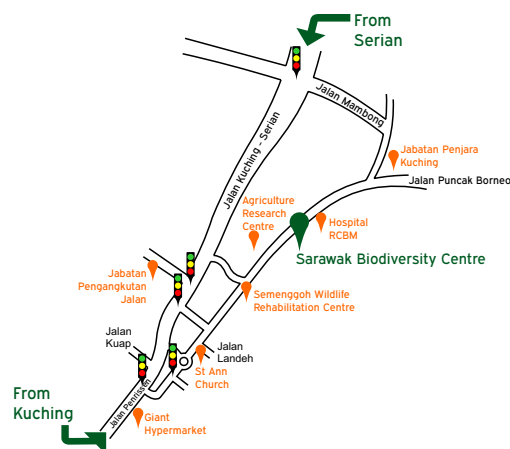


In 1997, the Sarawak State Government enacted the Sarawak Biodiversity Centre Ordinance. The Sarawak Biodiversity Centre (SBC) was established the following year to initiate programmes for sustainable development of biodiversity in the State.

SBC is entrusted to:

- facilitate the documentation of traditional knowledge of Sarawak's indigenous communities on their utilisation of biological resources;
- initiate biotechnology based research and product development from Sarawak's vault of diverse biological resources; and
- ensure fair and equitable benefit sharing arising from the development and commercialisation of these products



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VISION

Enriching Lives with Breakthrough Innovations in Biodiversity

MISSION

To Decode Biodiversity for the Benefit of Mankind

What We Do



TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE DOCUMENTATION
 Document traditional knowledge on communities' use of biodiversity



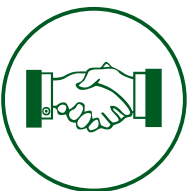
R&D BIODISCOVERY
 Implement bioprospecting programmes on Sarawak's indigenous biodiversity



CONSERVATION OF USEFUL PLANTS
 Propagate Sarawak's indigenous plants for conservation and appreciation



AWARENESS & APPRECIATION
 Conduct biodiversity-biotechnology appreciation and awareness programmes



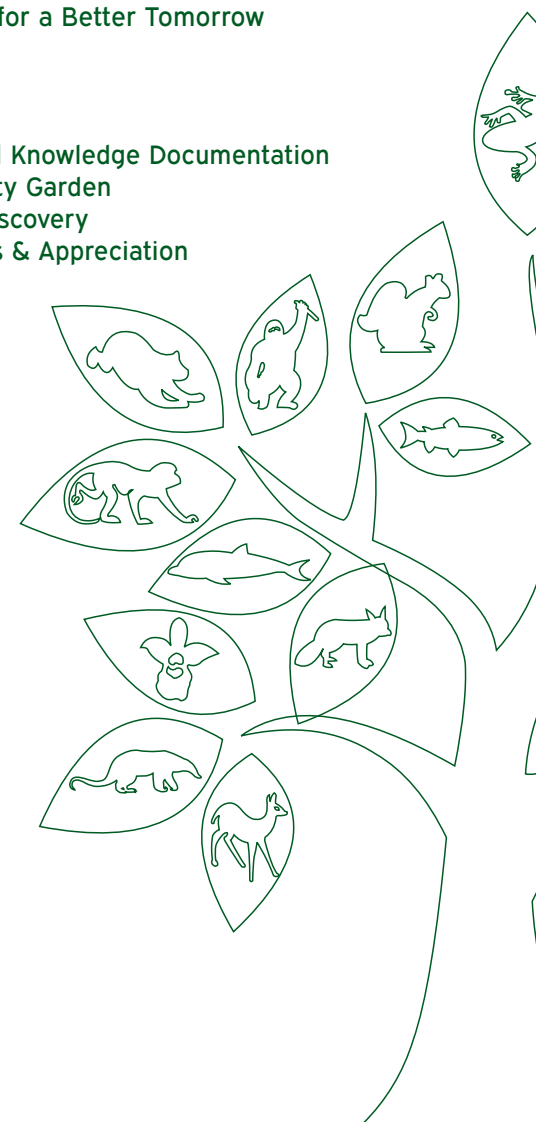
NETWORKING
 Collaborate with organizations with similar interests



SARAWAK BIODIVERSITY CENTRE

Biodiversity for a Better Tomorrow

Traditional Knowledge Documentation
 Biodiversity Garden
 R&D Biodiscovery
 Awareness & Appreciation



