students tried their hands at liquid handling, DNA loading, and running an agarose gel, for hands-on experience. They were introduced to a portable, real-time Nanopore sequencing device utilised by SBC for DNA and RNA sequencing.



They also took part in a fun-filled quiz centered around the Periodic Table of Elements.

7th October 2023 - Hari Terbuka PPD padawan at SMK Penrissen No.1

SBC took part in the 'Hari Terbuka PPD Padawan' where the focus was on showcasing microalgae and its industrial applications. Students had the opportunity to learn about SBC's research activities with focus on the potentials of microalgae in various industries and the importance of ongoing research in this field.



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

EXHIBITIONS

16th February 2023 - Sarawak Design Week 2023, Borneo Convention Centre Kuching (BCKK)

Sarawak Design Week 2023, the inaugural event organized by Sarawak Design Centre in collaboration with the Bandung Institute of Technology, Indonesia, and supported by the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC), featured SBC as an exhibitor. SBC showcased a variety of products from the LitSara® and NatureSara® range.



10th - 11th March 2023 - Pesta Beras Adan, Buduk Nur, Ba'Kelalan



SBC was part of the Pesta Beras Adan event in Ba'kelalan, organised by Koperasi Ba'kelalan Lawas Berhad. The event was officiated by YB Dato' Sri Dr. Stephen Rundi anak Utom, Minister for Food Industry, Commodity, and Regional Development. It aimed to promote agricultural activities and agro-based products in Ba'kelalan.

During the event, communities from Long Telingan, Lawas, Long Rusu, Ba'Kelalan, and Kampung Kiding, Padawan, funded by TERAJU, shared their experiences in their involvement with the LitSara® project.



17th - 19th March 2023 - Borneo International Garden Expo Sarawak (BIGEXS) 2023, Borneo Convention Centre Kuching (BCKK)

SBC took part in this 3-day expo which featured garden displays, a marketplace, food market, art and crafts, talks by renowned botanists, cooking demos with edible plants, and fringe events by Society Atelier Sarawak. BIGEXS 2023 also featured a fascinating array of flora from other countries, contributing to the vibrant display of plant life on show.



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

EXHIBITIONS

20th March 2023 - Sarawak Delta Geopark (SDGp) expedition, Bau Civic Centre

SBC participated as an exhibitor in the launch of the Sarawak Delta Geopark expedition. The event which took place at the Bau Civic Centre revolved around the theme of uncovering the natural, cultural and heritage treasures of Bay area. It was launched by YB Datuk Haji Len Talif Salleh, the Deputy Minister for Urban Planning Land Administration and Environment.

SDGp was officially recognised as the sixth national geopark by the National Geopark Committee on 20th June 2022. The Sarawak Delta, located in the southern part of the region, has a unique rock landscape, biological diversity, and culture.

The objective of the expedition was to serve as a platform for promoting the geopark to researchers, tourism operators, and local communities, creating awareness and appreciation of the area's rich natural, cultural, and heritage assets, while also fostering sustainable tourism practices.



25th March 2023 - DBNA-BGA Graduates Symposium 2023, DBNA Multipurpose Hall, Kuching

SBC participated in the DBNA-BGA Graduates Symposium 2023, themed “Developing a Competitive Mindset in the Ever-Evolving and Vibrant Global Landscape”, which took place at the DBNA Multipurpose Hall. The event was organised by the Dayak Bidayuh National Association (DBNA) and Sarawak Bidayuh Graduates Association (BGA) in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Innovation and Talent Development Sarawak (MEITD).

The symposium was graced by The Honourable Dato Sri Roland Sagah Wee Inn, Minister for Education, Innovation and Talent Development Sarawak. The symposium was aimed at fostering awareness and understanding among delegates regarding the socio-economic and educational challenges faced by the local community in today's ever evolving and dynamic global landscape.

During the Symposium, SBC's Head of R&D, Margarita Naming delivered a paper titled “Opportunities in the Innovation of Traditional Knowledge”.



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

EXHIBITIONS

9th - 11th June 2023 - The Sarawak Merdeka 60 Years Digital Exhibition, Paragon Street Mall, Bintulu

SBC took part as one of the exhibitors at the “Sarawak Merdeka 60 Years Digital Exhibition” from 9th - 11th June 2023. The event was held at Paragon Street Mall, Bintulu to commemorate Sarawak’s 60th anniversary of independence. It featured two main clusters; the Sarawak Digital Pavilion and PCDS 2030; Key Economic Sector & Enablers.

SBC participated under the auspices of the Ministry of Education, Innovation, and Talent Development (MEITD). Visitors were invited to explore achievements, progress, and the future of Sarawak.



12th - 13th June 2023 - The Forest Conservation Conference 2023, Imperial Hotel, Kuching

The Forest Conservation Conference 2023 was organised by the Forest Department Sarawak.

The conference aimed to bring together conservationists, researchers, government agencies, NGOs, communities, and other stakeholders involved in protecting and conserving the endangered natural ecosystem.

The theme, “Bridging Conservation and Sustainable Development in Permanent Forests,” provided a platform conference for attendees to exchange knowledge, draw from their experiences, and collectively shape the future of conservation efforts in Sarawak’s permanent forests.



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

EXHIBITIONS

16th - 18th June 2023 - The Sarawak Merdeka 60 Years Digital Exhibition, Sibü Indoor Stadium

The Sarawak Merdeka 60 Years Digital Exhibition in Sibü was held at the Sibü Indoor Stadium. This exhibition was the continuation of the Sarawak 60 Years of Independence Digital Exhibition which was previously held in Bintulu.

The exhibition served as a platform to showcase and promote the diverse industries, arts, creativity, and key economic sectors that have played a crucial role in the development of Sarawak.

SBC participated in the event alongside the Ministry of Education, Innovation and Talent Development (MEITD).

During the exhibition, SBC launched a special discount of up to 20% on LitSara® and NatureSara® products to boost sales.



6th - 8th July 2023 - STEM Trailblazers Sarawak, Curtin University, Miri

Organised by the Ministry of Education, Innovation, and Talent Development (MEITD), the inaugural STEM Trailblazers Sarawak served as a cornerstone to foster a strong interest in STEM subjects and captivate the young minds of Sarawakians to pursue careers in STEM-related fields.

During the event, Ms Barbara Ngikoh, a Research Officer from SBC, delivered a career talk. Ms Ngikoh provided insights into the challenges and rewards of working in the field of research, inspiring students to consider a similar career path.



15th - 16th July 2023 - Aram Berambéh Farmasi 2023, Vivacity Megamall, Kuching

Aram Berambéh Farmasi 2023, the largest pharmacy event of the year in Sarawak, was organised by the Sarawak State Health Department's Pharmaceutical Services Division. SBC was invited to exhibit its Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) products and to raise awareness about the impacts and value of GMP certification.



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

EXHIBITIONS

21st - 23rd July 2023 - The Sarawak Merdeka 60 Years Digital Exhibition, Plaza Merdeka Shopping Mall, Kuching

At this event SBC showcased the LitSara® and NatureSara® range of products, raising awareness on the implementation of Access and Benefit Sharing. SBC also took the opportunity to offer exclusive discounts in conjunction with the Sarawak Day celebrations. CENTEXS and Yayasan Sarawak participated alongside SBC under the Ministry of Education, Innovation and Talent Development (MEITD).



2nd - 4th August 2023 - ASEAN International Film Festival Exhibition (AIFFA) 2023, Old Court House

The ASEAN International Film Festival and Awards (AIFFA) is an award ceremony and festival of filmmakers and movie stars from the ASEAN region. It was held in Kuching and was sanctioned by the ASEAN Secretariat as one of the ASEAN joint activities. The exhibition was part of side events during AIFFA, workshops and screenings.



2nd - 6th September 2023 - China International Fair for Trade and Services (CIFTIS), Beijing, China

SBC was one of the exhibitors for the Sarawak Pavilion at the China International Fair Trade in Services (CIFTIS) 2023 in Beijing. CIFTIS 2023, was organised by the Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China.

