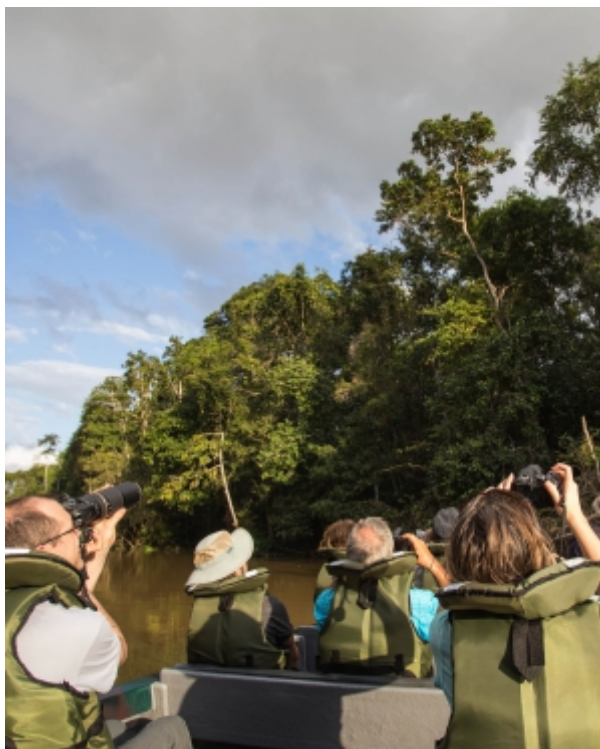
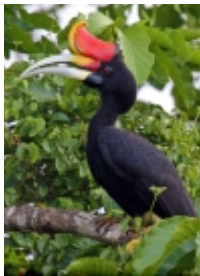


NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC

UNIQUE LODGES
OF THE WORLD™

Sukau Rainforest Lodge



Sustainability
Report

2018

www.sukau.com

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Introduction

About Sukau Rainforest Lodge



Built in 1995, Sukau Rainforest Lodge (SRL) is perched on the banks of the famous Kinabatangan River in Borneo, one of Asia's most important waterways. SRL was the first lodge in the area designed based on ecotourism principles and offers its guests a delightfully exceptional experience in the heart of the rainforest. Now with its 20 new units of Borneo Villas, guests will be able to bask in luxury and comfort while taking in the lush rainforest surroundings and incredible wildlife.



Acclaimed as a National Geographic Unique Lodge of the World since 2015, SRL provides a truly wonderful wildlife experience, while preserving the Kinabatangan flood-plains' diverse ecosystem. The lodge also embraces conservation, community development and sustainable tourism as part of its green policies, and for holding true to its ecolodge ethos, Sukau Rainforest Lodge has been awarded with Travelife's Gold Certification.



Founder Message



Albert Chin Kion Teo

Founder and Managing Director
Sukau Rainforest Lodge/Borneo Eco Tours

I'm delighted to finally share with you the first edition of our Sustainability Report, which highlights Sukau Rainforest Lodge's (SRL) commitment to sustainability and our long-term growth as an ecolodge.

Being in one of Borneo's most exceptional yet sensitive environments, we are devoted to the protection of the environment and the inhabitants of Kinabatangan, as well as to contribute positively to the local community here. Our Sustainability Report will cover all areas of our operation and efforts towards upholding sustainable tourism, while also underlying the direct and indirect contributions that we are carrying out based on the UN United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). By endorsing the 17 UN SDGs, we are able to use it as a tool for formulating our sustainability strategy as part of a global effort to bring about positive change.

This part of Borneo is home to the highest concentration of wildlife and breath-taking nature scenes that never fail to delight the heart. Being the only National Geographic Unique Lodges of the World and Travelife Gold Certified lodge in Malaysian Borneo, we are doing what we can to make sure this little piece of heaven on earth is protected and preserved. Presently, our lodge has developed and implemented sustainability programs, such as a Green & Sustainable Practices guideline, as well as environmental and community projects.

Contributing to environmental and community projects under our own NGO, Borneo Ecotourism Solutions and Technologies (BEST) Society, we are also able to reduce our impact, and create a brighter future for Sukau, Kinabatangan and the generations to come.

Besides that, we truly believe that our team plays an important role in our sustainability mission, which is why we continue to grow and develop them as individuals and employees of the company. Without such an incredible team, we would not be able to realize our vision.

Sustainability

and What it means to us

The richness of Kinabatangan's biodiversity only makes it more delicate. Besides being a habitat to a spectrum of wildlife, including endemic species such as the orangutans, Bornean pygmy elephants and proboscis monkeys, it is also home to 11 ethnic tribes that live along the snaking river. 7 of these tribes are the Sungai sub-tribes in Kinabatangan, and they are the Idahan, Minokok, Mangkaak, Makiang, Rumanau, Sinabu and Pingas. The other ethnic tribes are the Tidong, Suluk, Kagayan and Bugis.