R&D Biodiscovery

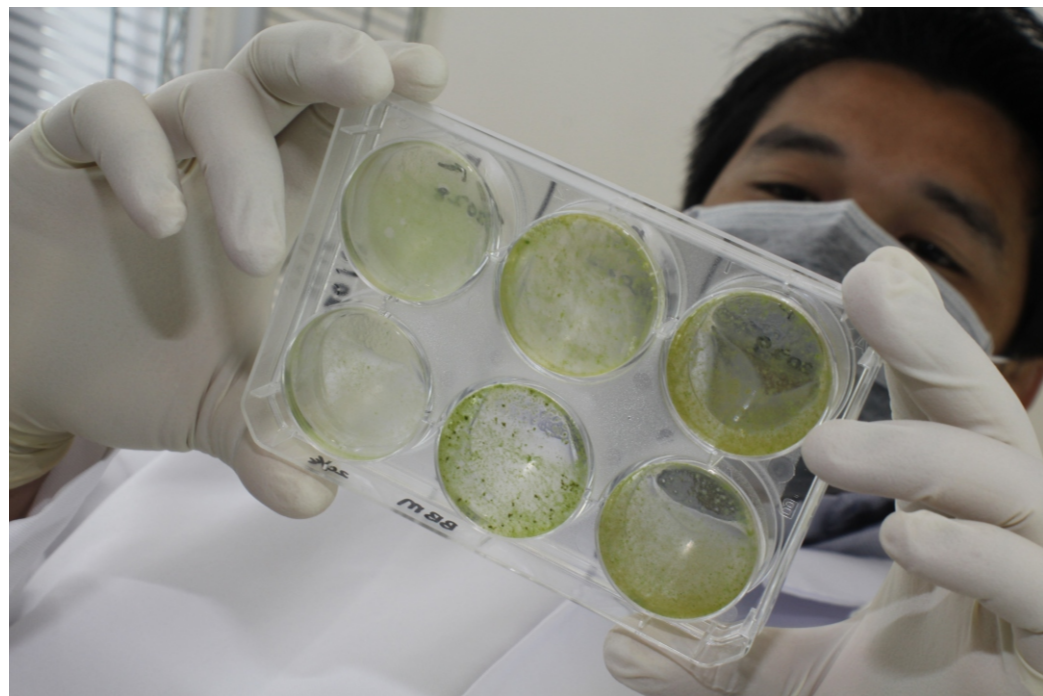
SBC's R&D programme aims to discover breakthrough innovations that lead to development of novel and useful products from Sarawak's rich biodiversity.

Among the activities carried out are:

- compilation a library of natural products from indigenous plants and microbes found in Sarawak;
- screening for bioactive compounds; and
- isolation and sequencing of genes from useful organism that have medicinal industrial application

Through a transparent Access and Benefit Sharing legal framework, as well as a structured collaboration platform, SBC forms strategic partnerships with research institutions and companies for discoveries and development of natural products such as pharmaceuticals, nutraceuticals, cosmeceuticals, and other applications that will enrich lives.

SBC's Natural Product Library and database of Traditional Knowledge of Sarawak's indigenous communities offers a one stop access to a world of discoveries from the forests of Sarawak.



Traditional Knowledge Documentation

Sarawak has over 20 different indigenous communities which can be categorized into four main groups; Iban, Bidayuh, Orang Ulu and Melanau. Each of these ethnic groups has inherited a rich array of traditional knowledge from their ancestors on how they utilise biodiversity, much of which have not been documented.

There is a concern about the loss of knowledge as a result of changing lifestyles, priorities, availability of modern amenities and the diminishing dependence of indigenous communities on biodiversity.

The growing trend for natural products development and bioprospecting from the world's natural resources has made it even more important for documentation of such knowledge.

The main objective of the Traditional Knowledge (TK) Documentation Programme carried out by SBC is to facilitate the local indigenous communities in the State in preserving their traditional knowledge through proper recording and documenting techniques.

This is to ensure that TK is not lost, and that the indigenous communities are duly recognised through equitable sharing of benefits when their TK leads to new discoveries and development of products.

The programme also encourages the indigenous communities to cultivate useful plants for their own use, as landscape for their surroundings and for awareness and appreciation.

