





LAPORAN PEMETAAN ISU KAWASAN PARLIMEN

2026

WILAYAH SARAWAK | P.202 SRI AMAN

APPGM-SDG

PERSATUAN PROMOSI MATLAMAT PEMBANGUNAN LESTARI

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Welcoming Remarks



YB TUAN OSCAR LING CHAI YEW
APPGM-SDG Committee Member;
Member of Parliament for Sibu (P.212)

The year 2026 marks the seventh year of the All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia on Sustainable Development Goals (APPGM-SDG)'s work across Sarawak. Operating as a cross-party platform, APPGM-SDG provides a collaborative space to support national sustainable development priorities through evidence-based, community-level research. Grounded in the United Nations framework of ***Leaving No One Behind*** **(LNOB)**, APPGM-SDG seeks to understand how socio-economic development, resource allocation, and local governance intersect to shape everyday well-being. Sarawak's geographic expanse, diverse settlement patterns, and distinct regional economies highlight the value of place-based policy planning. Rather than applying a single administrative template across the state, sustainable progress requires understanding the varied functional roles and demographic dynamics of each division. By carrying out on-the-ground issue-mapping fieldwork exercises across diverse constituencies, APPGM-SDG contributes empirical observations that help complement formal statistics and inform constructive dialogue across all sectors.

In my capacity as the Member of Parliament for Sibu (P212), I welcome this mapping initiative as a valuable contribution to our constituency's continued progress. Sibu plays an enduring role as a key commercial hub and regional centre for the central Rajang Basin, naturally serving as a destination for employment, commerce, and rural-to-urban population mobility. This steady demographic movement underscores the importance of resilient municipal planning and responsive community support systems. A key focus highlighted during our engagements in Sibu is the coordination of affordable, quality community housing alongside basic consumer literacy. Navigating housing markets, standard rental procedures, and institutional documentation are challenges for low-income wage earners and incoming families seeking work. Enhancing community outreach, streamlining public information on tenancy rights, and fostering transparent housing management mechanisms are practical steps that provide stability for working households. Furthermore, supporting Sibu's long-term sustainability involves continuing

to upgrade essential public amenities, ensuring accessible healthcare services, and cultivating an environment conducive to skilled employment and balanced growth.

Achieving sustainable development is an ongoing, shared effort that benefits from structured data, multi-stakeholder partnerships, and active community participation. The perspectives documented in the *Parliamentary Constituencies Issue Mapping Reports Compilation 2026 (Volume 6: Sarawak Region*) offer an informative snapshot of local realities, socio-economic aspirations, and practical development opportunities. As the elected representative for Sibu and a committee member of APPGM-SDG, I trust the *Compilation* and the reports it encompasses will serve as a balanced, useful resource for policymakers, government agencies, academia, and civil society partners working toward the common goal of shared prosperity in Sarawak.

Foreword



PUAN NUR RAHMAH OTHMAN
APPGM-SDG Executive Director

The localisation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) begins with understanding how national development priorities are experienced by people in their everyday lives. While national policies set the direction for development, it is at the community, district and parliamentary constituency levels that the realities of inequality, access to services, livelihoods and environmental challenges are felt most directly. This is where development policies meet the realities of people and communities, and where gaps between policy intentions and lived experiences often become most visible.

Since its establishment, the All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia on Sustainable Development Goals (APPGM-SDG) has sought to better understand these realities through constituency-level issue mapping. Over the years, we have had the opportunity to visit communities, listen to local voices, engage with stakeholders and document the issues that affect people in their daily lives. These experiences have reminded us that sustainable development cannot be approached from the top down alone. It must begin with a genuine understanding of the people, places and circumstances we are seeking to support.

The *Parliamentary Constituencies Issue Mapping Reports Compilation 2026 (Volume 1-6)* covering 16 parliamentary constituencies, is part of this continuing effort. Bringing together findings from different constituencies allows us to look beyond individual cases and identify broader patterns, shared challenges as well as the distinct realities of different regions. Some issues may be common across constituencies, while others are shaped by geography, local economies, access to infrastructure, community needs and the capacity of local institutions.

For APPGM-SDG, issue mapping is therefore not simply about documenting problems. It is about understanding why these issues persist, recognising what communities are already doing to address them, and identifying where greater coordination or support is needed. The findings can help strengthen the conversations and partnerships between

Members of Parliament, government agencies, local authorities, civil society organisations and, most importantly, the communities themselves.

As APPGM-SDG continues its localisation journey, the role of this ground-level evidence becomes increasingly important. The findings in this compilation can provide useful perspectives for policy discussions, programme development and resource allocation, while helping decision-makers better appreciate the different needs and priorities across regions.

These findings should prompt us to ask what more can be done at the policy and institutional level. Many of the issues raised by communities are not new, and some require action that goes beyond the capacity of communities or local actors alone. We hope that the evidence gathered through this process will be given due consideration by the relevant ministries and agencies, particularly in reviewing existing programmes, strengthening implementation and directing resources where they are most needed. Issue mapping should not end with identifying a problem; it should help create a clearer pathway towards action and accountability.

I hope this compilation will be viewed as more than a collection of findings. Behind every issue documented are people, communities and lived experiences. Their voices should continue to guide how we think about development and where we direct our collective efforts.

May this compilation contribute to a stronger understanding of our communities and, ultimately, to a more inclusive development journey where no constituency, community or individual is left behind.

Introduction



RAINE MELISSA RIMAN
Head of Region for Sarawak

The *Parliamentary Constituencies Issue Mapping Reports Compilation 2026 (Volume 6: Sarawak Region)* evaluates localised development challenges, lived experiences, and policy priorities across three distinct parliamentary constituencies: P194 Petra Jaya (Kuching Division), P212 Sibu (Sibu Division), and P202 Sri Aman (Sri Aman Division). APPGM-SDG's localisation process in 2026 involved a total of 16 new parliamentary constituencies. The distribution of constituencies is illustrated in *Diagram 1* and *Table 1*.

Diagram 1. Parliamentary Constituencies involved in the Localization Process of APPGM-SDG in 2026



In marking the seventh year of the All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia on Sustainable Development Goals (APPGM-SDG) in the region, the reports included in this *Compilation* operationalises the transformative United Nations (UN) mandate to *Leave No One Behind* (LNOB) by examining how spatial, socioeconomic, and institutional factors intersect to drive community vulnerability.

Sarawak's geographic scale and dispersed settlements necessitate a place-based analytical framework. Rather than viewing development through aggregate indicators or

a linear urban-rural spectrum, our findings capture three distinct structural environments:

Established Urban Growth (P194 Petra Jaya): As part of Sarawak's capital, Petra Jaya faces intense pressures stemming from urban land scarcity, rapid densification, and severe housing-to-income mismatches. With the state median household income at approximately RM3,000 against an average home price of RM540,000, which is the third highest in Malaysia, interventions must prioritise spatial master planning, property price regulation, and inclusive urban expansion.

Regional Economic Hub & Labour Migration (P212 Sibu): As Central Sarawak's primary commercial destination for internal migrant labour, Sibu contends with urgent demands for low-cost, community-centric housing. The critical policy lever here extends beyond physical construction to institutional literacy: educating low-income tenants on contractual rights, tenure security, and regulatory protections to eliminate predatory intermediaries and misinformation.

Rural Connectivity & Public Service Delivery (P202 Sri Aman): Encompassing expansive interior districts such as Pantu and Lingga, Sri Aman demonstrates the persistent friction of distance. Key imperatives include upgrading timber and plantation access tracks into gazetted road networks, establishing local secondary education infrastructure (addressing transit deficits of up to 100 km), and resolving severe human resource shortfalls in healthcare, where rural clinical vacancies approach 50 percent. The institutional mandate of the Sri Aman Development Authority (SADA) provides a model for decentralised, place-based rural governance.