The interdependent relationship between the environment, wildlife and local communities here is essential in preserving the Kinabatangan flood plains.

Our aim at SRL is to make minimal impact on the surrounding environment while increasing value and richness to the existing local communities, complex ecosystem and offering guests an opportunity to be a part of this conservation effort. It is our hope that the beauty of Kinabatangan will be sustained throughout generations.

Our Sustainability Report covers four important pillars; Wildlife Protection, Land Conservation, Planet Preservation & Commitment to Community.

The four pillars are guiding areas to drive sustainable tourism providing us a framework to work within. Each pillar has its own sustainability indicators and metrics and it is benchmarked against international sustainable tourism criteria to ensure global standards.

Our Mission

To excel as an ecolodge by providing a unique experience in hospitality interpretation and conservation with local community participation and leadership development.





WILDLIFE PROTECTION



PLANET PRESERVATION



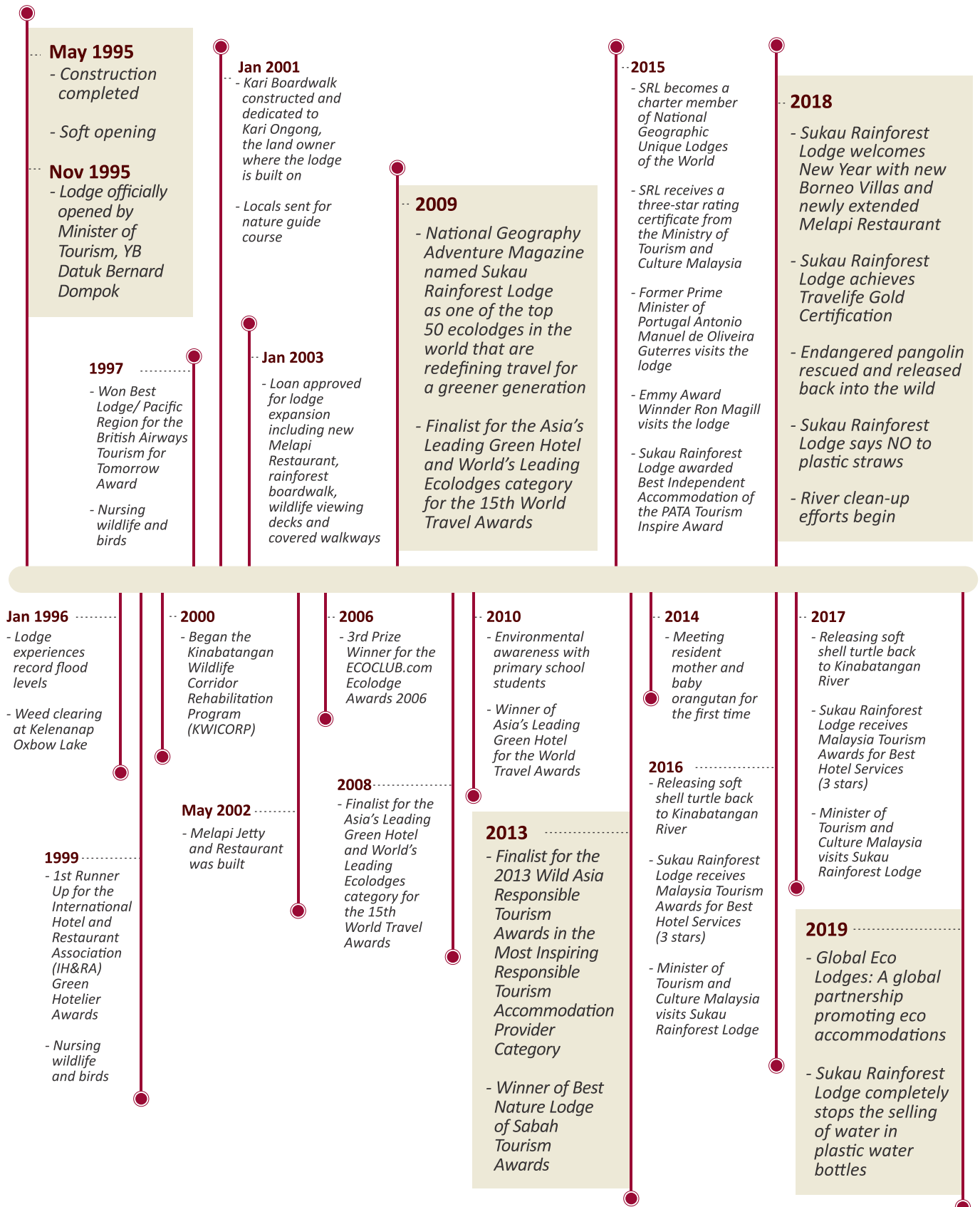
LAND CONSERVATION



**COMMITMENT TO
COMMUNITY**

Sustainability

An Endurance Race Celebrating 24 Years of Growth



Wildlife Protection



At 560km, Kinabatangan River is the longest river in Sabah, and second in Malaysia. The flood plain of the Kinabatangan is one of the most exceptional areas in eastern Malaysia. The Lower Kinabatangan Wildlife Sanctuary is known to have among the highest concentration of wildlife in Borneo.

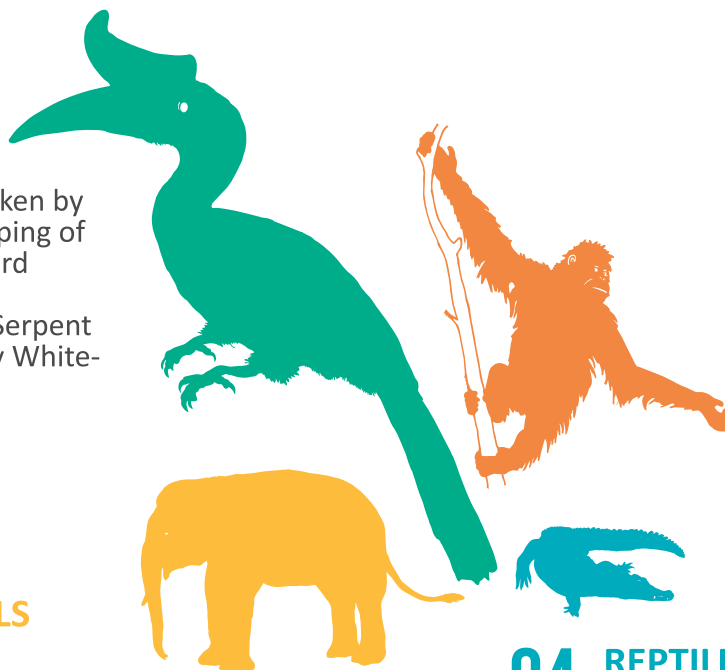
Because we are located on the banks of one of the most biodiverse areas and sharing the space with other inhabitants, it is our utmost responsibility to protect them, especially the endangered endemic species that can be found here such as the orangutans, Borneo pygmy elephants and proboscis monkeys.