The event served as a platform for agencies from Sarawak to promote potential investment and cooperation opportunities. Alongside the Ministry of Education, Innovation and Talent Development (MEITD), SBC was joined by the Sarawak Research Development Council (SRDC).



SBC aimed to expand the commercialisation of LitSara® and NatureSara® to the international level through CIFTIS. At the same time, SBC actively promoted the Sarawak Bioindustrial Park to potential investors in Beijing.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

EXHIBITIONS

4th - 5th October 2023 - Malaysia Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Summit 2023: Sarawak Region, Pullman Hotel, Kuching

Organised by the Regional Corridor Development Authority (RECODA), the summit included keynote addresses, panel discussions, and a mini exhibition booth by key stakeholders.

This platform aimed to showcase Sarawak's advancements towards achieving SDGs, aligned to the overarching theme of 'SDGs Local Actions for an Inclusive, Sustainable, and Resilient Malaysia'.

The summit's key objectives encompassed raising public awareness and understanding of the SDGs, showcasing Sarawak's impactful initiatives in sustainable development, and fostering collaborative partnerships among the government, industry, academia, and civil society.

Our booth highlighted the promising economic future of the algae bioindustry, embodying our commitment to sustainable solutions in Sarawak's environmental landscape.



21st October 2023 - Lan Berambah Anak Sarawak (LBAS) 2023, Malaysia International Trade and Exhibition Centre (MITEC) Kuala Lumpur

Lan Berambah Anak Sarawak 2023 aimed at bringing together Sarawakian students in Peninsular Malaysia, offering insights into Sarawak's progress, and raising awareness among students about the region's initiatives for the Post COVID-19 Development Strategy 2030 and its status. It also aimed to highlight job opportunities available, encouraging them to return home to contribute to Sarawak's economic growth.



28th - 29th October 2023 - What About Kuching (WAK) 2023, The Spring, Kuching

In conjunction with What About Kuching (WAK), SBC featured the invigorating scents and relaxing fragrances from the forests of Borneo highlighting the LitSara® and NatureSara® ranges of products. The WAK Festival is a yearly community-driven month-long open access celebration of the arts, culture, and lifestyle. Visitors had the opportunity to participate in activities such as spinning the wheel for a chance to win free goodies or a foot spa.



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

EXHIBITIONS

7th - 9th November 2023 - In Cosmetic Asia, Bangkok International Trade and Exhibition (BITEC), Bangkok, Thailand

Sarawak Biodiversity Centre forged strategic partnership with ATL Cosmetic Sdn. Bhd. at In Cosmetic Asia 2023.

Through the collaboration with ATL Cosmetic Sdn. Bhd., SBC had the opportunity to showcase LitSara® and NatureSara® products at In Cosmetic Asia 2023, one of the biggest platforms for cosmetic and personal care industry in Asia-Pacific region that brought together established market leaders and emerging startups to network and collaborate, generate leads, secure partnerships, and explore new market opportunities.



29th - 30th November 2023 - Global Muslim Business Forum (GMBF) 2023, Borneo Convention Centre Kuching

This forum served as a platform where governments, corporations, international organisations, investors, and civil society could come together to discuss, deliberate, and debate crucial issues. It facilitated connections, collaborations, and contributions among these stakeholders. The Forum shed light on the latest trends in various sectors and provided valuable insights.

GMBF presented an opportunity for participants to explore innovative solutions for driving growth and transformation, as well as to capitalise on the significant investment and trade opportunities in Sarawak.



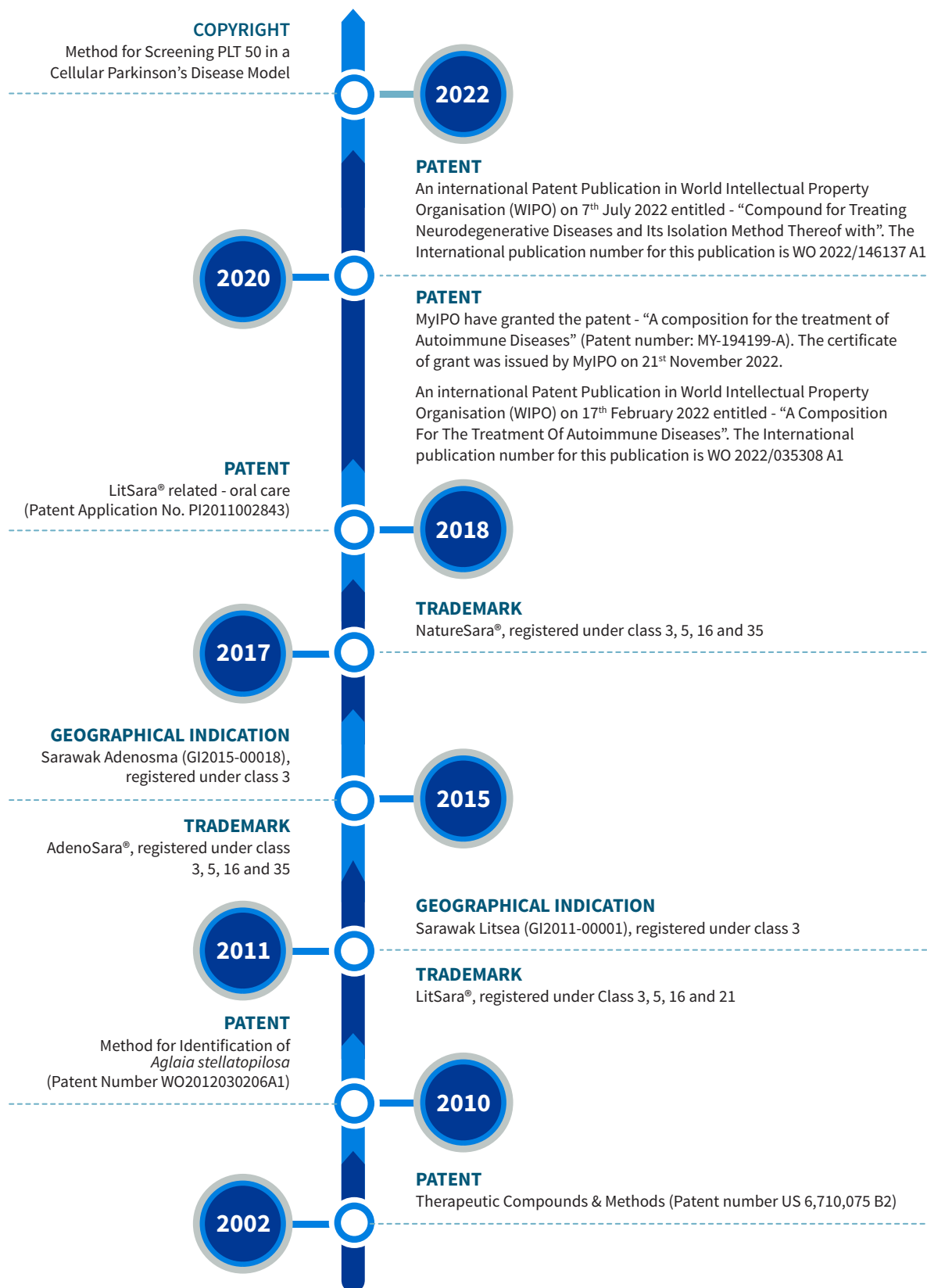
The background consists of several overlapping, curved, semi-circular shapes in various shades of blue, ranging from a light sky blue to a deep navy blue. The shapes are layered, creating a sense of depth and movement. The text is centered within the largest, darkest blue shape.