By synthesising field-based engagements, focus group discussions, and administrative inputs across the economic, social, environmental, and governance pillars, these reports provide a localised evidence base for regional development strategies. It connects grassroots realities directly with state and federal policy apparatuses, ensuring that development planning in Sarawak is targeted, equitable, and systematically responsive to community-level realities.

Table 1. List of 16 Parliamentary Constituencies Involved in APPGM-SDG Activities for the Year 2026

NO.	ZONE/ REGION	PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY	CODE	MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT	PARTY	TARGETED AGENCIES	APPGM-SDG RELATED AGENCIES
1.	North	Pokok Sena	P.008	YB Dato' Haji Ahmad bin Saad @ Yahaya	PN-PAS	Pejabat Daerah dan Tanah Pokok Sena	Dr. Thanaraj Murudi
2.	North	Padang Serai	P.017	YB Dato' Azman bin Nasrudin	PN-BERSATU	Pejabat Daerah dan Tanah Kulim	Dr. Thanaraj Murudi
3.	North	Batu Gajah	P.066	YB Tuan Sivakumar a/l Varatharaju Naidu	PH-DAP	Pejabat Daerah dan Tanah Kinta	Dr. Thanaraj Murudi
4.	East Coast	Pengkalan Chepa	P.020	YB Datuk Dr. Ahmad Marzuk bin Shaary	PN-PAS	Pejabat Tanah dan Jajahan Kota Bharu	Nur Syadhira Mohd Razali
5.	East Coast	Kubang Kerian	P.024	YB Dato' Sri Tuan Ibrahim bin Tuan Man	PN-PAS	Pejabat Tanah dan Jajahan Kota Bharu	Dr. Siti Nur Ain Zakinuddin
6.	East Coast	Kuala Terengganu	P.036	YB Datuk Haji Ahmad Amzad bin Mohamed @ Hashim	PN-PAS	Pejabat Daerah dan Tanah Kuala Terengganu	Nur Syadhira Mohd Razali
7.	East Coast	Jerantut	P.081	YB Ir. Ts. Hj. Khairil Nizam bin Khirudin	PN-PAS	Pejabat Daerah dan Tanah Jerantut	Nur Syadhira Mohd Razali
8.	East Coast	Rompin	P.091	YB Dato' Haji Abdul Khalib bin Abdullah	PN-BERSATU	Pejabat Daerah dan Tanah Rompin	Nur Syadhira Mohd Razali
9.	Central	Puchong	P.103	YB Puan Yeo Bee Yin	PH-DAP	Pejabat Daerah dan Tanah Petaling; Majlis Bandaraya Subang Jaya (MBSJ)	Dr. Teo Lee Ken

NO.	ZONE/ REGION	PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY	CODE	MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT	PARTY	TARGETED AGENCIES	APPGM-SDG RELATED AGENCIES
10.	Central	Putrajaya	P.125	YB Dr. Radzi Jidin	PN-BERSATU	Jabatan Wilayah Persekutuan; Perbadanan Putrajaya (PPj)	Nurul Syaza Mazelan
11.	South	Kota Melaka	P.138	YB Tuan Khoo Poay Tiong	PH-DAP	Pejabat Daerah dan Tanah Melaka Tengah	Siti Noraiysah Rohim
12.	Sabah	Sepanggar	P.171	YB Datuk Ts. Mustapha Sakmud	PH-PKR	Dewan Bandaraya Kota Kinabalu (DBKK)	Mc Jeanet Lempisik @ Marx
13.	Sabah	Batu Sapi	P.185	YB Tuan Khairul Firdaus bin Akbar Khan	GRS	Majlis Perbandaran Sandakan (MPS)	Mc Jeanet Lempisik @ Marx
14.	Sarawak	Petra Jaya	P.194	YAB Datuk Amar Haji Fadillah bin Haji Yusof	GPS-PBB	Pejabat Residen Bahagian Kuching; Pejabat Daerah Kuching; Dewan Bandaraya Kuching Utara (DBKU)	Raine Melissa Riman
15.	Sarawak	Sri Aman	P.202	YB Dato' Sri Doris Sophia anak Brodi	GPS-PRS	Pejabat Residen Bahagian Sri Aman; Pejabat Daerah Sri Aman; Pejabat Daerah Pantu; Pejabat Daerah Lingga; Majlis Daerah Sri Aman	Raine Melissa Riman

NO.	ZONE/ REGION	PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY	CODE	MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT	PARTY	TARGETED AGENCIES	APPGM-SDG RELATED AGENCIES
16.	Sarawak	Sibu	P.212	YB Tuan Oscar Ling Chai Yew	PH-DAP	Pejabat Residen Bahagian Sibu; Pejabat Daerah Sibu; Majlis Perbandaran Sibu; Majlis Daerah Luar Bandar Sibu	Raine Melissa Riman

PART A

Issue Mapping Visit Report

P.202 Sri Aman

ISSUE MAPPING VISIT 2026 - SRI AMAN

14 - 18 & 27 APRIL 2026
(TUESDAY - SATURDAY, MONDAY)

WITH THE SUPPORT FROM

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR SRI AMAN, YB DATO' SRI DORIS SOPHIA BRODI



PLACES VISITED:

DAY 1 (14/04/2026)

1. FGD 1: Dialogue Session with Youth Communities of Sri Aman

DAY 2 (15/04/2026)

2. FGD 2: Dialogue Session with PAWE Community of Sri Aman
3. FGD 3: Dialogue Session with Iban Mentu

DAY 3 (16/04/2026)

4. FGD 4: Dialogue Session with Iban Engkeranji
5. FGD 5: Dialogue Session with Iban Semulong Ulu and Semulong Ili

DAY 4 (17/04/2026)

6. FGD 6: Dialogue Session with Iban Ulu Undop
7. FGD 7: Dialogue Session with Iban Titikah Kubal

DAY 5 (18/04/2026)

8. FGD 8: Dialogue Session with Iban Tuba
9. FGD 9: Dialogue Session with Iban Muding

DAY 6 (27/04/2026)

10. FGD 10: Dialogue Session with Iban Banting

RESEARCH TEAM



Raine Melissa Riman
Lead Researcher



Dr. Eva Kristin Larry Sait



Corrin Alicia Nero



Prof. Datuk Dr. Denison Jayasooria



Dr. Teo Lee Ken

14 - 18 & 27 APRIL 2026 (TUESDAY - SATURDAY, MONDAY)

ISSUE MAPPING VISIT: FIELDWORK IN SRI AMAN



14 - 18 & 27 APRIL 2026
(TUESDAY - SATURDAY, MONDAY)

ISSUE MAPPING VISIT: FIELDWORK IN SRI AMAN

16



18 April 2026
FGD 8: Dialogue Session with Iban Tuba

17



18 April 2026
FGD 9: Dialogue Session with Iban Muding

18



27 April 2026
FGD 10: Dialogue Session with Iban Banting

20/01/2026 INCEPTION MEETING





An inception meeting with the Member of Parliament for Sri Aman, YB Dato' Sri Doris Sophia Brodie, was held at the Parliament to initiate the issue mapping exercise for Sri Aman parliamentary constituency. The meeting served as a preliminary coordination platform to identify key development concerns, discuss fieldwork priorities, and determine potential areas for community engagement. During the session, several key issues affecting the constituency were highlighted, including persistent infrastructure deprivation and uneven patterns of development. Concerns regarding accessibility to healthcare services, road connectivity, and the condition of public infrastructure in rural settlements were also discussed. The discussion further noted the close kinship and socio-cultural relationships between communities in Sri Aman and their relatives across the Indonesian border, reflecting the transboundary social dynamics within the region. YB Dato' Sri Doris Sophia Brodie also emphasised the continuing gap between policy and development planning frameworks and the lived realities experienced by grassroots communities, particularly in remote and interior localities. Several locations were identified as potential sites for field engagement, including Banting, Tintingkah, Pantu, Engkeranji, Semulong Ulu, Semulong Ili, Muding, Tuba, Ulu Undop Paku, and Sungai Putong, encompassing multiple settlements within each locality. The meeting also acknowledged the geographical scale and logistical complexities involved in covering all proposed locations within the available fieldwork duration, and indicated that further prioritisation of sites would be undertaken as part of the coordination process.