As part of our sustainability action, we are recording the number of animal sightings in the area as well as noting down positive interaction between us, our guests and the wildlife that we encounter. Visitors can also rest assured that a few of our team members here carry the title of 'Wildlife Warden'. Their responsibility is to monitor and report wildlife movements while alerting authorities if any danger ensues.

Total wildlife and birdlife sightings by our guides in 2018

01 BIRDS 5,505

Silence is often broken by the melodious chirping of Sukau's over 210 bird species, including Hornbills, Crested Serpent Eagles, and the tiny White-fronted Falconets.



02 PRIMATES 1,476

Among others, swinging through the forest treetops are singing Gibbons, mischievous Macaques, peaceful Proboscis Monkeys and of course, the iconic Orangutans.

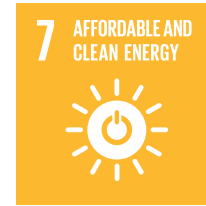
03 MAMMALS 1,324

Other mammals also inhabit the surrounding rainforest, including Bornean Sun Bears, four species of elusive wild cats, and the nearly extinct Pygmy Elephants.

04 REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS 732

The Kinabatangan River's rich tapestry of life includes the scaly and slimy – such as Saltwater Crocodiles, Water Monitors, and Jade Tree Frogs.

Planet Preservation



This pillar marks one of the top priorities in our Sustainability Report. Preserving the Planet covers areas such as water, electricity, fuel and waste management. Reducing and optimizing energy, emissions, water and waste is not just about maintaining operational efficiency. Responsible consumption of resources helps reduce drivers of climate change, supporting healthy communities and ecosystems - ultimately helping our planet to thrive.

