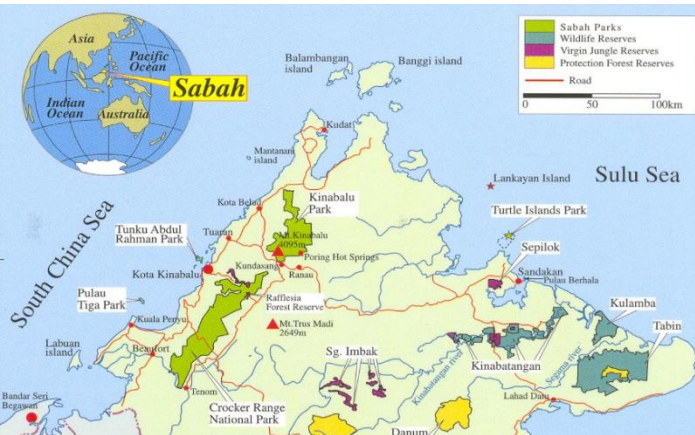


Da'BEST

(Dagat Community-Based Ecologically Sustainable Tourism), Lower Kinabatangan-Segama Wetlands.



Dagat village is located near to the largest RAMSAR sites in Malaysia and Tabin Forest Reserve.





- Dagat is home to the indigenous tidung people.
- we have been living in this area since 1980s.
- The main economic activity is fishing, we don't have palm oil.



- Homestay in Dagat has established officially in 2006.
- In fact, eco-tourism is a supportive income stream for indigenous ethnic in Dagat.
- The market for eco-tourism was mostly from Japan.

- Eco-tourism activity in Dagat conserved the natural environment and preserved the indigenous cultural heritage.



- Tanduo Village incident, Lahad Datu in 2013 has led to a sharp fall in the rate of tourist arrival especially those who came from Japan.



- Homestay owner realized that they have to revive their homestay back to the way it used to be.
- Some of the young generation had to come back to their village to help and looked for a way on how to start up a plan.



- On March 2015, Dagat representatives began to participate in a series of workshops with other villages in the RAMSAR site.
- The event was held at the Kulamba Field Centre.



- The process involved discussion and find ways forward to address a wide range of issues.
- Thus, community mapping training was held on December 2015 which was also the first step for us to build capacity.



- The mapping data consist of village locality, village land, tourism sites, areas of cultural and historical value, NTFP, fishing areas, encroached fishing areas, potential tagal sites, traditional boundaries and traditional fishing boundaries.



- Through community mapping, we will be able to map out our local natural resources more effectively.



- Community mapping also enables us to plan, manage and decide tourist attraction sites more effectively.



- In order to have a better management plan, the committee members of Dagat Village Homestay have attended and discussed the strategic planning of eco-tourism in Dagat on June 2016.



Rosli Jukrana 2016

This was done through a workshop organized by Community-Based Ecologically Sustainable Tourism (C'BEST) from Forever Sabah, Koperasi Pelancongan Mukim Batu Puteh (KOPEL), and Land Empowerment Animals People (LEAP) with a joint effort from the homestay owner.



The outcome from the workshop is a strategic planning of eco-tourism in Dagat.

- Therefore, Da'BEST program was established on June 2016 to facilitate the plan.
- Da'BEST is aims to transform Dagat into among the most excellent, prosperous, and famous community-based sustainable tourism which promote the way of living in harmony with nature in accordance with preserved cultural heritage.

- On top of that, we want to prove to everyone that we can utilize our land and natural resources in a sustainable way and take this opportunity to be part of the nature guardians.

- Now, Da'BEST have been implementing the plan under the supervision of C'BEST, KOPEL and LEAP.
- This year, we finally received recce program from travel agent to promote Dagat into a whole new level of tourism market.



- Therefore, Da'BEST would like to continue working with Sabah Forestry Department (Kinabatangan), C'BEST Forever Sabah, KOPEL, and LEAP.



- Through Da'BEST programme, we are also looking forward to work with related stakeholders in this industry.

Thank you...

Living in Harmony with Wetland