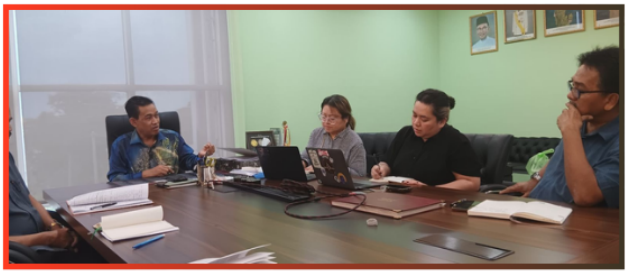
11/02/2026 COORDINATION MEETING WITH COUNCILLOR SUGOM SADAI & PUSAT KHIDMAT SRI AMAN



The Sarawak team held a coordination discussion with Cr. Sugom Sadai in preparation for the site visit, which will cover 11 interior communities across three DUNs — Sri Aman, Bukit Begunan, and Balai Ringin. The team subsequently met with the Resident of Sri Aman's office to formalise the coordination meeting date, following the Resident's earlier advice. The Pre-Visit coordination meeting has been scheduled for 5 March 2026, with participation from the Resident of Sri Aman, the District Officers of Pantu, Lingga, and Sri Aman, together with the relevant KMKK (Penghulu) representatives. The team is also invited by YB Dato Sri Doris Brodie's team to participate in an event in Sri Aman on the 6 March 2025 to build rapport with communities.

05/03/2026 COORDINATION MEETING WITH SRI AMAN RESIDENT





A coordination meeting was held and chaired by Sri Aman Resident, Tn. Mahra Salleh, to brief the necessary parties and logistics arrangement on the forthcoming issue mapping for P202 Sri Aman. Through this discussion 12 communities were identified covering the urban and rural areas of the constituency (spanning 3 Districts - Pantu, Sri Aman and Lingga) which includes 9 interior areas selected by YB Dato' Sri Doris Sophia Brodie herself. Meeting attendees include Temenggong Iban Sri Aman Leonard Libau Anol, Penghulu Mingging, Cr Sugom, and Joshua Martin anak Jantan (*Pegawai Tadbir Seksyen Pembangunan Daerah Sri Aman*).

31/03/2026 COORDINATION MEETING WITH PANTU DISTRICT OFFICE





A coordination meeting was held at the Pantu District Office, one of the three district administrations under the Sri Aman parliamentary constituency. The delegation was received by the District Officer, Tn. Raca Mulong, together with AO Stanley Randy (*Management and Statutory Services Section*), AAO Franklin Regu anak Langie (*Development Section*), and Penghulu Angin anak Aji. The session focused on advance coordination and ground familiarisation in preparation for the issue mapping exercise, including discussions on the conditions of the identified localities, access routes to targeted communities, and clarification on road ownership and jurisdiction, particularly between government-managed and privately managed roads. Attention was also given to logistical considerations for reaching selected kampung areas. During the meeting, the District Officer also conveyed the office's support for the exercise and requested the relevant officers to coordinate closely with the team, including facilitating access and providing guidance to the identified communities within their respective areas of administration.

31/03/2026 COORDINATION MEETING WITH LINGGA DISTRICT OFFICE





A coordination meeting was held at the Lingga District Office, one of the three district administrations under the Sri Aman parliamentary constituency. The delegation was received by the Assistant District Officer (ADO), Tn. Josephson Nako, together with SAO Isabill Lipa anak Mungo (Development Section) and AO Nurshazani Fadli Salihin (Social Transformation Unit). The ADO, whom the team had previously engaged during his tenure at EPU Sarawak, also provided a briefing to his officers on APPGM-SDG and the ongoing coordination efforts at the district level. Similar to the earlier engagement in Pantu, discussions focused on logistical preparations and coordination for the upcoming fieldwork exercise. The district office expressed its commitment to working closely with the team in coordinating field activities, including facilitating access and accompanying the team to selected communities within their respective jurisdictions as part of the issue mapping process.

02/04/2026 TOWNHALL MEETING WITH JKM AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM PPDK & PAWE



Pn. Sharifah Mordiah of Pejabat Kebajikan Masyarakat Bahagian Sri Aman arranged a townhall session for the team to brief representatives of PPDKs and PAWEs in Sri Aman on the upcoming fieldwork in Sri Aman. During this session, the various representatives also shared some of the issues they face as administrators of their respective PDKs and PAWEs, which mainly stem from funding constraints.

08/04/2026 COORDINATION MEETING WITH KMKK LINGGA DISTRICT (BANTING)





A coordination meeting was held with KMKK Lingga District (Banting). Meeting was chaired by the Assistant District Officer (ADO) for Lingga, Tn. Josephson Nako. Penghulu Belie ak Blassan, accompanied by 3 out of 10 Tuai Rumah from Banting help to coordinate the journey to Semulong and Engkeranji on the 16th of April and Banting on the 27th of April. 3 officers from Lingga District Office will be accompanying our team next week.

08/04/2026 COORDINATION MEETING WITH JABATAN BELIA DAN SUKAN BAHAGIAN SRI AMAN





A coordination meeting chaired by En. Israk Ismail, with En. Howard Bunsu, and Pn. Norfazira Saadi to gather youth representatives from registered youth and sports clubs in Sri Aman. They also shared some insights on policy based issues that are faced by these youth and sports club that would inform the FGD line of discussion.

14/04/2026 FGD 1: DIALOGUE SESSION WITH YOUTH COMMUNITIES OF SRI AMAN







FGD Group 1a (**Registered Sports Clubs**) highlighted several critical challenges affecting the local sporting ecosystem. **(1)** Access to sports facilities has become increasingly difficult for grassroots users due to high rental costs following a management restructuring under the Sarawak Sports Corporation. **(2)** Community groups are forced to adapt by relying on a single affordable project-funded facility or using alternative, unequipped public spaces like waterfronts and markets. **(3)** Youth participation in sports clubs is on a downward trend, driven by out-migration for employment and social challenges linked to family instability. Finally, **(4)** local coaching talent remains constrained because formal qualification pathways are centralised in West Malaysia and alternative local licensing courses carry high fees.

FGD Group 1b (**Registered Youth Clubs**) focused on demographic, financial, and structural issues hindering youth development. **(1)** The recent policy change reducing the youth upper age limit from 40 to 30 years has decimated club memberships due to the out-migration of younger demographics, disrupting leadership succession. **(2)** Financial constraints persist, driving the need for an affordable, dedicated youth hub to combat social issues like online gambling. **(3)** Infrastructure maintenance is lacking, as potential public sites identified for this youth hub are currently poorly maintained by the local council. **(4)** A significant information gap exists regarding grants and funding for rural youth clubs located outside the main town centre, prompting proposals for a division-wide coordination platform. **(5)** Governance and institutional coordination gaps remain apparent during national youth consultative engagements due to the frequent absence of relevant agency representatives and political leaders. Finally, youth clubs are hindered by **(6)** weak internal leadership structures and a lack of organisational commitment among some committee members.