Energy and Carbon Management

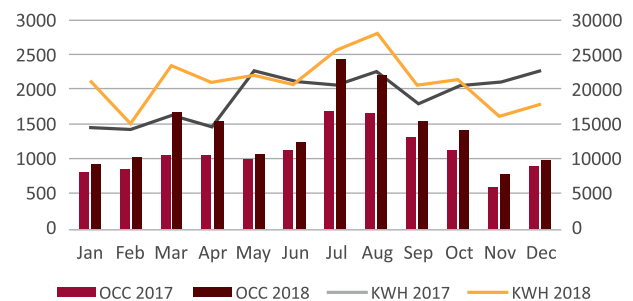
SRL strives to reduce consumption rates through improved efficiency and adopting new practices. Energy usage and emissions are closely monitored and reports are distributed internally to evaluate performance and priority areas.

All 20 of our Superior Rooms and 20 new Villas are equipped with energy saving light bulbs and inverter air-conditioners.

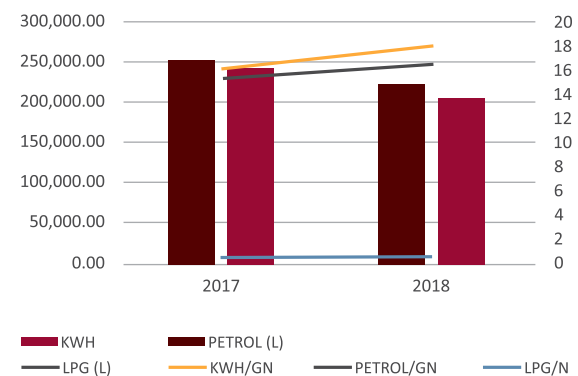
Since 1995, our lodge has been completely self-reliant on energy until 2008, when we started using government electrical supply 12 hours daily, with backup from our own generators for our power demand.

The graph reflects the corresponding increase and decline of electricity consumption based on the number of guests. With this figures, we are now able to chart our goals to further reduce energy consumption where possible. New practices and technologies may be employed to improve efficiency in this area.

Electricity Usage (Jan - Dec 2018)



Comparison of the Usage of Energy from 2017 - 2018



Overall Energy Usage

MONTH	GUEST NIGHT (GN)	ELECTRICITY (GENERATOR)		PETROL (BOAT)		LPG (KITCHEN)	
		KWH	KWH/GN	PETROL (L)	PETROL/GN	LPG (L)	LPG/GN
2018	16,878	253,390.25	16.08666667	243,238.87	15.048333	9988.16	0.663
2017	13,259	228,621.61	18.45	212,570.61	16.493333	8,424.0	1.676

Water and Waste Water Management

We practice rainwater harvesting, which makes our lodge 100% self-reliant on water. The rainwater harvested is filtered and chlorinated for kitchen use, and washing purposes. Part of our Green and Sustainable Practices encourages guests to conserve water by minimizing flushing the toilet and making use of the dual flushing system when they flush. We also encourage guests to turn off the water taps and showers when not in use as well as reuse towels and linens for up to 2 nights to further reduce water consumption.

Our Lodge is equipped with septic tanks so that nothing is discharged into the river, as well as the BioSolv Treatment System, which is a greener and better alternative in sewage treatment. This modern environmentally-friendly system minimizes the impact of water pollution.



Sukau Rainforest Lodge Uses BioSolv Treatment System:

A Greener Alternative in Sewage Treatment

1. Primary Screening

A chamber to separate and collect non-biodegradable items so as not to flow into the BioSolv Sewage Treatment System. Duty/assist submersible pumps are installed in the connecting pump sump to pump the liquor into Balancing Tank 1 under level control.

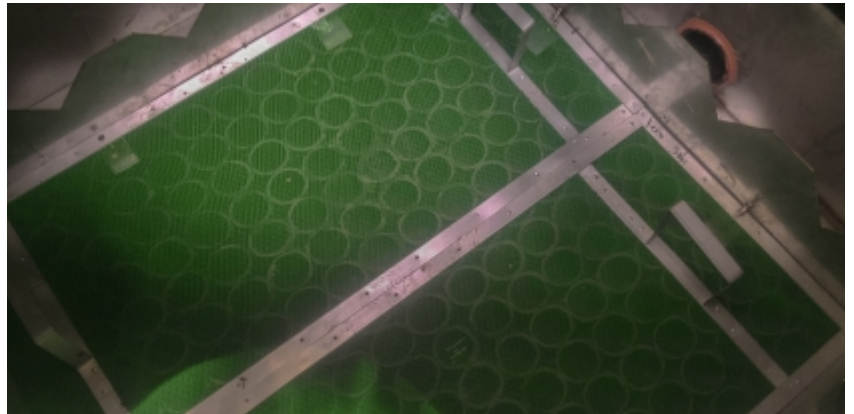
2. Reactors 1 & 2

Inside the Reactor Tanks are aeration manifolds and the requisite quantity of 'Carriers'. Domestic wastewater is generally organic (biodegradable), which means that aerobic micro-organisms in the presence of oxygen can use the organic material as their food source. The 'Carriers' provide an ideal environment for the micro-organisms to live and this applies to both Reactor 1 and Reactor 2.