**LOCAL, REGIONAL
AND GLOBAL**

LOCAL, REGIONAL AND GLOBAL

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (IPRs)

In 2023, SBC continues to isolate and identify new bioactive compounds from its NPL while continuing the development of its existing IPRs portfolio. SBC'S IPRs are as follows:



Development of IPRs since 2002

LOCAL, REGIONAL AND GLOBAL

COLLABORATION AND FUNDING

SBC has acknowledged the significance of partnering with academic, industrial and commercial entities to propel research and development forward and bring its research findings to market. By collaborating with academic institutions, SBC gains access to cutting-edge research in its field and participates in collaborative research endeavours that have the potential to yield new discoveries and advancements. Additionally, SBC has formed partnerships with industrial and commercial entities to innovate and test new products. SBC eagerly anticipates engaging in numerous strategic collaborations that will translate its research findings into tangible real-world impacts. In 2023, SBC has signed twelve (12) Non-Disclosure Agreements, three (3) Memorandum of Understandings, one (1) Material Transfer Agreement, one (1) Collaboration Agreement and one (1) Product Manufacturing Agreement.

These agreements cover various areas including but not limited to:

- High value herb planting for commercialisation
- Genome sequencing
- Cosmetic, personal care and wellness
- Antimicrobial
- Sustainably grown meat
- Tenancy and investment in SBP

The recent signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with prospective tenants of SBP marked a significant milestone for SBC. This agreement facilitated SBC's interaction with investors and stakeholders in the bio-based industry, both locally and internationally. These stakeholders have demonstrated keen interest in expanding their business ventures and investing in Sarawak, thereby opening up avenues for collaboration and growth.

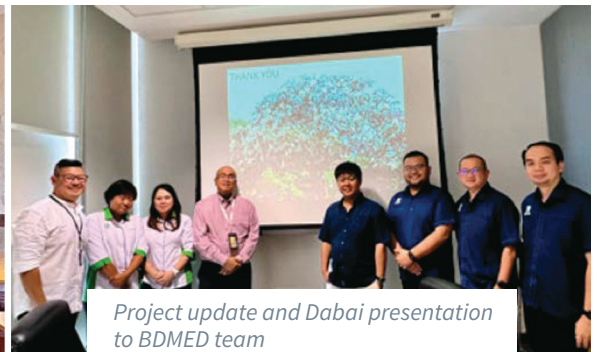
LOCAL, REGIONAL AND GLOBAL

Collaboration Visit at SingHealth Duke-NUS Institute of Biodiversity Medicine (BD-MED)

A Collaboration Visit took place from 11th - 13th January 2023, at the SingHealth Duke-NUS Institute of Biodiversity Medicine (BD-MED), marking the beginning of a collaborative project between the Sarawak Biodiversity Centre (SBC), Department of Agriculture Sarawak (DOA), and BD-MED Duke NUS, Singapore. The project, titled “Genome sequencing, assembly, and analysis of *Canarium odontophyllum* (Dabai) from Sarawak,” brought together expertise and resources from these institutions. Participating in this visit were three officers from SBC: Gilbert Lau Sei Kung, Dr Mohammad Farhan Darin bin Azri, and Dr Mohd Farith bin Kota.



Introductory Lunch and Discussion with Prof Teh Bin Tean



Project update and Dabai presentation to BDMED team

The collaboration visit proved to be a transformative experience for the participants, offering a valuable platform for knowledge exchange among stakeholders and providing insights into the latest advancements in science and technology. It also opened avenues for exploring new opportunities stemming from the collaboration. The visit facilitated productive brainstorming sessions and discussions, with hands-on experiences in High Molecular Weight DNA extraction and Omni-C Library preparation techniques, enhancing their practical skills in genomics and molecular biology.

Additionally, they were given demonstrations on cutting-edge technologies and methodologies, filling gaps in their understanding and preparing them for the project’s intricate tasks. This collaboration involved employing various sophisticated methods to ensure a comprehensive and insightful analysis of the genomic data, paving the way for groundbreaking discoveries and advancements in biodiversity research.



Hands-on DNA extraction performed by Dr. Mohammad Farhan Darin

LOCAL, REGIONAL AND GLOBAL

Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (Satreps) - Project on Development of Management Systems for Multiple Utilisation of Biodiversity in the Tropical Rainforests at the Protected Areas in Sarawak (Pubs)

Through the SATREPS - PUBS program, two officers from SBC, Ajuwin Lain and Jamilah Hassan, have completed their postgraduate studies at Kyoto University (KU). They pursued a Master's Degree in Global Environmental Studies, major in Environmental Management/Biodiversity Conservation programme at the Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies (GSGES), KU. Their research have significantly contributed to the study of biodiversity in Sarawak. The skills and knowledge they acquired, such as DNA barcoding using next-generation DNA sequencers, will be disseminated to other researchers at SBC.

Additionally, the intensive field surveys and molecular biology analyses conducted as part of the PUBS-SATREPS programme has yielded valuable data. This data will be utilised to develop libraries serving scientific, educational, and industrial purposes, facilitating the utilisation of information on the biodiversity found in Sarawak's tropical rainforest.

Postgraduate studies at Kyoto University

Ajuwin Lain

Project title:

Biogeography of Ectomycorrhizal (ECM) Fungi Inhabiting the Lowland Forests in Sarawak.

Study aim:

To compare the biogeography of ECM fungi and soil saprotrophic (SAP) fungi inhabiting tropical rainforests in Sarawak.



Jamilah Hassan

Project title:

Molecular Analysis of *Ganoderma* and *Amauroderma* Species in the Tropical Rainforests of Sarawak, Borneo

Study aim:

To record the genetic types of both *Ganoderma australe* and *Amauroderma subrugosum* with their morphological and ecological traits.



LOCAL, REGIONAL AND GLOBAL

International Meetings

Organiser

Japan International Cooperation
Agency (JICA)

Date

13th - 18th July 2023

Participants from SBC

Holed Juboi
Dr Mohd Fartih bin Kota
Ng Yik Han
Ajuwin Lain
Jamilah Hassan

Annual PUBS - SATREPS Workshop 2023 at
Tsukuba International Congress Center,
Tsukuba, Ibaraki, Japan

Organiser

Traditional Medicine Innovation
Alliance

Date

10th October 2023

Participants from SBC

Dato Dr Yeo Tiong Chia
Michele Mejin

Traditional Medicine Innovation Alliance
Inauguration Ceremony and First Board of
Directors Meeting

The background consists of several overlapping, curved shapes in various shades of blue, creating a dynamic, layered effect. The shapes are primarily circular or semi-circular, with some appearing as thick, curved bands. The colors range from a deep, dark blue to a bright, light blue. The word "EVENTS" is centered within the largest, most prominent dark blue shape.

EVENTS

EVENTS

Official Launch of the CHITOSE Carbon Capture Central Sarawak by The Right Honourable Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, Premier of Sarawak



Sarawak's first industrial microalgae production, the CHITOSE Carbon Capture Central Sarawak (C4 Sarawak) was officially launched on 10th May 2023, marking a significant milestone towards achieving a sustainable green economy for Sarawak, aligned to its Green Energy Agenda.

The Premier of Sarawak, The Right Honourable Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, congratulated the official launching

of the facility, together with Sarawak State Secretary and Chairman for Sarawak Biodiversity Council (SBC), Datuk Amar Haji Mohamad Abu Bakar bin Marzuki, Sarawak Energy's Chairman, Datuk Amar Abdul Hamed bin Haji Sepawi, Deputy Chief of Mission from The Embassy of Japan Mr Karimata Atsushi, CHITOSE Group Founder & Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Tomohiro Fujita; Sarawak Energy Group Chief Executive Officer, Datu Haji Sharbini Suhaili and Sarawak Biodiversity Centre Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Yeo Tiong Chia.

The microalgae project, which began in 2020, is led by Japan's CHITOSE Group (the primary contractor for the microalgae research project), Sarawak Energy, and SBC. The project is fully funded by New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO) and managed by Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (METI). CHITOSE Group is responsible for the cultivation and production of microalgae biomass, and product research and development with Sarawak Energy providing the necessary exhausted gas containing carbon dioxide to cultivate microalgae from its coal-fired power plant through a flue gas delivery system. Meanwhile, SBC offers qualified researchers and skilled manpower to assist with the successful cultivation and production of high-quality microalgae biomass.

The Right Honourable Premier pointed out that Sarawak prioritises environmental sustainability, aligning Sarawak's development path with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals or SDGs, where balanced economic growth is pursued to manage our natural resources in a measured, responsible way.