15/04/2026 **FGD 2: DIALOGUE SESSION WITH PAWE COMMUNITY OF SRI AMAN**







The *Pusat Aktiviti Warga Emas* (PAWE) Committee Member highlighted several key challenges and dynamics affecting the ageing community in Sri Aman. **(1)** Gender gaps in elderly community involvement are prominent, as PAWE functions successfully as a vital "third space" for the personal growth and lifelong learning of women, while active participation from men remains comparatively lower. **(2)** Grandparents are increasingly facing pressure as informal caregivers, stepping in to provide childcare due to the rising costs of private childcare ranging from RM500 to RM700 per month. **(3)** Structural perception gaps exist among the public, with many assuming the facility operates as a residential care home rather than a community space for active ageing. **(4)** Exclusive participation trends persist, as the current membership is largely made up of housewives, leaving a gap in retired professionals and diverse occupational backgrounds who could enhance public awareness and knowledge sharing. **(5)** Limited public awareness regarding the centre's existence continues to hinder a broader understanding of its contributions to senior citizen wellbeing. **(6)** Centre sustainability is a critical hurdle, as the federal operational funding is often insufficient to support activities beyond basic overheads and staff salaries. **(7)** Fundraising burdens fall heavily on the committee members themselves, many of whom are senior citizens tasked with sourcing external state or private contributions into secondary accounts. Finally, **(8)** the emotional wellbeing of older adults requires greater institutional attention, with the community observing depression as a significant mental health issue within the ageing population.

15/04/2026 **FGD 3: DIALOGUE SESSION WITH IBAN MENTU**







The session highlighted critical infrastructure and socioeconomic challenges faced by the KMKK and local community. **(1)** The absence of treated water supply forces households across Mentu to rely entirely on unfiltered gravity-fed systems that turn turbid during rainy seasons due to oil palm plantation siltation, or requires a two-hour journey to the district office for bottled water aid during dry spells. **(2)** Poor telecommunication connectivity isolates the community, forcing residents to hike up Bukit Bejit or travel across rough terrain to Pengkalan Ai just to secure a stable signal. **(3)** Severe road safety risks exist due to the absence of street lighting along a hazardous, hilly corridor with steep slopes. **(4)** Hazardous road conditions are further exacerbated by the hilly terrain and acute angles, turning surfaces so slippery during the rainy season that driving is unsafe and residents must travel exclusively on foot. **(5)** The absence of a formal waste management system has created environmental concerns, driving residents to incinerate trash or dump it directly into local rivers. Additionally, **(6)** wet paddy cultivation is hindered by the absence of a modern irrigation system, leaving farmers vulnerable to frequent field flooding and limited crop productivity. **(7)** Rural education is heavily impacted by obstacles in digital learning implementation at SK Mentu, where a lack of stable internet and inadequate digital facilities prevent students from keeping pace with the national syllabus. **(8)** Teacher and leadership retention remains low due to the school's remote setting, leading to extended administrative vacancies. **(9)** Severe farm access and productivity challenges disrupt local livelihoods, as accumulation of soil has made Sungai Mentu too shallow for boat crossings during dry seasons, forcing farmers to wait for rain to access their oil palm lands and resulting in significant financial losses. Finally, these economic hurdles are compounded by an absence of proper farm roads (jalan pertanian), blocked river pathways along Sungai Janang due to forest debris, and an urgent, unfulfilled need for agricultural bridges across Sungai Empelanjau, Sungai Janang, and Sungai Kudak.

16/04/2026 **FGD 4: DIALOGUE SESSION WITH IBAN ENGKERANJI**






The session highlighted several logistical, infrastructural, and agricultural challenges shared by the KMKK and local community. **(1)** Healthcare accessibility is highly constrained, with the nearest Klinik Kesihatan over an hour away and Hospital Simanggang located two hours away, leaving the community heavily dependent on a monthly flying doctor service at Munggu Sawa. **(2)** Monsoon seasonal flooding frequently submerges the main access road after Batang Seterap, completely isolating the community from nearby towns, disrupting the flow of essential supplies, and necessitating emergency relief assistance from the District Office. **(3)** Poor main access road conditions persist along the primary route, which originally functioned as a logging road and remains unpaved with difficult terrain, uneven surfaces, and loose rocks, due to slow-moving upgrading works and maintenance that reportedly relies on a single tractor. **(4)** Local economic development is significantly hindered, as the poor road access severely limits the community's ability to participate in and profit from planting commodities like oil palm. **(5)** Complete isolation impacts the most remote settlement, with Rh Victor longhouse still entirely lacking motor vehicle road access and remaining reachable only on foot. Finally, **(6)** persistent human–wildlife conflict threatens local livelihoods and safety, as monkeys and sparrows cause severe damage to paddy crop yields, while crocodiles downstream towards Lingga pose constant safety risks for residents relying on river transport to town.

16/04/2026 FGD 5: DIALOGUE SESSION WITH IBAN SEMULONG ULU AND SEMULONG ILI






The community and KMKK highlighted several key infrastructural, logistical, and safety challenges affecting the Semulong area. **(1)** Prolonged housing construction delays have plagued Semulong Ulu for over six years due to extreme distance and poor road conditions, which heavily inflate the cost of transporting building materials, chartering delivery lorries, and hiring manual labour to carry supplies. **(2)** Food insecurity and insufficient agricultural yields persist, as local paddy cultivation for self-consumption fails to meet household needs throughout the year, forcing remote families to purchase supplementary rice despite the area being traditionally well-known for wet and hill paddy farming. **(3)** Hazardous river transport reliance continues during main road flooding or as a shortcut to Lingga, where the absolute absence of proper jetty facilities makes boarding physically demanding and unsafe for elderly residents, a vulnerability further compounded by the constant threat of crocodile attacks in the river. **(4)** Severe market access barriers and post-harvest losses significantly constrain the sale of agricultural commodities like paddy, vegetables, and durians, as buyers refuse to travel inland over poorly maintained roads, leaving crops to spoil and discouraging farmers from pursuing commercial cultivation. **(5)** The complete absence of a formal waste management system or established disposal procedures forces residents to manage trash through open burning or by dumping it directly into local rivers. Finally, **(6)** critical inter-settlement connectivity gaps remain between Rumah Nawie Semulong Ulu and Rumah Emparan Semulong Ili, which completely lack proper road access and are linked only by a deteriorating wooden bridge that poses significant safety risks.