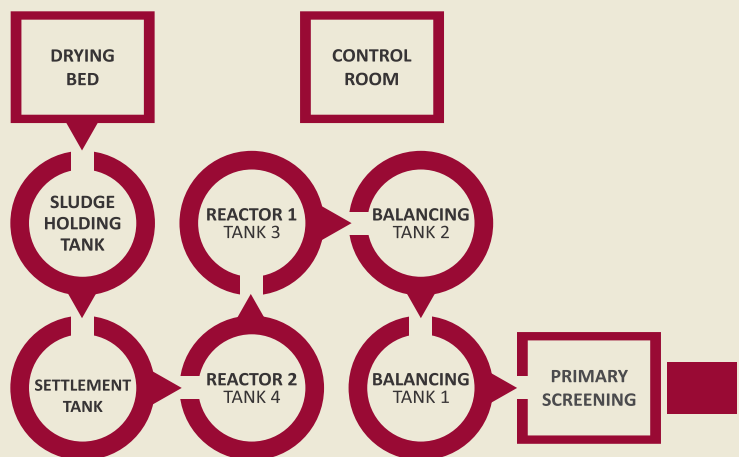
3. Settlement Tank

Liquor from Reactor 2 tank flows by displacement to the Settlement Tank. Inside this tank is a tilted tube clarifier which facilitates rapid settlement of any suspended solids which fall to the base of the tank by gravity. The treated liquor flows over a high level.



4. Sludge Holding Tank

The sludge produced in the BioSolv sewage treatment system is of a higher quality compared to other conventional sewage treatment systems. The sludge is then transferred to Drying Beds where it undergoes the drying process.



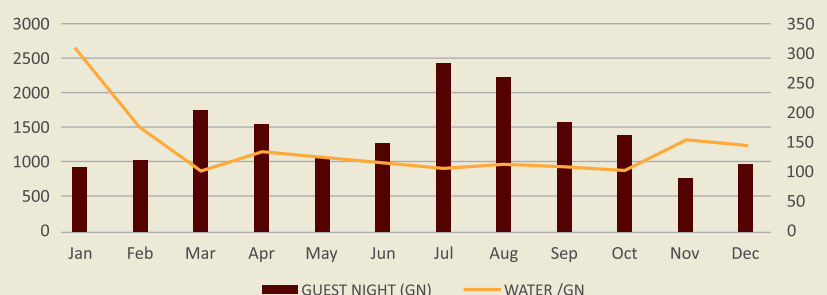
Utilizes enhanced micro-nutrient technology that shortens the overall sewage treatment cycle.

A modern environmentally friendly sewage treatment that also uses the latest US and EU technology.

System requires a much smaller footprint than a conventional sewage treatment plant.

A hybrid sewerage infrastructure that minimizes the impact of water pollution.

Water Consumption Report in 2018 (Jan - Dec)



Waste Management

As part of our Green & Sustainable Practices, littering around the lodge is prohibited. We also encourage guests to recycle their recyclable items and place them into the recycling bins located at the open deck of our lodge.

Instead of frequently buying bottled water, we also encourage guests to bring along their own refillable water bottle, which they can reuse and refill for free anytime from the water dispensers located around our lodge. This is to minimize the use of single-use plastic bottles. We have started this year (2019) to completely eliminate single-use plastic water bottles.

We have also started to gradually reduce the use of plastic bottled water in 2017 by replacing plastic bottled mineral water in all rooms with water in glass jugs instead. We have also stopped selling them at our bars since then.

We have also eliminated plastic straws completely in early August of 2018. This is when we started to use bamboo straws as an alternative to plastic straws. Our bamboo straws are sourced from a local community in Kiulu who make the bamboo straws themselves as a side income.

Besides that, most of our food stuff are purchased in bulks in order to reduce waste as well as packaging. These include white sugar, creamer, Sabah Tea, Borneo Rainforest Organic Tea, cooking oil, noodles, canned drinks, wine and rice.

We also recycle our cooking oil to light lamps in our restaurant and lounge area to provide a romantic and cozy ambiance.