"Sarawak has our own ambition to become a high-income state by 2030 under the Post COVID-19 Development Strategy (PCDS), which is also in line with the UNSDGs. PCDS 2030 aims to reverse the far-reaching negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and transform Sarawak into a competitive and sustainable economy, powered by renewable energy such as hydropower, floating solar and hydrogen."

He also highlighted that Sarawak is also progressing its Green Energy Agenda, moving towards decarbonisation, and allowing Sarawak to participate in building a more sustainable energy future by facilitating the reduction of emissions at both the local and global level.

"C4 Sarawak and the research that it will conduct potentially lays the foundation for the development of a new economy within the State - creating significant economic value for Sarawak's people while ensuring sustainability remains a priority."

He emphasised that by utilising CO₂, a by-product of energy production from the plant, for microalgae production, the facility is successfully reducing emissions while contributing to the state's decarbonisation targets and Green Energy Agenda. Additionally, C4 Sarawak can drive Carbon Capture, Usage, and Storage (CCUS) exploration, which is crucial to fulfill PCDS 2030, making it an essential step forward in the journey towards a sustainable future.

EVENTS

Benefit Sharing Agreement on Sekiu Project, 27th May 2023

Sarawak Biodiversity Centre (SBC) signed the 3rd Benefit Sharing Agreement (BSA) with Melanau communities, witnessed by Yang Berhormat Datuk Roland Sagah Wee Inn, Minister for Education, Innovation and Talent Development. The ceremony marked the 3rd BSA in Sarawak and the whole of Malaysia.

The Benefit Sharing Agreement (BSA) was signed with the Melanau communities that involves a valuable plant species, the *Madhuca motleyana*, or commonly known by the locals as Sekiu. The communities involved are participants of SBC's Traditional Knowledge Documentation Programme from Kampung Jemoreng Hulu and Kampung Jemoreng Hilir, Matu and Kampung Penibong, Pulau Bruit, Daro.



In his speech during the officiating ceremony for the SBC Biodiversity Day and the signing of the BSA, YB Dato Sri Roland Sagah Wee Inn, asserted that the BSA agreement ensures the fair and equitable sharing of benefits derived from the utilisation of the Sekiu Oil.

He added, “Through this BSA agreement, the rights and knowledge of the local communities who have long relied on Sekiu, are respected and upheld. It also empowers the local communities, as well as preserving their cultural heritage and protecting the biodiversity”.

The BSA signing between Sarawak Biodiversity Council with the communities represented threefold benefits to the participating indigenous communities in terms of recognising and respecting the communities' right to its biological resources and associated Traditional Knowledge, ensuring fair and equitable sharing of monetary and non-monetary benefits arising from the utilisation of biological resources and associated Traditional Knowledge, as well as, promoting the importance of biodiversity conservation.

The Sekiu oil is consumed by the Melanau community of Daro and Matu as food flavouring. The species is seasonal with fruiting season once every 4 years. It is reputed as a highly valued and exotic golden-coloured oil from Sarawak.

According to SBC's Chief Executive Officer, Dr Yeo Tiong Chia, the scarcity of the oil derived from the fruits adds value to the product, making it a sought-after commodity in various industries.

He added, “This economic significance presents an opportunity to promote sustainable livelihoods, supporting local communities and fostering responsible trade practices”.

EVENTS

Traditional Knowledge (TK) Seminar 2023, 13th - 14th November 2023

With the success of SBC's TK Seminar in May 2023 where the 3rd Benefit Sharing Agreement was signed, a second TK seminar was held at UCSI Hotel to extend further to 2nd a diverse group of 48 participants from 39 villages, representing 23 different ethnic groups including the Malay, Iban, Bidayuh, Kenyah, Kayan, Kelabit, Lun Bawang, Melanau, Penan, Punan, Kedayan, Bisaya, Bagatan, Sa'ban, Tagal, Tanjong, Berawan, Kejaman, Lahanan, Kiput, Seping, Tabun, and Sebop.



It was an eventful sharing session with the communities on the status of the Traditional Knowledge Documentation Programme as well as the Research and Development of plants collected.

SBC had the privilege of having Professor Dr. Poline Bala from the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities at UNIMAS and Dr. Jason Hon, WWF-Malaysia Head of Sarawak Conservation Programme to share their insights on working with the local community and conserving biodiversity.

In conjunction with the 2nd TK Seminar, the Benefit Sharing Agreement (BSA) for AdenoSara® Project was renewed and signed between the Bidayuh of Kampung Semadang, Penrissen, and the Iban of Rumah Simon, Buie Panjai, Lubok Antu.



EVENTS

Building Bridges: An Inspiring Networking Dinner Hosted by Dr John Cumbers and SBC, 7th June 2023

Dr John Cumbers, founder of SynBioBeta, and a longtime friend of the Sarawak Biodiversity Centre, hosted a networking dinner that ignited conversations to connect everyone at the table. The dinner, organised by SBC, was attended by individuals from different professions, from a goat farmer to a one-time stand-up comedian.

Dr Cumbers seeks challenges, and he intends to help those who are devising their biostrategies and innovations. The evening was a catalyst to weave ideas and meaningful connections. It ended up with a great story of how Dr Cumbers stumbled upon SBC while trying to compose a description for a property rental. It was a great story of happenstance and a long friendship of fruitful collaboration. We extended our appreciation to all the guests who came.

Dr Cumbers is also the visionary author behind the groundbreaking book “What’s Your Bio Strategy? How to Prepare Your Business for the Age of Synthetic Biology”. This game-changing book unveils trillion-dollar industries being disrupted today and highlights how to embrace bio-fabrication, gene editing, and synthetic biology to stay ahead of the curve.



Mini Convention on Innovative and Creative Circle, 25th August 2023

SBC team “BioBegonia” achieved a credible 3rd placing at the Mini Convention on Innovative and Creative Circle organised by Ministry of Education, Innovation and Talent Development. Five agencies competed in this edition of the mini convention.

Their project, titled “Circular Economy Initiative: Recycle *Litsea cubeba* Plant Waste for Sustainable Animal Feed” stood out for its innovation and commitment to environmental conservation.

By repurposing *Litsea cubeba* waste products after its essential oil was extracted, as supplement for chicken feed, the BioBegonia team contributes to both environmental and animal feed sustainability. Their innovation in creating a valuable additive for animal food showcases the Innovative Creative Circle spirit of the team.



EVENTS

25th Anniversary Celebration Dinner, 14th November 2023 Celebrating 25 Years of Innovation and Discovery!

SBC's 25th Anniversary was a night of reflection and achievement.

The grand occasion was graced by the presence of the Honourable Dato Sri Roland Sagah Wee Inn, Minister of Education, Innovation and Talent Development, who represented The Right Honourable Premier of Sarawak.

The Chief Executive Officer of Sarawak Biodiversity Centre, Dr Yeo Tiong Chia, welcomed the guests with a heartwarming speech, expressing gratitude to government officials and acknowledging the organisation's growth over the past 25 years. He also highlighted the centre's achievements such as the Natural Product Library and AI-assisted chemical database, as well as recognising the contributions of funders, staff, and communities.

Premier of Sarawak Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg congratulated SBC on its 25th anniversary, highlighting the centre's transformative journey, achievements, and contributions in his speech read by Dato Sri Roland Sagah Wee Inn.

In his speech, he also emphasised the importance of traditional knowledge, and outlining initiatives to commercialise discoveries, drive the green economy, and advance technology adoption in biodiversity research.



The celebration began with the symbolic moment of cutting the anniversary cake, signifying the 25-year legacy of SBC. A poignant video acted by the scientists and staff of SBC, was presented on the night to commemorate the journey of SBC, capturing the Centre's contributions to discovery and innovation in biodiversity. Additionally, a special 25th Year Anniversary Book was unveiled, encapsulating the Centre's remarkable evolution over the years, showcasing how SBC bridges traditional knowledge with science, promoting access and benefit sharing with communities, and its continuous effort in digital transformation as well as adoption of blockchain technology.