17/04/2026 FGD 6: DIALOGUE SESSION WITH IBAN ULU UNDOP






The KMKK and community representatives of Paku Ulu, Paku Ili, Kg Sebujok, Kg Sebangkoi, Rh Bair Sebangkoi, Rh Simon, Sungai Putong, Kaong Ulu Undop, Munggu Ruan and Radau Ulu Undop highlighted several serious security, infrastructural, and legal challenges affecting the border area. **(1)** Pervasive border security threats exist due to fluid cross-border movements just 2 km from the border, where an insufficient security presence has turned the area into a hotspot for drug trafficking and the smuggling of controlled goods like cooking gas, rice, and cooking oil by local actors. **(2)** Substandard road planning and poor structural compliance have left the terrain narrow, winding, hilly, and riddled with potholes, failing to meet the standard 3-inch tar specifications and causing dangerous driving conditions that are worsened by heavy lorry damage. **(3)** Emergency service response time delay and navigational hazards affect the area, as the distant P-turn to Batu Lintang along the Pan Borneo Highway forces fire trucks and ambulances to travel prolonged distances, while the absolute absence of street lighting causes drivers to overshoot the junction at night. In addition to that fatal accidents has happened few times due to unsafe highway crossing **(4)** Financial strain from inconsistent utility administration occurs because water meter readings are conducted only once every 2–3 years, forcing residents to face sudden, accumulated bill charges. Furthermore, **(5)** cross-border vehicle theft remains a threat, with stolen cars and local farmers' four-wheel-drive vehicles reportedly being moved by local individuals from other divisions through porous, unmonitored border routes. **(6)** Disproportionate financial and mental burdens heavily afflict divorced women due to a high incidence of marital abandonment, a crisis severely prolonged by a complex civil legal process that forces women to travel to Kuching for multi-year court hearings, creates massive logistical costs, leaves them in legal uncertainty without childcare support, and bars them from accessing welfare assistance. Finally, **(7)** untapped eco-tourism potential remains restricted at natural assets like Wong Radau and the waterfall near Rumah Bair because vital supporting infrastructure, including access roads, rest huts (*pondok*), and changing facilities, is poorly maintained.

17/04/2026 FGD 7: DIALOGUE SESSION WITH THE TITIKAH KUBAL COMMUNITY







The local residents highlighted several critical utility, digital, and environmental challenges impacting their daily lives. **(1)** Financial strain from inconsistent utility billing practices affects residents, who face sudden, accumulated water bill charges amounting to hundreds of ringgit because they have only received water bills approximately four times since the treated water supply was installed in 2021. **(2)** Sudden digital connectivity degradation has disrupted the area, where despite its close proximity to a telecommunications tower, the network has been lagging for the past two months, creating severe barriers for residents trying to access essential services and school-related information. Finally, **(3)** severe flash flood vulnerabilities disrupt local mobility during periods of heavy rain because the road's close proximity to the river leaves it completely impassable for 4–5 hours at a time, an environmental hazard that villagers suspect is directly linked to a nearby, defunct micro-hydro dam at Wong Pupo.

18/04/2026 FGD 8: DIALOGUE SESSION WITH THE TUBA COMMUNITY





The KMKK and community representatives of Tuba highlighted several challenges. **(1)** Water quality degradation the non-functional 2018 SAWAS filtration system leaves gravity-fed water heavily silted and contaminated with nematode-like worms. **(2)** Public health risks as residents suffer stomach aches and skin rashes from water consumption. **(3)** Unplanned maintenance costs when perceived poor construction forces residents to independently fund and conduct emergency pipeline and dam repairs. **(4)** Deteriorating piping materials because of the use of rust-prone steel pipes instead of HDPE. **(5)** Unstable telco connectivity as the local tower is disconnected from the power grid, relying on a diesel generator that frequently fails due to poor refuelling access. Because of this, the residents face **(6)** telco service disruptions when there is insufficient refuelling particularly during major periods like the Gawai season. **(7)** Digital utility payment barriers as SESCO's transition to online billing alienates elderly residents, while a single physical payment trip costs up to RM250. **(8)** Hazardous road conditions when the former logging access road is deeply eroded with protruding steel rebar that punctures tyres monthly and restricts travel to 4WD vehicles. **(9)** Administrative verification constraints as immigration officers refuse to conduct mandatory residency visits for non-Sarawakian spouse PR applications due to the inaccessible terrain. **(10)** Educational infrastructure deficits as secondary students must commute up to 128 km through grueling terrain due to the absence of a high school in Pantu. **(11)** High school transportation costs because mandatory weekly or fortnightly boarding return policies force families to spend RM200 to RM250 per trip. **(12)** School bullying & dropouts as weak institutional responses to hostel bullying have driven male students to drop out of school entirely. **(13)** Administrative matters such as frozen JKKK accounts (Rh Ngumbang), development funding applications, and welfare assistance applications have been affected by the absence of officially sanctioned headmen or Tuai Rumah in several longhouses. **(14)** Re-gazettement delays: Jurisdictional shifts from Simunjan to Pantu district have left development and welfare applications trapped in backlogs. **(15)** The absence of trash disposal systems drives residents to dump waste into the river, attracting crocodiles underneath stilt homes. **(16)** Raw human waste is discharged directly into the primary river system due to the lack of modern sanitation. **(17)** River siltation & flood hazards when a progressively shallowing river bed requires urgent dredging to prevent crocodiles from entering village pathways during floods. **(18)** Unequal socioeconomic opportunities as residents face barriers to fair economic distribution, prompting calls for inclusive development that benefits all longhouses collectively.

18/04/2026 FGD 9: DIALOGUE SESSION WITH THE MUDING COMMUNITY







The session highlighted several challenges shared by the KMKK and local community. **(1)** Severe educational access barriers force secondary students to travel long distances to SMK Melugu at an exhausting cost of RM80 per trip, a financial and logistical burden that is worsened when boarding school water shortages force students to return home prematurely. **(2)** Overlapping schooling jurisdictions remain a challenge as Pantu's 2021 transition to a full district has left administrative adjustments incomplete, keeping SK Muding tethered to the Simunjan PPD under the Samarahan Division and causing overlapping school placements based on identity card addresses. **(3)** Hazardous river infrastructure limits daily mobility for the residents of Muding Tengah and Muding Atas, who remain heavily reliant on Sungai Muding for their livelihood. **(4)** Residents continue to rely on a gravity-fed water supply system and during drought seasons, water availability becomes insufficient or unavailable, leading to a heavy dependence on welfare assistance. **(5)** Untapped eco-tourism and agricultural potential exists due to natural assets like Wong Radak and Wong Lapong waterfalls, but development remains stalled because local residents lack the knowledge and project management experience required to operate tourism-based projects. Additionally, **(6)** lacks basic commercial amenities like a petrol station and essential banking facilities, specifically cash deposit machines (CDMs), forcing residents to travel long distances for routine transactions. **(7)** Inadequate agricultural infrastructure constrains local cash-crop farmers cultivating pepper, oil palm, and paddy, who face a critical lack of proper farm and plantation access roads to reach markets and enhance productivity. **(8)** Residents have expressed the need for a Klinik Kesihatan or Klinik Desa to be established as the nearest clinic is located approximately one hour away. Finally, **(9)** Population growth has increased the need for larger and upgraded clinic facilities in Pantu as residents face long waiting times and long distance journey.

27/04/2026 FGD 10: DIALOGUE SESSION WITH THE BANTING COMMUNITY






The session highlighted several challenges shared by the KMKK and local community. **(1)** Prolonged road access delays persist as the construction of the R1 standard federal road via Balau has dragged on for three years past its 2025 deadline despite multiple groundbreaking ceremonies. **(2)** Stagnant access road development heavily concerns residents, who note that progress at the critical bridge construction site has completely stalled due to a severely reduced workforce of only three people and an absolute absence of JKR personnel or project consultants on site. **(3)** A stalled water supply project under the JBALB SAWAS Phase 2 program has remained inactive for approximately three years due to funding constraints and forcing 10 local longhouses to independently take turns on a monthly basis to clean and maintain their basic gravity-fed systems. **(4)** The status of local clinic development remains entirely unclear, as the proposed *Klinik Kesihatan* site near Chabu has seen no development for decades despite land compensation being finalised by the Ministry of Health back in 2009. **(5)** Severe healthcare accessibility hazards isolate the community, which remains highly dependent on river tide conditions to travel out of the area during medical emergencies. Additionally, **(6)** unrealised agricultural potential affects local livelihoods, as a highly successful paddy scheme from the late 1970s and early 1980s gradually collapsed over time because severe access constraints made it impossible to transport agricultural inputs or move produce out to markets. **(7)** Welfare assistance requirements and policies for rural and interior recipients are perceived by some as not fully aligned with current living standards and local realities. **(8)** Incomplete government projects have sparked widespread community frustration regarding a historical pattern of partially implemented initiatives by past political representatives and government agencies that are never fully followed through. Finally, **(9)** rising human–wildlife conflict increasingly threatens daily river mobility and safety, as an expanding crocodile population now directly competes with local fishers who depend on the area's unpolluted freshwater prawns and *tapah* fish.

