



# THE HEART OF BORNEO INDONESIA



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## What is the Heart of Borneo Initiative?

**Heart of Borneo (HoB)** is an initiative of Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia and Malaysia to preserve one of Borneo's best remaining rainforests and water catchments in the interior of the island for the welfare of present and future generations.

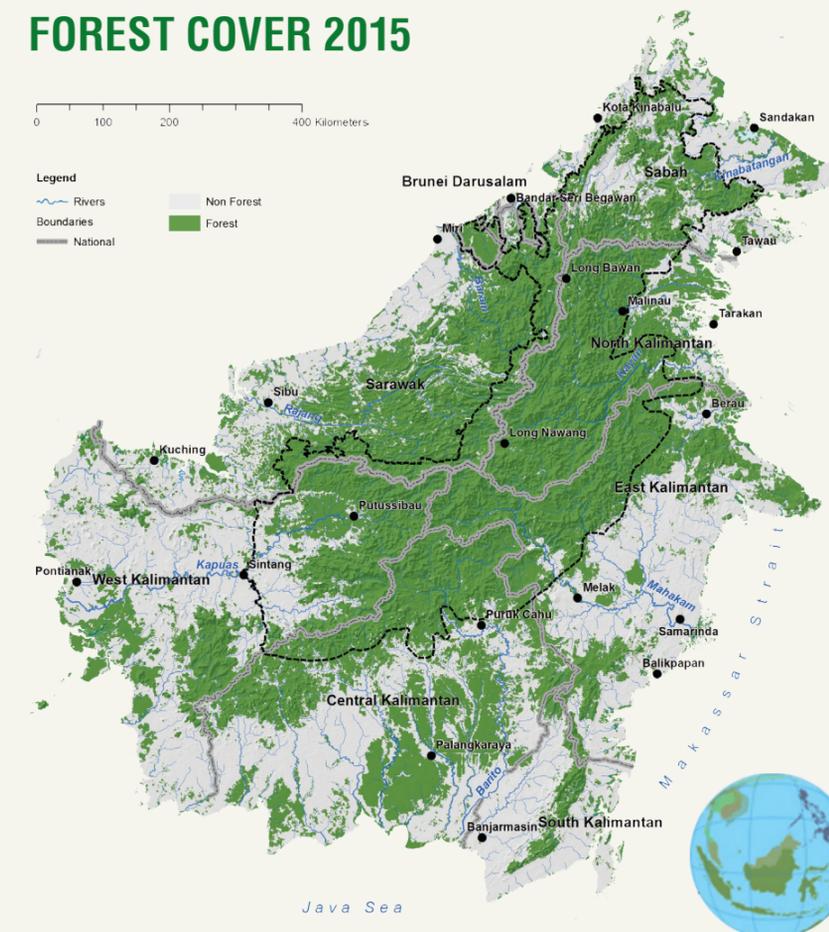
**Three Countries' Initiative and Co-operation.** In Bali, on February 12, 2007, the Governments of Brunei Darussalam,

Indonesia and Malaysia declared a commitment to preserve and sustainably manage the HoB area.

**What is the area of the Heart of Borneo?** The HoB area covers approximately 23 million hectares of ecologically connected forest across three countries. A large portion of this land — of which 71% is dominated by tropical rain forests — is located in Indonesia.

Country	Width	
	(hectare)	(%)
<b>Total Brunei Darussalam</b>	<b>409,861.08</b>	<b>1.75%</b>
Belait	264,005.36	1.13%
Temburong	94,784.80	0.40%
Tutong	51,070.91	0.22%
<b>Total Indonesia</b>	<b>16,890,809.92</b>	<b>71.09%</b>
West Kalimantan	4,916,316.41	20.98%
Central Kalimantan	3,008,377.28	12.84%
East Kalimantan	3,756,672.88	16.03%
North Kalimantan	5,209,443.35	22.23%
<b>Total Malaysia</b>	<b>6,130,943.50</b>	<b>26.17%</b>
Sarawak	2,187,949.99	9.34%
Sabah	3,942,993.50	16.83%
<b>Total HoB</b>	<b>23,431,614.49</b>	<b>100%</b>

## FOREST COVER 2015



## Why is the HoB important?

The HoB plays a critical role in securing water services and carbon stock, preserving biodiversity, ecosystem connectivity and building resilience to climate change for the sustainable development of the whole island of Borneo and wellbeing of its people. This area also plays a vital function as a water catchment for the island. Most of the main rivers (14 of the 20) such as the Kapuas, Barito and Mahakam Rivers – have their headwaters in the HoB.

The HoB area boasts unsurpassed biological richness with about 40 to 50% of the world's flora and fauna found in Borneo. What is more, approximately 500 new species of flora and fauna have been discovered in the region in the last 10 years.

The natural assets of the HoB are invaluable, and so are the social and cultural assets of its population, especially the 1 million indigenous people who directly depend on forests for their livelihoods, food, income, water and culture, and have contributed to maintaining the forests and preserving the rich and extraordinary biodiversity of the Heart of Borneo based on their customary regulations and conservation values.