Recognising excellence and commitment, outstanding staff members were honoured through the presentation of awards, acknowledging their significant contributions to SBC's success. The night continued with captivating entertainment, providing a fitting tribute to the dedication and achievements of SBC over the past 25 years.

The background consists of several overlapping, curved, organic shapes in various shades of blue, ranging from a deep navy to a bright cyan. The shapes create a sense of depth and movement, framing the central text.

VISITS

VISITS



5th January 2023 -
Tuan Haji Azmi bin Haji Bujang,
Permanent Secretary of Ministry
of Education, Innovation and
Talent Development

Tuan Haji Azmi bin Haji Bujang, Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Education, Innovation and Talent Development was accompanied by Deputy Permanent Secretary, Mdm Anielia ak Siam, and the officers of the Ministry during his working visit to SBC.

Tuan Haji Azmi was briefed on SBC's facilities, highlights and centre's discoveries as well as its functions, achievements, and current projects.

During his address to SBC officers, Tuan Haji Azmi shared that "One of the core objectives of Ministry is to develop a science literate society in a short term or long term. SBC is the right place to promote scientific discovery in Sarawak".

He planted a Sekiu tree (*Madhuca motleyana*) to commemorate his visit. The Sekiu oil extracted from the seeds has a bitter almond scent and contains healthy monounsaturated fats. This species is listed as Near Threatened under the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species in 2018.



11th January 2023 -
Duopharma Biotech Berhad

Duopharma Biotech Berhad (Duopharma) Chief Executive Officer (Corporate) Dato' Dr Anas Alam Faizli, was accompanied by Dr Leong Chuei Wuei, Consultant, Mdm Sharifah Radziah Syed Abd Rahim, Manager of Analytical Department and Mr Muhamad Hafiz bin Noor Hariri, Senior Executive of Analytical Department when he visited SBC.

His visit coincided with the return of Dr Kon Nyuk Fong and Mdm Siti Muhaini Binti Haris Fadzillah, SBC Research Officers, from an industrial attachment programme at Duopharma. The attachment aimed to have a deeper technical understanding, and search for common ground that will establish a long-term collaboration.

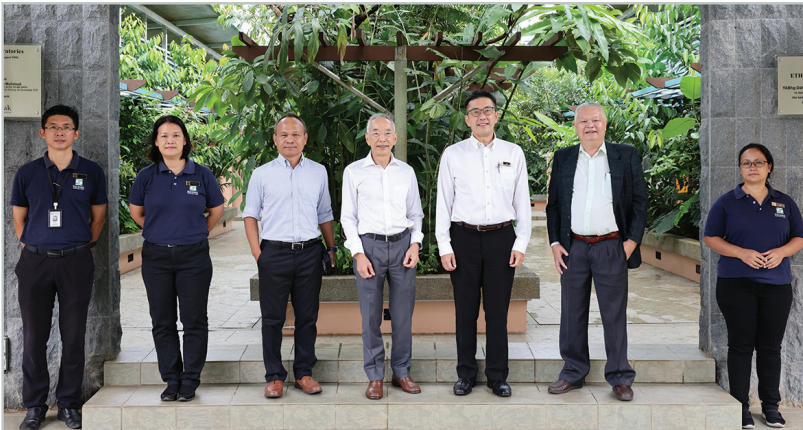
VISITS



13th January 2023 -
Sarawak Skills

The Sarawak Skills delegation was led by Mr Hallman Bin Haji Sabri Executive Director of the Sarawak Skills Group of Learning Institutions and Chairman of the Federation of Malaysian Skills Development Centres (FMSDC). He was accompanied by Prof. Dr Shahren Ahmad Zaidi Adruce, Vice Chancellor, I-CATS UC, Mr Stanley Gona Chee Khiong, Head of Corporate Communication, Mr John Rizal Biki, Senior Manager (Strategic Engagement & Business Development), Assoc. Prof. Ts Dr Leo Sing Lim, Pro Vice Chancellor (Academic & Internalisation), Mr Abang Mohd Heikal Bin Abang Othman, Senior lecturer (CFGs) cum Community Engagement Executive, and Mr Clement Empaling, Senior Lecturer.

Sarawak Skills is the preferred provider of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) for industrial workers and school leavers in Sarawak.



8th February 2024 -
Hovid Berhad

Mr. David Ho, Managing Director of Hovid Berhad, gave a presentation on the company's history, which detailed the challenging path they faced in developing medical products during his visit. Hovid Berhad, a well-established Malaysian healthcare and pharmaceutical company established in the 1940s, is dedicated to enhance lives of patients through the development of new products, pharmaceutical stability, and bioequivalence studies.

Their products include Ho Yan Hor Herbal Tea, and TOCOVID supplement made from tocotrienols and generic antibiotics.

VISITS



*15th - 18th February 2023 -
Dr Mary Jane Cardoso*

Dr Mary Jane Cardoso, a member of the Sarawak Biodiversity Council is known for her expertise that include infectious disease surveillance, emerging diseases and an inventor in biotechnology. Dr Jane is the Chief Technical Officer of Intergrated Research Associates LLC.



*18th February 2023 -
German Business Delegates*

The German Business Delegation was led by Mr Michael Kellner, Member of Parliament, Parliamentary, State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action.

At SBC, the delegates were engaged in a briefing organised by the Sarawak Economic Planning Unit on Investment Opportunities in Sarawak that focused on the fields of green economy, circular economy, and sustainable environment, presented by Mildred Voon Hian Ya, Head of the Social Development and Performance Management Division.

YB Dr Hazland bin Abang Hipni, Deputy Minister of Energy and Environment Sustainability also presented an overview of Sarawak's Green Economy Policy that aimed at promoting sustainable economic growth and development in the state of Sarawak in Malaysia.

VISITS



23rd February 2023 -
**Singapore Business Delegates
led by Sarawak Trade and
Tourism Singapore (STATOS)**

Led by the Sarawak Trade and Tourism Office, Singapore (STATOS), a delegation of Singaporean business professionals from various industries visited SBC to explore potential business opportunities and expand their operations in the region.



1st March 2023 -
**Pharmaceutical Services Division,
Ministry of Health, Malaysia**

The delegation from the Pharmaceutical Services Division, Ministry of Health, Malaysia was led by Puan Norhaliza binti A Halim, Senior Director of Pharmaceutical Services. She was accompanied by Puan Rosilawati binti Ahmad, Director of National Pharmaceutical Regulatory Agency (NPRA), Puan Nor Anizah binti Osman, the Deputy Director (Pharmacy) of the Sarawak State Health Department (JKNS) and officers from JKNS.

The visit had a big impact on how SBC will develop its natural products and have them registered with NPRA. SBC and the Pharmaceutical Services Division and NPRA discussed the regulations related to traditional medicine, health supplement, and pharmaceutical products. The importance of quality, potency, and safety testing of products was highlighted by NPRA, which is part of their registration and licensing scheme.

VISITS



**1st March 2023 -
Malaysian Technology
Development Corporation
(MTDC) Board**

The Malaysian Technology Development Corporation (MTDC) Board delegation was led by MTDC Chairman, Tan Sri Abd Rahman Mamat, along with Chief Executive Officer Tuan Haji Mohammad Hazani Haji Hassan, Board members Christina Foo and Amirul Fares Wan Zahir, Director of the Technology Development Division, Mohammad Farish Nizar Othman, Deputy Director Nurliza Ramli, Deputy Vice President of the CEO's Office Faizah Zainal and Deputy Vice President of the Business Development Department, Soeraya Satem Ahmad.



During the visit, Mr William Hu of Mega BSF presented a pitch on his innovative products using black soldier fly as a sustainable source for animal feed.

VISITS



6th March 2023 -
**Coordinating Minister of
Economic Affairs (MCAE),
The Democratic Republic of
Timor Leste**

The delegation of the Coordinating Minister of Economic Affairs (MCAE), Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste was led by Mr Joao Carlos Soares, Director General of Environment. With him were Mr Rui dos Reis Pires, National Director for Biodiversity/ABS Project Director, Ms Bernardete de Fonseca, ABS Project Manager and Technical Staff members Ms Justina dos Santos Gonsalves, Mr Antonio Guterres, Mr Jeferino Correia Lopes, Ms Maria Leite, and Mr Fernando da Costa.