MONTHS	GUEST NIGHTS (GN)	KITCHEN'S COMPOST WASTE (Kg)
JAN	918	879.6
FEB	1027	859.4
MARCH	1682	1368.68
APRIL	1550	821.10
MAY	1074	640.09
JUNE	1251	538.90
JULY	2429	874.00
AUG	2213	769.90
SEPT	1554	688.90
OCT	1419	801.00
NOV	789	712.40
DEC	972	591.10
TOTAL	16.878	9.545.07

ITEM	KILOGRAMS (kg)
Aluminium/ Tin cans	90.5
Glass bottles	182.99
Paper	156.94
Plastic	84.2



Sukau Ecotourism Research Centre to open end of June 2019



Land Conservation

SRL plays a huge role in Land Conservation here in Kinabatangan and are proud to be working hand-in-hand with Borneo Ecotourism Solutions & Technologies (BEST) Society, our non-profit division.



A. Borneo Land Conservancy (BLC) & Sukau Ecotourism Research Centre (SERC)

Giving Back To Nature What Belongs To Nature

BEST Society through our Borneo Land Conservancy initiative focuses on the conservation of a significant parcel of land measuring 7.7 acres in Sukau. The area may seem small, but is vital to the connectivity of the entire ecosystem. Given the high demand of land for palm oil plantations, the preservation of this parcel means that a portion of habitat is kept save for wildlife to continue to thrive.

We are stepping forward and playing our part to protect forests and the establishment of Sukau Ecotourism Research Centre (SERC) to ensure that the rich biological diversity is conserved and sustainably managed toward enhancing social, economic and environmental well-being.

SERC is designed to be a physical platform to engage local and international academic institutions to conduct joint research – all to ensure that ecotourism will remain a key provider of sustainable employment and economic stability to the local communities along the Kinabatangan river. Additionally, it will serve as a hub to facilitate research on the impact of ecotourism activities on wildlife. Construction work on SERC started in November 2017, and is set to open its doors in June 2019.



Land Conservation

B. Rasig

Besides that, SRL is also helping a villager in Sukau by the name of Mursalin to conserve his 5.6 acres land (about 2.27 hectare). This win-win partnership of helping Mursalin promote his land for various nature-based activities such as hiking and trekking has provided him an alternative income and improved his quality of life. Mursalin is a proud nature guide and believes that ecotourism is the way forward in protecting habitats and wildlife.

Since 2017 until present, Mursalin has gained a total of RM7,025 as a result of this partnership.



Kinabatangan Wildlife Corridor Rehabilitation Program (KWICORP)

C. Tree Planting Initiative

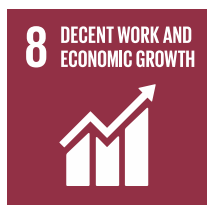
SRL's tree planting project which was done under BEST Society and previously renamed 'KWICORP' is an acronym for Kinabatangan Wildlife Corridor Rehabilitation Program. The project involved staff from SRL and BET and aimed to regenerate a 64 acres (about 24.90 hectares) site of riverine forest corridor along the lower Kinabatangan River in Sabah, Malaysia.

Since its inception in 2000, a total of RM 43,329 was spent on this effort and donation received from volunteers is RM 31,809. A total of 4,459 tree seedlings were purchased from the local community and planted at the site.

We have since moved from tree planting and are now focusing on forest conservation through of Borneo Land Conservancy (BLC) initiative, Sukau Ecotourism Research Centre and partnerships with the communities to help them conserve their land through ecotourism, as we are doing with Mursalin for his Rasig Trekking Tour.



Commitment to Community



A. Employment Opportunities

As a socially responsible company, SRL believes in employing, empowering and raising the capacity of native Sabahans at the lodge. This vision is not contained within the lodge, but extends to the local community and surrounding businesses.

Partnership with a local homestay owner have been established to provide trekking tours. Currently, we are also supporting the local economy here by hiring and engaging with locals for contract labor such as carpentry and building.

Sustainable tourism is a tool for creating the necessary momentum for the continuous, inclusive and sustainable economic development of Kinabatangan as a tourism destination.

One of the most effective ways to alleviate poverty is through. Whether it is a full-time job at the lodge, a contract or part-time basis, our employment policies work towards promoting a safe and healthy working environment for everyone, safeguarding equality and eliminating discrimination against gender, race, religion or sexual orientation.

Number of Staff 2018

Total number of Staff	54
Total from Kinabatangan	21
Total from around 200KM radius	25
Total from more than 300KM radius	7
Number of foreign workers	1
Number of Interns	2
Total of female staff	19
Total of male staff	35



B. Community Engagement

Besides that, SRL also engages with the local community through education initiatives. This includes the Wildlife Education and Awareness Program, whereby the lodge team visits the primary school to teach them about the wildlife at Kinabatangan and the need to protect them. A Tourism, Hospitality and Conservation Camp for 11 students and 3 teachers from a local secondary school was also previously conducted at the lodge back in 2017, and more programs like this will be conducted every year.