PART B

Issue Mapping Report

P.202 Sri Aman

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List of Abbreviations

AF	Equatorial / Tropical Rainforest Climate
AFC	Asian Football Confederation
APPGM-SDG	All Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia on Sustainable Development Goals
B40	Bottom 40% (Household Income Group)
BN	Barisan Nasional
CBT	Community-Based Tourism
CDM	Cash Deposit Machine
DID	Department of Drainage and Irrigation
DOA	Department of Agriculture
DOSM	Department of Statistics Malaysia
DUN	Dewan Undangan Negeri (State Legislative Assembly)
FAM	Football Association of Malaysia
FDS	Forest Department Sarawak
FGD / FGDs	Focus Group Discussion / Focus Group Discussions
GE15	15th General Election
GEKO	Geriatric Community (Programme)
GOF / PGA	General Operations Force / Pasukan Gerakan Am
GPS	Gabungan Parti Sarawak
HDPE	high-density polyethylene
IAD	Inter-Agency Dialogue
ISN	Institut Sukan Negara (National Sports Institute)
JBALB / SRWS	Jabatan Bekalan Air Luar Bandar / Sarawak Rural Water Supply
JBS	Jabatan Belia dan Sukan (Youth and Sports Department)
JKK / JKKK	Jawatankuasa Kemajuan dan Keselamatan Kampung (Village Development and Safety Committee)
JKM	Jabatan Kebajikan Masyarakat (Department of Social Welfare)
JKR	Jabatan Kerja Raya (Public Works Department)
KBS	Kementerian Belia dan Sukan (Ministry of Youth and Sports)
KIIs	Key Informant Interviews
KK	Klinik Kesihatan

KKDW	*Kementerian Kemajuan Desa dan Wilayah* (Ministry of Rural and Regional Development)
KMKK	*Ketua Masyarakat dan Ketua Kaum*
L&S	Land and Survey Department
MARRIS	Malaysian Road Record Information System
MCMC	Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission
MCRCR	Malaysian Code of Responsible Conduct in Research
MDSA	*Majlis Daerah Sri Aman* (Sri Aman District Council)
MKN	Majlis Keselamatan Negara (National Security Council)
MO / MOs	Medical Officer / Medical Officers
MP	Member of Parliament
MPBN	*Majlis Perundingan Belia Negara*
MSME / MSMEs	Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises
MSPO	Malaysian Sustainable Palm Oil
MTCP	Ministry of Tourism, Creative Industry and Performing Arts Sarawak
NCD / NCDs	Non-Communicable Diseases
NCR	Native Customary Rights
OKU / PWD	*Orang Kurang Upaya* / Persons with Disabilities
PAWE	*Pusat Aktiviti Warga Emas* (Senior Citizen Activity Centre)
PCDS 2030	Post Covid-19 Development Strategy 2030
PPD	*Pejabat Pendidikan Daerah* (District Education Office)
PPDK	*Pusat Pemulihan Dalam Komuniti* (Community-Based Rehabilitation Centre)
PDRM	*Polis Diraja Malaysia* (Royal Malaysia Police)
PR	Permanent Residency
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
PRS	*Parti Rakyat Sarawak*
PSD	Policy Solution Department
PMD	Project Management Department
Rh	*Rumah*; Standard abbreviation used in Sarawak refering to traditional long house (*rumah panjang*)
RMK-12 / RMK-13	Rancangan Malaysia Ke-12 / Ke-13 (12th / 13th Malaysia Plan)
ROY	Registrar of Youth

RPR	*Rumah Mesra Rakyat* / Rakyat Public Housing
RTP	Rural Transformation Project
SADA	Sri Aman Development Authority
SARA	*Sumbangan Asas Rahmah*
SAWAS	Sarawak Alternative Water Supply
SDG / SDGs	Sustainable Development Goal / Sustainable Development Goals
SEB	Sarawak Energy Berhad
SESCO	Sarawak Energy
SDO	Sarawak State Development Office
SFD	Sarawak Forest Department
SK	*Sekolah Kebangsaan* (National Primary School)
SKAS	Sarawak Basic Needs Assistance
SMK	*Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan* (National Secondary School)
SOSEK Malindo	*Sosial Ekonomi Malaysia-Indonesia*
SSC	Sarawak Sports Corporation
SUKMA	*Sukan Malaysia* (Malaysia Games)
SUPP	Sarawak United Peoples' Party
TASKA	*Taman Asuhan Kanak-Kanak* (Childcare Centre)
TR	*Tuai Rumah* (Longhouse Chief)
TRSA	Timbalan Residen Sri Aman (Sri Aman Deputy Resident)
UKAS	Unit Komunikasi Awam Sarawak
VSAT	Very Small Aperture Terminal (Satellite Internet)
4WD	Four-wheel drive

1.0 INTRODUCTION



YB Dato' Sri Doris Sophia Brodi

The federal parliamentary seat of P202 Sri Aman is presently held by YB Dato' Sri Doris Sophia Brodi, a senior political figure affiliated with *Parti Rakyat Sarawak* (PRS), a component party of the ruling *Gabungan Parti Sarawak* (GPS) coalition. Winning the seat in the 15th General Election (GE15) in November 2022, she made history as the first Dayak woman elected to the Dewan Rakyat. Beyond her legislative portfolio as a Member of Parliament (MP), Doris Sophia Brodi holds key institutional governance roles, having previously served as the 12th Deputy President of the Dewan Negara (Senate). Her career reflects a sustained engagement in public policy, native community rights, rural infrastructure development, and federal-state relations, positioning her as a significant actor in the discourse on governance and representation in East Malaysia.

Background: Parliamentary Constituency of Sri Aman (P202)

The P202 Sri Aman parliamentary constituency, located within Sri Aman Division in the Malaysian state of Sarawak, serves as an important rural and semi-urban electoral district with historical and political relevance. Established during the 1987 electoral boundary re-delineation exercise, which evolved from the Batang Lupar parliamentary area, the constituency first participated in Malaysia's 1990 general election. Since its inception, Sri Aman has evolved both demographically and politically, reflected by the broader socio-economic trends in Sarawak's regional heartlands and the shifting dynamics of state-federal coalition politics. Administratively, the Sri Aman parliamentary constituency covers a substantial geographical area that includes the primary administrative township of Simanggang alongside surrounding rural settlement zones, riverine communities, and traditional longhouses. According to official census data, the constituency recorded a population of approximately 62,863 residents, with over 50,000 registered electors as of the 2022 general election. Sri Aman forms a vital footprint in southwestern Sarawak, incorporating key sub-districts, agricultural zones, and trade hubs. Prominent localities within the constituency include Simanggang town center, Lingga, Pantu, and Engkilili. As a predominantly semi-urban and rural constituency, Sri Aman is characterised by low population density spread over sprawling land areas. The demographic composition of the electorate is predominantly Sarawak Bumiputera, comprising a clear majority of ethnic Dayak (primarily Iban) alongside Malay populations concentrated in riverine and coastal settlements. A smaller segment of the population consists of ethnic Chinese residents who run commercial hubs, alongside minor indigenous communities.