Timor-Leste is situated on the eastern half of the island of Timor, which it shares with Indonesia. The country has a rich cultural heritage, with traditional dances, music, and crafts still being practiced today. The country is also known for its unique taste and high-quality coffee as well as its beautiful beaches and coral reefs, which attract tourists from around the world.

The country is currently preparing to accede to the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilisation, a supplementary agreement to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

The purpose of their visit to Sarawak Biodiversity Centre was to study the effective implementation of the Nagoya Protocol, including legal customary ownership and traditional knowledge.

Timor-Leste is also working towards building laboratories and research capacity for bioprospecting, with the aim of providing both monetary and non-monetary benefits to support the country's conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in the long term.



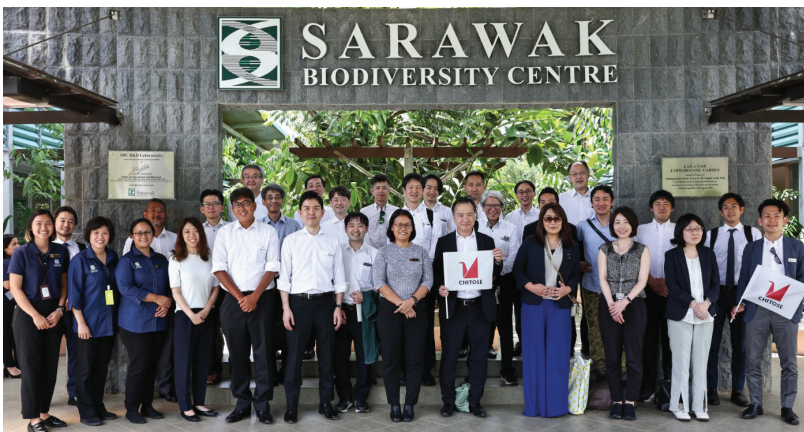
VISITS



7th May 2023 -
**International Association for
Impact Assessment (IAIA) Annual
Conference 2023 participants**

SBC hosted the participants of the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) Annual Conference 2023, who represented a diverse group of environmental professionals and experts from across the globe. Their primary objective was to acquire a deeper understanding of the ongoing research and commercialisation initiatives and to visit the facilities at SBC.

The visit provided an opportunity for the participants to engage in a productive exchange of experiences and knowledge in the areas of environmental conservation, biodiversity, and commercialisation initiatives.



11th May 2023 -
**Japanese Delegations
comprises of delegates of
Japan government officials,
New Energy and Industrial
Technology Development
(NEDO), Sumitomo Mitsui
Banking Corporation (SMBC)
and Business companies**

A delegation comprising officials from the Japanese government, industry players, university academics and members of the Japanese media was invited by SBC's partner, Chitose Laboratory Corporation to Kuching to visit the microalgae mass biomass production facility known as Chitose Carbon Capture Central (C4), at Sejingkat and SBC.

The entities and organisations represented included the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO), the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Agency for Natural Resources and Energy, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation, Ikeda Tohka Industries Co. Ltd., Mitsui Chemicals Singapore R&D Centre Pte. Ltd., Shiseido Company Limited, Kao Corporation, Nissan Chemical Corporation, Mitsubishi Kakoki Kaisha Ltd., Tokyo University of Agriculture and Nikkei Business Publications Inc.

C4 is a project funded by NEDO under a partnership between Chitose Laboratory Corporation, SBC, and Sarawak Energy Berhad.



VISITS



14th June 2023 -
The British High Commission
Kuala Lumpur

The British High Commission Kuala Lumpur led by Ms Poorani Krishnan (Science and Innovation (SIN) Advisor) and accompanied by Mr Siva Prakash (Science and Innovation (SIN) Officer) visited SBC with the aim to foster collaborations and establish networks in the fields of science, technologies, and innovation between the United Kingdom (UK) and Malaysia, particularly in Sarawak. The visit also provided SBC with an opportunity to explore possible partnerships and funding options.

The British High Commission recognises the importance of collaboration in advancing scientific research, technologies, and innovation. The delegates sought to engage with key stakeholders from the scientific and innovation communities with the objective to facilitate knowledge exchange in science and technology, promote collaborative research projects, and identify areas of mutual interest where joint efforts can be undertaken especially those related on biodiversity, natural product including artificial intelligence.

It was a fruitful introductory meeting and SBC looks forward to possible future collaborations and networking with the scientific research community in the UK.



6th July 2023 -
Klang Chinese Chamber of
Commerce and Industry (KCCCI)
delegation

The Klang Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCCI) delegation, led by Dato' Andrew Goh Boon Kim comprised of delegates from diverse business backgrounds, who were keen on learning about the abundant biodiversity in Sarawak and its economic significance.

The delegation was in Kuching to attend the ACCCIM 12th Young Entrepreneurs Conference 2023. KCCCI was established in 1946, whose members include listed companies and small to medium-sized enterprises. Its operations cover various sectors such as agriculture, construction, logistics, information technology, manufacturing, services, and trade, among others.

Dato' Andrew Goh and the delegates commended the Sarawak Government's vision in setting up SBC to preserve the traditional knowledge and develop biodiversity resources through research.

VISITS



11th July 2023 -
**Unit Perancangan Ekonomi
Negeri, Negeri Sembilan
(UPENNS)**

The delegation from Unit Perancangan Ekonomi Negeri, Negeri Sembilan (UPENNS), which consisted of representatives from different sectors such as tourism, environment, and industry aimed to explore the Sarawak government's initiatives in carbon capture, eco-tourism, and renewable energy.

At SBC, the delegates were briefed on groundbreaking microalgae research, and Sarawak's vision for the algae bioindustry with emphasis in sustainable practices on biological resources.



26th July 2024 -
Botanicals Sabah Sdn. Bhd.

A delegation from Botanicals Sabah Sdn. Bhd., led by their Managing Director, Dr Julius Kulip visited to learn about SBC's activities in the utilisation of Sarawak's rich biodiversity and to explore opportunities to produce bio-based products. Botanicals Sabah is a company involved in various aspects of plant-based industry, including food, beverage, medicinal herbs products, landscaping, agrobusiness and consultancy services.

VISITS



2nd August 2023 -
**Greenstone Pharmaceutical HK,
Inc. Philippines**

Melissa Yeung Yap, Chief Executive Officer, Greenstone Pharmaceutical HK, Inc. from the Philippines and her colleague, Janice Tina were accompanied by Mr Lucas Duncan from Tadau Energy Sdn. Bhd. for this visit.

Greenstone is renowned for producing and promoting top-tier consumer healthcare products in the Philippines as well as Hong Kong. Their groundbreaking brand, KATINKO, has a significant presence in the Hong Kong market since its inception. In 1980, KATINKO and a range of other products made their debut in the Philippines.

They are dedicated to developing initiatives that contribute to societal advancement. Their aspiration for social progress reflects their commitment towards making a positive impact on society.

The focus of Melissa's visit was to explore the potential of developing products with SBC and the possibilities of expanding the company's ventures into Borneo.



28th August 2023 -
**New Energy and Industrial
Technology Development
Organization (NEDO)**

Dr Katsuro Yaoi, General Director of Bioeconomy Promotion Division, Materials Technology and Nanotechnology Department, New Energy, and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO) led this visit to discuss the current and future state of algae project in Sarawak.

The delegation was on a study visit to Chitose Carbon Capture Central Sarawak (C4); the World's First Large-Scale Microalgae Production Facility based on Flat Panel Photobioreactor (PBR) that is funded by NEDO.

At SBC, the delegation was briefed on microalgae research, SBC presented its milestone in achieving over 600 living microalgae collection, algae cultivation facility of 81m2 and 1,000m2 , which later became the proof of concept to C4 Sarawak setup.