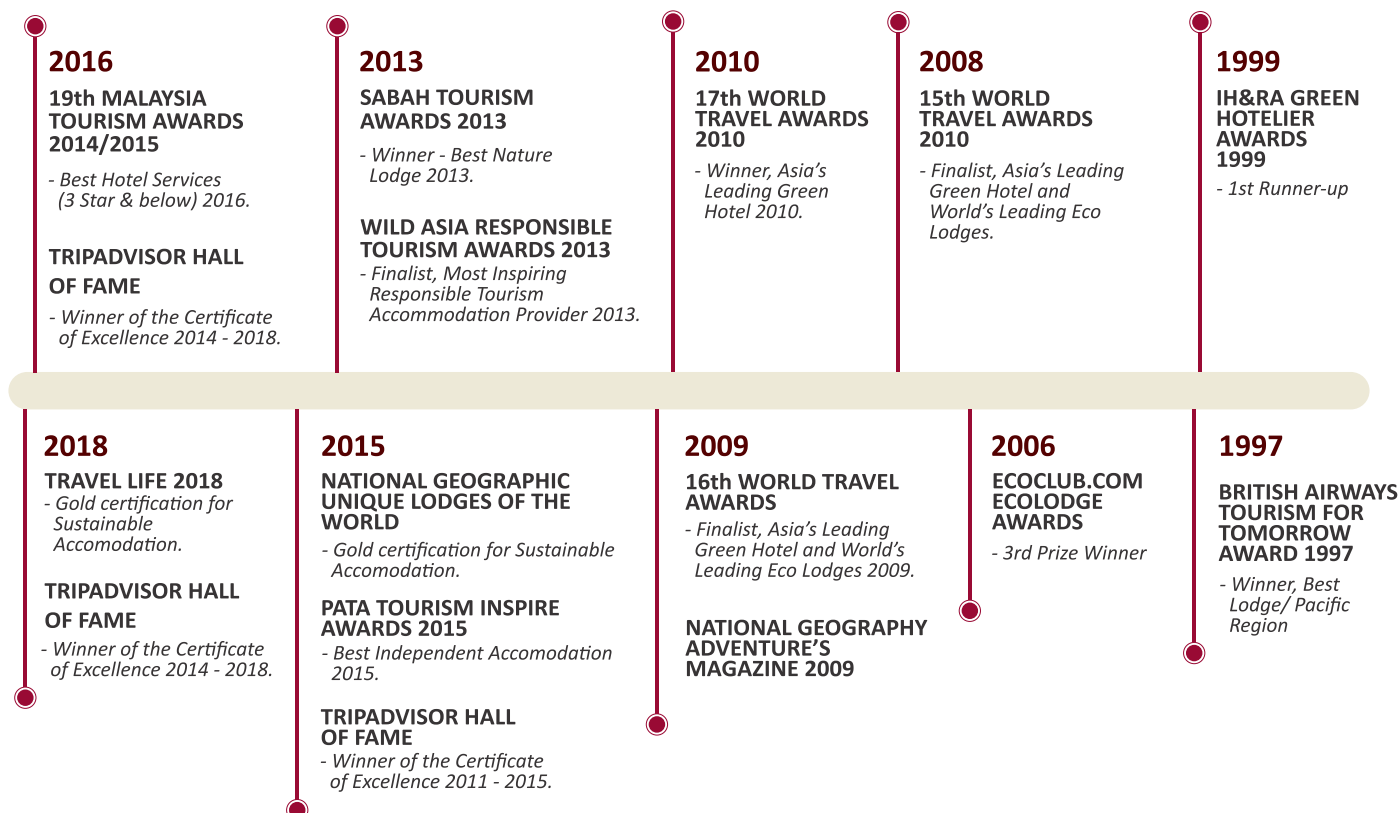
Under the efforts of SRL's non-profit division, community engagement at Sukau is also being done through capacity building. A bee farming training was given to 12 villagers and a bee hive box was provided to each one of them.

Development and logging has brought to a rise in the number of threats faced by the biodiverse Kinabatangan River. Sukau village which is located along the river is currently facing wildlife encroachment whereby elephants storm in and raid the local agriculture land, destroying crops by the acres. In August 2014, chili fences were set up but the method failed to keep the elephants away.

The 'beehive fence' approach was then introduced to the farmers to reduce damage from crop-raiding elephants. Elephants instinctively avoid honey bees because they are afraid of being stung. BEST worked in collaboration with government bodies such as Korporasi Pembangunan Desa Kudat, Jabatan Pertanian Tenom, Universiti Malaysia Sabah, veterinaries and NGOs to conduct the research. This was to see if the beehive fence method could work to reduce human elephant conflict and promote a practical and inexpensive way to help the villagers protect themselves and their crops.