State Constituencies under P.202 Sri Aman

P202 Sri Aman is composed of three (3) state constituencies under the Dewan Undangan Negeri (DUN) Sarawak:

- N30 Balai Ringin
- N31 Bukit Begunan
- N32 Simanggang

These state seats collectively shape the parliamentary constituency's diverse rural, semi-urban, and agricultural landscape.

Political Representation and Party Affiliation

The representation of Sri Aman in the Dewan Rakyat has maintained structural alignment with state government coalitions over the years. The seat was held for three terms from 2008 to 2022 by Datuk Masir Kujat, initially under Barisan Nasional (BN-PRS) before he transitioned to independent status. In the 2022 general election, Doris Sophia Brodi successfully reclaimed the seat for the GPS coalition with a clear majority.

The three Sarawak state constituencies under Sri Aman remain firmly under the influence of Gabungan Parti Sarawak (GPS):

- **Balai Ringin (N30):** Represented by YB Datuk Snowdan Lawan of GPS-PRS, who concurrently serves as Deputy Minister for Creative Industry and Performing Arts Sarawak.

- **Bukit Begunan (N31):** Represented by long-serving YB Datuk Mong Dagang of GPS-PRS, representing a stable rural voting base for the party.

- **Simanggang (N32):** Represented by YB Datuk Francis Harden Hollis of the Sarawak United Peoples' Party (SUPP), who serves as Deputy Minister for Education, Innovation and Talent Development Sarawak.

These state constituencies, while maintaining unique localised priorities, align closely with the federal parliamentary seat to drive rural transformation, regional development initiatives, and public infrastructure projects across Sri Aman.

Administrative Structure and Leadership

Sri Aman falls under the jurisdiction of the Sri Aman Division for its administrative and municipal affairs. Governance and service delivery across the parliamentary constituency

are supported by the following local administrative officers and municipal authorities, each playing a critical role in regional governance, infrastructure development, and civic service delivery:

Local Government Administration:

- Resident of Sri Aman Division: Mahra bin Salleh
- Acting Deputy Resident: Frank anak Lani
- District Officer for Pantu: Raca Mulong
- Acting District Officer for Lingga: Josephson Louis anak Nako

Local Authorities:

- Sri Aman District Council / Majlis Daerah Sri Aman (MDSA): Chairman Cr. Anthony Jamit

These administrative leaders play pivotal roles in coordinating rural development initiatives, facilitating community engagement, maintaining municipal infrastructure, and ensuring effective governance across the constituency.

1.1 Geography and Topography

The geographical matrix and topographical architecture of the P202 Sri Aman parliamentary constituency constitute the fundamental physical structural parameters conditioning its long-term human ecology, agrarian expansion, and administrative demarcation. Situated within the lower and middle catchment of the Batang Lupar basin in southwestern Sarawak, the constituency represents an ecological interface where coastal-estuarine hydrodynamic regimes intersect with alluvial floodplains, low-relief sedimentary terrain, and rugged interior escarpments. Rather than serving merely as a passive territorial container, this physical landscape has historically operated as an active variable in shaping migration corridors, customary land boundaries (*menoa*), interethnic economic specialisation, and the spatial consolidation of state power. Consequently, analysing the physiographic zones, altitudinal gradients, and fluvial dynamics of P202 Sri Aman provides the foundational spatial framework necessary to evaluate its contemporary demographic distribution, agrarian commodity frontiers, infrastructural integration, and internal political demarcations.

Geographical Extent and Spatial Boundaries

The federal parliamentary constituency of P202 Sri Aman encompasses a land mass of 2,678 square kilometres within southern Sarawak, spanning the administrative districts of Sri Aman, Pantu, and Lingga. Situated within the lower to mid-reaches of the Batang Lupar river basin, the constituency shares administrative boundaries with Serian Division to the west, Betong Division to the northeast, and the neighbouring parliamentary seat

of Lubok Antu (P203) to the east. To the south, its border aligns with the Kelingkang Range, forming the international boundary between Malaysia (Sarawak) and Indonesia (West Kalimantan).

Topographical Zones and Physical Terrain

The physical landscape of P202 Sri Aman transitions from flat coastal wetlands to undulating central hills and rugged border highlands:

- Coastal and Riverine Lowlands: Concentrated along the northern perimeter and the Lingga sub-district, this zone consists of low-lying floodplains, mangrove estuaries, and peat swamp forests near the mouth of the Batang Lupar. Elevational relief remains low (0–20 metres above sea level), making these areas susceptible to seasonal tidal inundation and tidal bore activity (*benak*).

- Undulating Central Plains & Terraces: Forming the core of the Simanggang and Balai Ringin agricultural corridors, this terrain features rolling hills and river terraces (20–150 metres above sea level). These well-drained alluvial soils support organised cash-crop smallholdings, paddy granary zones (e.g., Bijat-Pantu), and urban settlement expansion.

- Southern Upland Ranges: The southern boundaries of Bukit Begunan and Pantu rise abruptly into forested sandstone ridges and mountain chains, most notably Bukit Begunan and the Kelingkang Range, reaching elevations exceeding 500 metres above sea level. This high-relief restricts large-scale infrastructure development and acts as a watershed catchment.

1.2 Demographic

The demographic history of P202 Sri Aman reflects the ongoing transformation of rural Sarawak. From early river settlements to modern highway connectivity, the constituency's population patterns show how local heritage and modern development shape the community today.

Historical Foundations and Settlement Geography

The contemporary demographic landscape of the Sri Aman parliamentary constituency (P202), historically known as Simanggang, is rooted in the physical and political geography of the Batang Lupar river basin. During the nineteenth-century expansion of the Brooke Raj, river systems such as the Batang Lupar, Sungai Undup, and Sungai Lingga served as primary arteries for territorial movement, swidden agriculture, and regional trade connecting interior forest resources to coastal markets.

- Indigenous Longhouse Networks: The rural hinterlands across sub-districts such as Lingga, Pantu, and Bukit Begunan were settled and consolidated by regional Iban subgroups, which are principally the Iban Balau and Iban Banting. Their riverine longhouse settlements formed the agricultural and demographic backbone of the basin, establishing early customary land boundaries (*menoa*).

- Coastal and Estuarine Settlements: Malay communities established traditional kampung along lower riverine and estuarine stretches, notably at coastal Lingga, occupying specialised economic niches in artisanal fishing, trade, and localised administrative service under the Brooke government. The long-standing coexistence between coastal Malay and native Dayak populations was further shaped by historical processes of religious conversion and social integration, often framed through the sociocultural concept of *masuk Melayu.*

- Bazaar Trade and Urbanisation: Following the construction of Fort Alice in 1864, the riverbank settlement of Simanggang transitioned into an administrative outpost and regional market hub. Chinese settlers, which are predominantly Hakka, Foochow, and Teochew traders and smallholders entered the area under Brooke land and commercial policies, establishing shophouses to exchange manufactured provisions, salt, and ironware for Iban jungle produce, rubber, and pepper.

This historical layering established a durable spatial division of labour and settlement that persists today: an agrarian Dayak hinterland, river-mouth Malay villages, and a commercial-administrative core in the township.

Contemporary Demographic Structure and Spatial Distribution

According to subnational census figures published by the Department of Statistics Malaysia, P202 Sri Aman encompasses an administrative area of 2,678 square kilometres with a total enumerated population of 62,863.