VISITS



5th - 6th October 2023 -
**Distinguished Professor Stephen
Mayfield**

Professor Stephen Mayfield is a professor of biology at University California San Diego, United States. He worked on algae for the past 40 years, and much of it on *Chlamydomonas reinhardtii*. One of the sustainable efforts he contributed to the environment is the world's first biodegradable pair of shoes made from algae and plant-based fabrics. The shoes can decompose fully, and they are available online from a company called Blueview.

This was his first visit to Sarawak in 2023. He flew in from Singapore with a few missions in mind. One of the missions is to see an Orang Utan.

Prof Mayfield's visit also coincided with a visit from Mr Jerry Wong, the Business Line Coordinator at Arrow Medsource Group Limited (AMG). Jerry had made the journey from Taiwan to visit SBC. AMG provides comprehensive end-to-end strategic supply solutions for medical products and devices to clients around the globe.

During their visit, the discussion with Prof Mayfield Steve and Jerry centred around SBC's experiences in the research of microalgae cultivation, both in indoor and outdoor settings at SBC and at C4, a collaborative venture between Chitose Laboratory Corp, SBC, and Sarawak Energy Berhad, also known as the CHITOSE Carbon Capture Central Sarawak.

Dr Mayfield visited two conservation programmes while he was in Kuching: the Semenggoh Wildlife Centre and the Turtle Conservation Facility at the Talang Satang National Park. Both biodiversity conservation programmes were managed by the Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC).

VISITS



1st September 2023 -
Tropical Extracts Sdn. Bhd.

We hosted Mr. Jean-Yves Le Dantec and Ms. Laurence Le Dantec from Tropical Extracts Sdn. Bhd., a Malaysian company that specialises in the production and export of essential oils on 1st September 2023.

The company sources its essential oils from a species of plants grown in Malaysia, including agarwood, patchouli, gelam and kaffir lime, which support Malaysian farmers and essential oils producers in finding business opportunities in the USA and European flavours and fragrances industry. Earlier this year, Tropical Extracts entered into an exclusive distribution agreement with their partners, granting them exclusive distribution rights for essential oils and related products in the European and Turkish markets.

Mr. Jean-Vyes's visit primarily focused on exploring collaborative opportunities with SBC to source premium and unique ingredients of Sarawak/Borneo origin. The visit provided an opportunity for the exchange of insights and knowledge, with a special focus on our extensive essential oil library at SBC.



19th September 2023 -
**Charge d'Affaires Manu Bhalla,
Deputy Chief of Mission at the
U.S Embassy**

Charge d'Affaires Manu Bhalla of the U.S. Embassy in Malaysia led a delegation which included Ms Bryn West, Political Officer, Mr Chan Tsu Chong, Senior Political Specialist, Ms Susan Riggs, Deputy Economic Counselor, Ms Weshia Ooi, Economic Specialist, and Mr Gurdit Singh, Press Attaché to SBC.

Their visit to Sarawak was aimed at exploring opportunities for collaboration, and their dedication lies in providing support to both Sarawak and Malaysia across wide range of areas.

The U.S. Embassy has been actively supporting Malaysia's efforts in sustainable climate action, emphasising that this is a central objective of the embassy's mission.

He commended Sarawak's strong commitment to renewable energy, emphasising the significance of hydrogen, carbon capture storage, and algae production as key areas of focus. He expressed a keen interest in actively engaging in cooperative initiatives aimed at advancing these sustainable practices.

VISITS



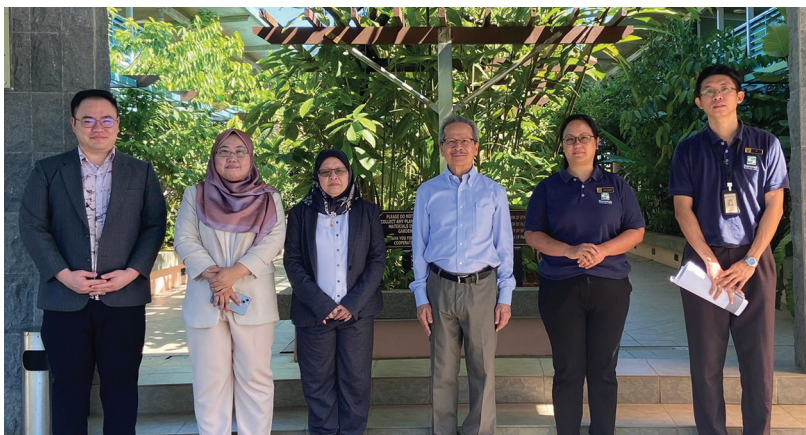
12th October 2024 -
His Excellency Michalis Rokas,
Ambassador and Head of
Delegation of the European
Union to Malaysia

It was an honour to receive His Excellency Michalis Rokas, Ambassador and Head of Delegation of the European Union to Malaysia. Accompanying him was Mr Denis Bareshch, Head of Trade.

Their visit to Sarawak was part of a mission to explore the state's initiatives in green energy, circular economy practices, and conservation efforts aimed at preserving Sarawak's rich biodiversity. This visit also emphasises the importance of international collaboration in addressing global environmental challenges and climate change.

His Excellency planted a 'Nyatoh' tree, scientifically known as *Palaquium pseudocuneatum*. This evergreen tree is indigenous to Borneo and renowned for its commercial gutta-percha latex, historically utilised as a polymer that acts like an electrical insulator.

His Excellency commended SBC for its impressive work in conserving Sarawak's unique biodiversity and encouraged exploring collaboration opportunities with European Union member nations.



26th October 2023 -
Academy of Sciences Malaysia
(ASM)

Datuk Dr Tengku Mohd Azzman Shariffadeen FASc, President at the Academy of Sciences Malaysia (ASM) and the Advisor on Science, Technology, and Innovation to the Prime Minister led a delegation consisting of Puan Hazami Habib, Chief Executive Officer of ASM, Ms Norazwa Musiran, Senior Analyst and Special Officer to the President of ASM, as well as Mr Najib Mohd Idris, Senior Marketing and Communications Officer.

The delegation introduced ASM's programmes and national initiatives to SBC and discussions emphasised how Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) can play a transformative role in steering Malaysia towards a knowledge-intensive economy by aligning STI priorities with economic objectives. Additionally, they highlighted the Research and Collaboration platform which functions as a network for innovation in Malaysia.

VISITS



10th November 2023 -
Sabah Forestry Department

Datuk Frederick Kugan, Chief Conservator of Forests led the delegation from Sabah Forestry Department. He was accompanied by Tuan Semilan Anak Ripot, Deputy Director (Forest Management) from the Forest Department Sarawak.

The Sabah Forestry Department is entrusted to manage forests and regulate all forestry activities in Sabah. Since its establishment, the Sabah Forestry Department operated with the concept of Sustainable Forest Management (SFM). Sabah is committed to ensure that at least fifty percent (50%) of its land mass is protected for sustainable forest use and tree cover is maintained for environmental protection, biodiversity conservation, and socio-economic well-being.

As part of the Greening Sarawak Campaign, which aimed to plant 35 million trees by 2023. Datuk Frederick planted a Belian tree scientifically known as *Eusideroxylon zwageri* which was provided by the Forest Department Sarawak. Belian, a species endemic to Borneo, is also known as “Borneo ironwood”.



VISITS



15th November 2023 -
**Sarawak Trade and Tourism
Office Singapore (STATOS)**

On 15th November 2023, we welcomed a visit from Sarawak Trade and Tourism Office Singapore (Statos), led by Mr Tan Teng Cheng, Manager, Trade & Investment, Sarawak Trade and Tourism Office Singapore, together with Mr Raymond Lee, Vice President of Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC) Asia Pacific, Mr Kei Hirata, Managing Director of TOS Energy Malaysia Sdn Bhd (a subsidiary of Toshiba group). Mr Kiyohiko Iwasa, CCS Engineer of Toshiba Energy Systems & Solutions Corporation and Mr Rosli Manaf, Engineering Manager of TOS Energy Malaysia Sdn Bhd. The delegation was here to explore the potential of algae cultivation in CCU-carbon capture, and utilisation.

Throughout this tour, SBC shared the success achieved in algae production as proof-of-concept utilising carbon dioxide. The delegates shared on their activities including a project on carbon capture plant in Japan.