Awards & Achievements

Today, Sukau Rainforest Lodge is a multi-award winning eco lodge with a global recognition. Here are our awards and achievements.



Partnership

Rasig Project

A community-based initiative since 2013 to safeguard a 5.6 acres (about 2.27 hectare) land which is an important wildlife corridor especially for elephant movement. It is adjacent to the Kinabatangan wildlife sanctuary, located within the lower Kinabatangan floodplain in the eastern part of Sabah (Malaysian Borneo).

Global Eco Lodges (GEL)

The Global Eco Lodge (GEL) is a global partnership between O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat and Sukau Rainforest Lodge that promotes sustainable tourism. In the near future, GEL will promote eco accredited travel accommodation and connect with the growing sustainable tourism audience worldwide.

Global Ecotourism Network (GEN)

The Global Ecotourism Network (GEN) is a new organization whose founding members are the entire ex-Advisory Committee of The International Ecotourism Society (TIES). GEN acts as a vital resource for evaluating ecotourism practices and disseminating authentic ecotourism trends, applied research and experience driven studies.

Asian Ecotourism Network (AEN)

AEN is an organization provides opportunities and hands-on connections for its members working together at a regional scale through sharing expertise and information, networking and business opportunities, as well as networking with prospects of small and large organisations who share the same values within Asia.

Conservation Fellows

The Wall of Honour for Conservation Fellows was established by Sukau Rainforest Lodge to recognise influential individuals, leaders, conservationists and experts who have vastly contributed to ecotourism, sustainable development, the environment, and the communities of Kinabatangan River.

Here's our list of Conservation Fellow:

- 01 **Sir David Attenborough** *English Broadcaster and Natural Historian*
- 02 **Agnes Keith** *Author*
- 03 **Tim Kelly** *Former President of the National Geographic Society*
- 04 **Datuk Anthony Lamb & Datin Anthea Phillipps** *Flora specialist and botanist*
- 05 **Costas Christ** *Editor and Columnist for National Geographic Traveler*
- 06 **Wong Siew Te** *Founder & CEO of Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre*
- 07 **Hitest Mehta** *Ecotourism Architect and President of HM Design*
- 08 **Megan Epler Wood** *Director of International Sustainable Tourism Initiative at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health*
- 09 **Henri Marie Jean André Count de Laborde de Monpezat** *The Late Prince of Denmark*
- 10 **Prof. Ross Dowling** *Founder of Tourism in the School of Marketing, Tourism & Leisure, at Edith Cowan University (ECU), Western Australia*
- 11 **Carol Patterson** *Nature and ecotourism industry consultant, speaker, and author*
- 12 **Arq. Hector Ceballos-Lascurain** *Architect and Conservationist*
- 13 **Sylvia Jeanes** *Founder of Rainbow of Hope Organisation Kota Kinabalu*
- 14 **Dr. Reza Azmi** *Founder and Executive Director at Wild Asia*
- 15 **Dr. Isabelle Louis** *Acting Regional Director and Representative for Asia and the Pacific, UN Environment*
- 16 **Dr Geoffrey Davidson** *Deputy Director (Terrestrial) at the National Biodiversity Centre, National Parks Board of Singapore.*
- 17 **Dr. Dato Mikaaail Kavanagh** *Former CEO of World Wildlife Fund (WWF) Malaysia*
- 18 **Y.M Dato' Seri Tengku Dr. Zainal Adlin Bin Tengku Mahamood** *Sabah Parks Chairman*
- 19 **Dr. Arthur Chung** *Senior Researcher at the Forest Research Centre*
- 20 **Dr. Dionysius Sharma** *Former CEO of World Wildlife Fund (WWF) Malaysia*
- 21 **Dr. Junaidi (John) Payne** *Executive Director of PONGO Alliance*
- 22 **Yukio Hasegawa** *Art Director and Founder of Hasegawa & Xavier Associates*
- 23 **Dr. Mina T. Gabor** *Former Secretary of Tourism, Republic of the Philippines and President and Founder of International School of Sustainable Tourism-Philippines*
- 24 **Dr. Dale Straughan** *Ecologist*
- 25 **Kari Ongong** *Initial land owner of the Sukau Rainforest Lodge site*
- 26 **Datuk Sam Mannan** *Former Forestry Directory*
- 27 **Alvin Ung** *Author, coach and leadership consultant*
- 28 **Michael Groom** *Australian Mountain Climber*

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Affiliate Partners



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