Historical extent of Borneo forest cover

Non Forest Forest



SOURCE: WWF-GERMANY & WWF-INDONESIA GIS TEAM



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Based on the data from Ministry of Environment and Forestry of Republic of Indonesia, in 2014-2015, at least 0.82 million hectares per year of Indonesia's forests are lost and the major drivers were the forest fires. Meanwhile, WWF-Indonesia stated that, from 2010 to 2015, there are around 600.000 hectares of forests in the HoB area have been converted.

Currently, only 55% of Borneo's original forest remains. If irresponsible practices continue, the function of the forests will decline, biodiversity loss will worsen and the incidence of natural disasters will rise.

A wise management of the HoB area, therefore, will help build sustainability of one Borneo's best remaining rainforests for the welfare of present and future generations.

## Why should three countries cooperate on the HoB Initiative?

The HoB area is comprised of three countries that share a common landscape and depend on key ecosystem services of the area for their prosperity and sustainability. Socio-culturally, the communities at the border between Indonesia and Malaysia have very close relationships. This makes for a common basis to cooperate and strengthen sustainable natural resource management and economic prosperity in the border area while respecting each country's sovereignty and regulations.

## Conservation and sustainable development in HoB

Conservation in the HoB area means improving the management and governance of protected areas such as national parks, wildlife and nature reserves.

Promoting conservation also means to adopt a landscape and ecosystem approach as the basis for government land use planning especially in the priority landscapes and sub-landscapes in the HoB, and adjacent areas that are very important for ecological connectivity, species and genetic flow.

Together, the three countries are working to make the HoB a model for 'inclusive green development' by mainstreaming biodiversity and the value of ecosystem services in productive activities and business models in agriculture, forestry, ecotourism, energy, and other sectors. These activities promote sustainability as long as they also ensure the access of local and indigenous communities to natural resources and support their livelihoods, integrate strong social values and are rooted in traditional knowledge, and the cultural heritage of indigenous and local communities in the HoB.



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## Why Heart of Borneo, not Heart of Kalimantan?

The name Borneo refers to the whole island, which has already been recognized internationally. Kalimantan refers only to the Indonesian part of the island. The choice of the Heart of Borneo demonstrates that the Heart of Borneo initiative is owned by the three countries that cooperate for that purpose. Heart of Borneo in Indonesia is known as *Jantung Kalimantan*.

### Where is HoB area in Indonesia?

In the declaration of 2007, the HoB area covers 10 districts in three provinces; West Kalimantan (Sintang, Melawi and Kapuas Hulu), Central Kalimantan (Katingan, Gunung Mas, Barito Utara and Murung Raya) and East Kalimantan (Malinau, Nunukan and Kutai Barat).

In March 2008, the Indonesian Government issued Government Regulation No. 26 of 2008 which declared the HoB area as one of the National Strategic Areas (*Kawasan Strategis Nasional/KSN*) in Indonesia. In this KSN, six additional districts were added to the HoB, namely in Central Kalimantan (Kapuas and Seruyan) and in East Kalimantan (Kutai Timur, Kutai Kartanegara, Berau and Bulungan).



After the establishment of the new province of North Kalimantan in 2012, the HoB now covers four provinces and 17 districts, including Mahakam Ulu District, the new district separated from Kutai Barat.

The status of forest in the HoB area in Indonesia	West Kalimantan	Central Kalimantan	East Kalimantan	North Kalimantan
Protected Forest	1,263,192 ha	607,798 ha	1,394,313 ha	1,039,774 ha
Production Forest	312,505 ha	95,037 ha	238,823 ha	369,245 ha
Conversion Production Forest	30,841 ha	21,331 ha	8,360 ha	1,330 ha
Limited Production Forest	1,054,852 ha	1,938,381 ha	1,771,664 ha	2,083,863 ha
National Park	1,052,430 ha	124,816 ha	-	1,279,173 ha
Nature Reserve	-	180,178 ha	12,851 ha	-
Nature Recreation Park	1,349 ha	-	-	-
Water Bodies	25,623 ha	5,566 ha	9,306 ha	12,034 ha
Other Land Use	1,177,203 ha	30,679 ha	327,474 ha	424,006 ha

Source : Ministry of Environment & Forestry, 2016

## Who will manage the Heart of Borneo Initiative?

The HoB is a government initiative. Its programs and activities are initiated by the government, in collaboration with partners.

In Indonesia, HoB activities are coordinated by HoB National Working Group (*Kelompok Kerja Nasional/Pokjanas* HoB) and working groups at provincial and district levels. *Pokjanas* members are representatives of relevant ministries such as Ministry of Environment & Forestry, Ministry of Agrarian & Spatial

Planning, Ministry of Agriculture, National Development Planning Agency, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Tourism, and Geospatial Information Board. The HoB National Working Group is established by Decree under the Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs. Likewise for the working groups at provincial and district levels, members are from relevant agencies and institutions and are mandated by the Governor and the Head of District.