21st November 2023 -
Perlis State Government

A delegation from Perlis State Government, which consisted of representatives from Perlis State Treasury, Perlis Economic Planning Department, Perlis State Forestry Department and Forest Community Perlis was led by Mr Azmi bin Abdul Talip, Deputy State Financial Secretary and Mr Ag. Shaffie bin Ag. Ahmadni, Director of Perlis State Forestry Department.

Perlis aspires to develop and implement their Access and Benefit Sharing Framework. Their visit focused on learning SBC's core functions, the implementation of Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) with the indigenous communities and exploring new ideas in the preservation and conservation of biodiversity resources.

The team aims to work with the local communities of Perlis to generate sustainable income through responsible and nature-friendly initiatives. Perlis sets its sight on establishing the Perlis Biodiversity Centre (PBC) which will serve as a hub for research, education, and conservation.

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STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

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Anugerah Perkhidmatan Cemerlang 2023

Arlene Alicia anak Toaiang
Research Officer

Dick Brandon anak Devi
Research Assistant

Fazariah binti Kipali
Administrative Assistant

Dr Kon Nyuk Fong
Research Officer

Madeleine anak Bujang
Assistant Research Officer

Mariani binti Omarzuki @ Marzuki
Research Officer

Dr Mohammad Farhan Darin bin Azri
Research Officer

Dr Ng Lee Tze
Research Officer

Spencer Russel anak Samuel
Security Guard

Sijil Perkhidmatan Cemerlang 2023 (Laporan Penilaian Prestasi Tahunan 85% and above)

Dr Ann Anni Basik
Research Officer

Arlene Alicia anak Toaiang
Research Officer

Arzie Binti Ramli
Assistant Research Officer

Asma' Saiyidatina Aishah binti Abdul Rahman
Assistant Research Officer

Aziman Ahmad
Research Assistant

Barbara anak Ngikoh @ Nyikoh
Research Officer

Bernard anak Jerome
Pembantu Awam (Gardener)

Cassandra Hazel anak Mijilit
Assistant Research Officer

Dr Chai Li Chin
Research Officer

Chaliy Chang Li
Research Assistant

Dr Chia Ying Ying
Research Officer

Clare Heinzie anak Juhin
Administrative Officer

Clifford anak Junaidi Kutoi
Research Officer

Dick Brandon anak Devi
Research Assistant

Elizabeth Alice anak Gabriel Nasib
Administrative Assistant

Ellen Tan Chia Min
Research Assistant

Elsa Isla Jong
Assistant Research Officer

Fazariah Binti Kipali
Administrative Assistant

Frankie anak Kumbak
Research Assistant

Freddie anak Ambrose Ambol
Research Assistant

Gilbert Lau Sei Kung
Research Officer

Hafizah binti Booty
Research Officer

Harny anak Chapi
Research Officer

Hii Mei Mei
Research Officer

Holed anak Juboi
Research Officer

Jorim anak Ujang
Research Officer

Julian Voong Cheng Liang
Research Officer

Keekoti Sue anak Betin
Research Officer

Dr Kon Nyuk Fong
Research Officer

Dr Mohammad Farhan Darin bin Azri
Research Officer

Dr Mohd Farith bin Kota
Research Officer

Mounsey Muskie anak Moding
Research Assistant

Dr Ng Lee Tze
Research Officer

Ng Yik Han
Research Officer

Noor Mehrunnika Dawood Sha Sulaiman Kamal Batcha
Assistant Research Officer

Noor Pahtiwati binti Bohari
Research Officer

Dr Noreha binti Mahidi
Research Officer

STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

Sijil Perkhidmatan Cemerlang 2023 (Laporan Penilaian Prestasi Tahunan 85% and above)

Nur Khairun Nisa' binti Mohd Sallehudin
Research Officer

Nuraqilah binti Othman
Research Officer

Rigep anak Anyain
Research Assistant

Rosy anak Tian Lin
Administrative Assistant

Selwynn anak Jaoi Edward
Assistant Administrative Officer

Siti Muhaini binti Haris Fadzillah
Research Officer

Sofina Gari
Assistant Research Officer

Spencer Russel anak Samuel
Security Guard

Stanley Ho Han Kiat
Research Officer

Suria binti Johari
Research Officer

Tu Chu Lee
Research Officer

Tuanku Sukri bin Tuanku Rapahie
Research Assistant

Van Mc Queen anak Thomas
Assistant Research Officer

Zurien Amiera binti Irwan
Assistant Research Officer

Dr Lau Ching Ching
Research Officer

Lee Jong Jen
Research Officer

Dr Ling How Lie
Research Officer

Ling Sheau Jing
Research Officer

Lucy Noraini Mitis
Accounts Assistant

Madeleine anak Bujang
Assistant Research Officer

Margarita Naming
Research Officer (Head of R&D)

Mariani binti Omarzuki @ Marzuki
Research Officer

Melissa Chang May Fung
Research Officer

Michele Mejin
Research Officer

Mitchel Constance anak George
Research Officer

Mohamad Nasar bin Pawi
Assistant Research Officer

Certificate of Achievement for Without Sick Leave (2021 to 2023)

Eighteen (18) Consecutive Years (2006-2023)
Rosy anak Tian Lin

Sixteen (16) Consecutive Years (2008 - 2023)
Sabda bin Safiee

Fourteen (14) Consecutive Years (2010 - 2023)
Margarita Naming

Eleven (11) Consecutive Years (2013 - 2023)
Barbara anak Ngikoh @ Nyikoh

Eight (8) Consecutive Years (2016 - 2023)
Hafizah binti Booty
Lee Jong Jen

Six (6) Consecutive Years (2018 - 2023)
Melissa Chang May Fung

Five (5) Consecutive Years (2019 - 2023)
Ng Yik Han
Romney anak Dawur
Selwynn anak Jaoi Edward

Three (3) Consecutive Years (2021 - 2023)
Dr Yeo Tiong Chia
Arzie binti Ramli
Dr Lau Ching Ching
Dr Ling How Lie
Nur Khairun' Nisa binti Mohd Sallehudin
Spencer Russel anak Samuel
Voon Boon Ting
Yong Sy Fuh

The background consists of several overlapping, curved shapes in various shades of blue, creating a dynamic and layered effect. The text is centered within the largest, most prominent shape.

SOCIAL WELFARE AND SPORT CLUB

SOCIAL WELFARE AND SPORT CLUB

Activities

Corporate Social Responsibility programme at Rumah Seri Kenangan, Kuching - 12th August 2023

Bringing smiles all around at Rumah Seri Kenangan!

We had a heartwarming Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) day on 12th August 2023 to connect with the elderly and be part of their community. SBC expressed its gratitude to the Pengetua, Puan Sharifah Ranimah, and staff of Rumah Seri Kenangan for their warm hospitality and collaboration.



Caving at Massa Cave, Kampung Semadang, Penrissen - 21st May 2023

Exploring Massa Cave with the Malaysian Nature Society deepened our appreciation for nature's wonders and conservation efforts.

Selangau Raft Safari - 29th July 2023

Our love for adventure and sportsmanship shone through in our rafting escapades in Selangau, Serian and Padawan. SBC teams excelled, securing top 10 spots and even winning championships, showcasing our spirit of excellence and camaraderie.

Maludam Explore Race - 26th August 2023

We made history by joining the Maludam Explorace organised by the Sarawak Forestry Corporation. All three SBC teams triumphed among 32 competitors, demonstrating our resilience and determination.

Garden Amazing Race (MAKSAK) - 28th October 2023

Throughout the year, we supported charitable causes, joined national and international runs that challenged and enhanced our endurance capabilities, and participated in community events like the Garden Amazing Race (MAKSAK) to spread joy and goodwill.



SARAWAK BIODIVERSITY CENTRE

KM20, Jalan Borneo Heights,
Semengoh, Locked Bag No. 3032
93990 Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia.
📞 +6 082-610610 📠 +6 082-611535
✉ biosar@sbc.org.my

www.sbc.org.my