



WWF

FACTSHEET

HoB

2018

Heart of Borneo

A paradise of Biological Wonder

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BIODIVERSITY
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Borneo, the world's third largest island, is a treasure trove for biodiversity and natural resources. An estimated 6% of global biodiversity resides in the forests that still cover half of its surface. Much of this lies in the Heart of Borneo, an approximately 23 million of hectares belt of tropical rainforest that covers the territories of Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia and Malaysia and provide ecosystem services to 11 million Bornean people.

This immense natural capital is under threat because of deforestation and development driven by unsustainable exploitation and poor governance of natural resources. Borneo has now lost half of its historical forest cover and rapid deforestation continues inside and outside the Heart of Borneo, a process that threatens species survival and undermines the wellbeing of future generations in Borneo.

In 2007, the three Bornean governments recognized these threats and launched the trilateral Heart of Borneo Initiative, balancing biodiversity conservation with sustainable economic production for the benefit of people and nature alike.

The Heart of Borneo 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.

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 its people. This area also plays a vital function as a water catchment for the island.

WWF identifies Borneo as one of its top global conservation targets and channels its support to the HoB Initiative through the WWF Heart of Borneo Programme – a partnership of WWF-Indonesia and WWF-Malaysia.

Country	Width	
	(hectare)	(%)
Total Brunei Darussalam	409,861.08	1.75%
Belait	264,005.36	1.13%
Temburong	94,784.80	0.40%
Tutong	51,070.91	0.22%
Total Indonesia	16,890,809.92	71.09%
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%
Total Malaysia	6,130,943.50	26.17%
Sarawak	2,187,949.99	9.34%
Sabah	3,942,993.50	16.83%
Total HoB	23,431,614.49	100%

THE THREATS TO BORNEO



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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.

Compared to other areas in the same region, the forests of Borneo are still in relatively good condition, covering about half of the island. However, the same pressures and threats that have driven deforestation and biodiversity loss in other parts of Asia are catching up fast in Borneo.

Borneo is in danger of losing its major ecosystems and the valuable ecosystem services they provide which are critical to the long-term

survival of local communities and the economies – both national and regional – of Brunei Darussalam, the Indonesian provinces in Kalimantan, and the Malaysian states of Sabah and Sarawak.

BORNEO FOREST COVER 2015



The Environmental Status Executive Summary Report 2016 stated that the threats currently facing Borneo's ecosystems are:

FIRE. Fires are a major threat, particularly to peat swamp forests and lowland rainforests and especially at the edges of oil palm plantation areas, where their 'accidental' nature must be questioned as they pave the way for further development of the existing plantations.



LAND CONVERSION. Expansion of oil palm and pulpwood plantations and large areas of natural forest destruction inside mining concessions, are major factors in the continued deterioration of Bornean ecosystems.



INADEQUATE SPATIAL PLANNING. The lack of coordinated spatial planning has resulted in allocation of licenses into environmentally sensitive areas as well as habitats for species that include orangutans, elephants, rhino and irrawaddy dolphin.



WWF IN BORNEO

Borneo is recognized as one of WWF's global priority places. WWF has been active in Borneo for several decades through its national offices in Indonesia and Malaysia.

The Heart of Borneo Initiative will significantly contribute to WWF Global Conservation targets, such as:

FORESTS - Preserving natural capital by enlarging and restoring connectivity between protected area networks and larger landscape forest ecosystems, therefore, providing the foundation to fulfil our other goals.

WILDLIFE - Promoting effective conservation of key species like orangutans, elephants, clouded leopards, proboscis monkeys, Sumatran rhinoceros and Irrawaddy dolphins.

WATER - The HoB will promote efforts in protecting key watershed areas and securing the provision of water ecosystem services.

FOOD - Managing sustainably agriculture production to ensure biodiversity conservation, resilience to climate change, and benefits to rural communities.

GOVERNANCE - Engaging civil society and empowering indigenous communities to secure their rights to continue to manage sustainably the natural capital of the island based on the social capital of the traditional knowledge and practices of the Indigenous Peoples.

CLIMATE CHANGE - Protecting forest and promoting sustainable management of forest resources to retain our vast forest and therefore will be contributing towards resilience in climate change adaptation and mitigation.



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THE SIX WWF HEART OF BORNEO PRIORITY LANDSCAPES

These six landscapes cover around 10 million hectares area and represents HOB's main principal idea, conservation cooperation and transboundary sustainable development.

1. The Crocker Range – Central Forest Landscape:

Leveraging on flagship species of orangutan and Borneo elephant to anchor areas vital for sanctuaries and wildlife corridors.

2. The Transboundary Elephant Landscape (Southern Part of Sabah and North Kalimantan):

Conserving Borneo elephant by improving protection and management with key government agencies and private sectors across Sabah and North Kalimantan.

3. The Brunei – Sabah – Sarawak – North Kalimantan Transboundary Landscape:

Managing intact forests and restoring degraded forest along and outside a network of the eight protected areas with stringent conservation measures for wildlife corridors and Payment for Ecosystem Services.

4. The Sarawak – West Kalimantan Transboundary Landscape (Batang Ai – Lanjak Entimau – Betung Kerihun – Danau Sentarum):

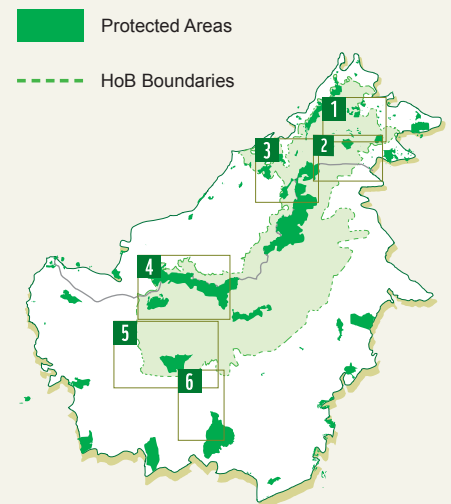
Green economy demonstrating how sustainable economic development can be integrated with conservation.

5. The Muller – Schwanner – Arabela Landscape:

Empowering local people to be environmental stewards; transforming business to adopt sustainable commodity productions.

6. The Katingan Landscape:

Maintaining connectivity for movements of orangutans and dispersal of endangered wildlife between Sebangau National Park and the Schwanner Highlands with peatland area (Sebangau National Park) in the lowland.



FUTURE PLAN



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GOAL 1: TRANSFORMATIONAL OF POLICY FRAMEWORKS

- Clearing government policy and regulation framework toward HoB that support policies to incentivized of sustainable management of natural capital.
- HoB is under ASEAN Agenda.
- By 2020, a Sustainable infrastructure development plan accepted for the HoB.
- Promoting HoB into the local, national and international level.

GOAL 2: TRANSFORMATION OF BUSINESS BEHAVIOUR

- Establishing the conditions required to drive behavioural change.
- Reducing negative impacts (and promote positive impacts) of business on natural capital.
- Measuring and reporting on the impacts of behavioural change on natural capital.

GOAL 3: EMPOWERING CIVIL SOCIETY

- Improving community livelihood/economy development.
- Increasing area under full/partial community management.
- Strengthening the CSOs/CBOs Network in the HoB.

GOAL 4: PRESERVING NATURAL CAPITAL

- The populations and habitats of the key species in the six priority landscapes are protected and/or sustainably managed.
- The endangered ecosystems in the six priority landscapes are no longer threatened by conversion.
- The environmental status of Borneo is effectively monitoring for practical applications.



Why we are here

To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.

wwf.panda.org/borneo

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