The HoB partners are institutions, community organizations and traditional associations, academic institutes and research centers. These partners have an important role in helping the government to carry out the activities of HoB programmatic strategy, individually or in collaboration.

The HoB Initiative is increasingly evolving into an inclusive platform enabling collaborations and exchange among partners, agencies, and community organizations whereby stakeholders take responsibilities to work together to improve the sustainability of productive sectors and the governance of natural resources and biodiversity. This is a critical value for which the HoB Initiative has been a leading example. Collaborations also represent essential enabling conditions for green and inclusive development in the HoB and the entire island, based on the resilience of ecosystems and the conservation of biodiversity.

## Heart of Borneo programmatic strategy

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> HoB Trilateral Meeting in 2008, the three countries agreed on five main programs, namely:

The programs in the HoB National Strategic Plan and Action (NSPA) for 2015-2019 are:

Heart of Borneo Initiative	Heart of Borneo Initiative in Indonesia
Transboundary management	Establish enabling condition for the HoB implementation and program acceleration
Protected areas management	Promote sustainable development of natural resources outside the protected area in HoB
Sustainable natural resources management	Promote protected areas best management practices
Ecotourism development	Support trans-border sustainable economic development
Capacity building	Encourage ecotourism development
	Support capacity building

### What is the status of the Heart of Borneo's national spatial plan?

Since 2008, the HoB area in Indonesia has been designated as National Strategic Area (KSN) by the Government of Indonesia, as Land Border Regions of the Republic of Indonesia and *Jantung Kalimantan* (Heart of Borneo) in the Province of West Kalimantan, Central Kalimantan and East Kalimantan. An area designated as KSN means an area that is essential to national

security, economic growth, socio-cultural preservation, natural resource utilization and functionality, and carrying capacity of the environment.

HoB area is very important to biodiversity protection, watershed protection and anticipate climate change. The HoB programs in Indonesia always align with the regional spatial planning and development plans.

## What kind of economy for the HoB?

A fair, inclusive and within planetary boundaries is critical. It requires innovative technologies and sustainable natural resource management to meet the energy, food and water needs, especially of the indigenous and local communities in the HoB. It also requires using land and other resources more efficiently, reducing waste, reclaiming degraded lands, and shifting away from resource-intensive consumption and production patterns. Secure tenure and access to natural resources are imperative to sustain the livelihoods of rural communities.



The HoB promotes oil palm plantations that fulfill the requirements and criteria of the Indonesian Sustainable Palm Oil (ISPO) and Roundtable Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO). The HoB also works together with timber concessions to ensure best management practices and certification such as The Indonesian Timber Legality Assurance System (SVLK) and FSC. The mining sector is also encouraged to apply best mining practices that minimize environmental and social costs.

The HoB represents a unique place to develop Green Ecotourism and support a world-class, innovative, trans-border, green destination for ecotourism in South East Asia with integrated packages linking Brunei, Kalimantan, Sabah and Sarawak. Ecotourism is one example where cooperation across the three countries can clearly strengthen the efforts of individual countries and add value to the range of existing ecotourism offers in Borneo.

## What are the rights and role of local and indigenous communities in the Heart of Borneo?

Much of the HoB is regarded by Dayak ethnic groups as their homeland. The sense of belonging and closeness with the environment is the main reason indigenous and local peoples have traditionally looked after their ancestral land, protected the forest and rivers, and regulated the use of natural resources, based on their traditional knowledge and experience. Over generations, indigenous and local peoples have developed practices to grow crops, experimented with new cultivars, used and processed natural resources into high-value products.



Local support is crucial to the success of any initiative, including the HoB. The big scale and scope of a conservation intervention like the HoB remain contingent on broader support at local and national levels. Some local community initiatives in HoB like Forum Iban and FORMADAT (recipient of the Equator Prize award in 2015) have been established and engaged by the HoB Initiative.

### AREAS CONSERVED BY COMMUNITIES IN HOB INDONESIA

Local and indigenous communities in HoB have played an important role as stewards of the rich natural resources of the island and keepers of related traditional knowledge. Their practices have helped conserve and preserve important biodiversity in both protected areas and in other land-uses, including freshwater habitats. A process of documentation and mapping is under way. So far, 140,752 ha have been documented as areas conserved by communities and under their active management. Source : WGI and WWF-Indonesia, 2017

Moreover, in 2014, community leaders from the HoB agreed to form a forum to build communication and engagement with the HoB Trilateral Initiative. Local constituencies are crucial to generate the sense of ownership and accountability at local level necessary for the success of a broad, multiple-landscape, and multi-country initiative like the HoB.



Further information on Heart of Borneo Indonesia, please contact :

**Indonesian HoB National Working Group**  
Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs,  
Republic of Indonesia

Jl. Lapangan Banteng Timur No. 2-4,  
Jakarta 10710, Indonesia  
Tel: +62 21 3500 901  
Fax: +62 21 3441 261  
Email: [secretariat@heartofborneo.or.id](mailto:secretariat@heartofborneo.or.id)

[www.heartofborneo.or.id](http://www.heartofborneo.or.id)