The overall density of 23.5 persons per square kilometre reflects an expansive spatial footprint in which dispersed rural communities connect to the urban center of Sri Aman town via primary road networks—notably the Pan Borneo Highway corridor—and traditional river channels.

Ethnic Composition

Ethnic Composition of P.202 Sri Aman:

Table 1. Population Composition by Ethnicity for Sri Aman (P.202)

NO.	ETHNICITY	PERCENTAGE (%)
1.	Bumiputera	87.9
2.	Chinese	11.8
3.	Others	0.3
	Total	**100**

- Sarawak Bumiputera (87.9 percent): Form the clear majority. The population is mostly Iban, whose longhouses and farmlands cover the rural areas, alongside Malay communities settled along the lower riverbanks.
- Chinese (11.8 percent): Concentrated predominantly in Sri Aman town and localised bazaars, maintaining a leading role in retail enterprise, agricultural commodity processing, and services.
- Others & non-Citizens (0.3 percent): Comprises a minor demographic segment, consisting of itinerant workers and non-local residents.

Age Structure and Socioeconomic Indicators

The population of P.202 Sri Aman is primarily composed of working-age adults, alongside notable levels of homeownership and steady local workforce engagement. Working-age individuals between 15 and 64 years make up the largest segment of the population at 67.7 percent, while children and youth aged 0 to 14 account for 20.7 percent. Senior citizens aged 65 and above represent 11.7 percent of the populace, a figure that reflects an aging rural base as many younger adults relocate to larger urban areas for study and employment. Economically, the constituency records a labour force participation rate of 66.9 percent, with employment anchored predominantly in smallholder agriculture such as oil palm, pepper, and rubber cultivation and which are supplemented by civil service

positions and local trade. At the same time, Sri Aman maintains an exceptionally high homeownership rate of 93.4%. This is largely driven by customary native land practices and inherited longhouse apartments (*bilek*), meaning the vast majority of households reside in family-owned properties rather than commercial rental housing.

Rural-Urban Migration and Out-Migration Dynamics

The demographic profile of P202 Sri Aman is deeply shaped by historical mobility traditions and modern labor migration. What was once institutionalised in Iban culture as bejalai, temporary, circular journeys for commerce, prestige, and wage-earning, has largely evolved into a structural rural-to-urban migration pattern. Even though working-age individuals (ages 15–64) comprise 67.7 percent of the population, the local economy remains anchored to primary-sector farming and civil service roles. These limited economic pathways push educated youths and semi-skilled workers toward larger urban economies, including Kuching, industrial corridors like Bintulu and Miri, and metropolitan labour markets in Peninsular Malaysia and Singapore.

From a regional planning and public policy perspective, this sustained outflow generates four primary structural impacts:

- Demographic Aging of Rural Communities: With young adults departing, older residents (11.7 percent aged 65 and above) remain concentrated in rural longhouses and small settlements. This creates an off-peak 'empty-nest' environment occupied mostly by the elderly and young children, whose normal routines are punctuated only by major festive reunions such as Hari Gawai.

- Agrarian Labour Constraints and Land Shifts: The shortage of working-age farm labor makes labor-intensive subsistence farming, such as hill rice (*padi bukit*), increasingly difficult to sustain. This encourages smallholders to switch to lower-maintenance cash crops like oil palm, or leaves portions of Native Customary Rights (NCR) land uncultivated.

- The Stabilising Role of Remittances: Out-migrants remain tightly linked to their natal longhouses through urban-to-rural financial remittances. These funds subsidise everyday rural living, cover educational costs, and finance renovations of longhouse quarters (*bilek*), explaining why homeownership stands at an exceptional 93.4 percent despite low average local earnings.

- Gaps Between Registered and Resident Populations: Because administrative registries do not reflect seasonal population fluctuations, municipal planning remains complex. Local infrastructure networks, clinics, and transportation

services must be scaled to handle intense, temporary surges during elections and cultural festivals, despite operating well below full capacity for much of the year.

1.3 Livelihood Strategies and Economic Activities

Economic livelihoods across P202 Sri Aman are structurally diversified across rural agro-commodity smallholdings, artisanal riverine fisheries, civil service employment, urban commercial enterprise, and circular labour migration. Conditioned by Native Customary Rights (NCR) land tenure and transport integration along the Pan Borneo Highway, the local economy balances traditional subsistence practices with market commodity production.

Agrarian Commodity Frontiers and Smallholder Production

The primary agricultural sector serves as the economic backbone of rural Sri Aman:

- Commercial Oil Palm Cultivation (*Kelapa Sawit*): Oil palm cultivation has expanded across customary landholdings as the primary cash crop. Smallholders participate both independently and through government block-planting schemes, integrating into commercial value chains under Malaysian Sustainable Palm Oil (MSPO) standards. However, smallholders face ongoing challenges from farmgate price volatility and logistics costs to regional mills.

- Cash-Crop Diversification (Black & White Pepper, Rubber): Sarawak pepper (*Piper nigrum*) remains an iconic high-value export crop cultivated on hillside plots. Natural rubber (*Hevea brasiliensis*) continues to function as an economic buffer; tapping intensifies when global commodity prices rebound or during periods of seasonal underemployment.

- Paddy Granaries and Food Security: Alluvial granaries, such as the Bijat-Stumbin-Lingga scheme overseen by the Department of Agriculture (DOA), anchor commercial wet paddy (*padi paya*) production. In contrast, upland hill paddy (*padi bukit*) continues on rotational swidden plots primarily for household food security, seed preservation, and ritual use .

Artisanal Riverine and Estuarine Fisheries

In the downstream sub-districts, particularly coastal Lingga and along the estuarine stretches of the Batang Lupar, artisanal fisheries provide vital subsistence and local trade. Small-scale fishers deploy drift nets, gill nets, and traditional traps to harvest high-value estuarine and freshwater species, notably Ikan Terubok (*Tenualosa toli*), Udang Galah (giant freshwater prawn, *Macrobrachium rosenbergii*), and catfish. These fisheries supply immediate dietary protein for riverine longhouse communities and feed fresh-produce

markets in Simanggang and Kuching, though productivity remains vulnerable to monsoonal variations, estuarine siltation, and tidal bore waves.

Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and Urban Commerce

Simanggang town serves as the central commercial clearinghouse and service hub for Sri Aman Division. The local private sector is dominated by Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), encompassing retail grocery trading, agro-chemical and fertiliser distribution, mechanical equipment repair, and road logistics. Riverfront bazaars facilitate the collection and trade of smallholder agricultural commodities. Additionally, cultural and eco-tourism, anchored by the annual *Pesta Benak* (Tidal Bore Festival) and Brooke-era historical monuments (Fort Alice / Sri Aman Heritage Museum), generates seasonal income for local hospitality, catering, and river transport operators.

Remittance Economics and Modern Labour Mobility

As structural constraints within the primary agricultural sector limit high-wage technical employment, rural household resilience relies heavily on inter-regional labour mobility. Urban migrants working in industrial centers (Kuching, Bintulu's Samalaju Industrial Park), Peninsular Malaysia, and Singapore provide substantial financial remittances to their home longhouses. These funds underwrite day-to-day living expenses, healthcare, children's secondary and tertiary education, and the capital-intensive modernisation of longhouse apartments (bilek), sustaining the constituency's 93.4 percent homeownership rate.

1.4 Relations between the SDG Conceptual Framework and the Local Context

Localising the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) within P202 Sri Aman requires adapting global targets to the realities of rural Sarawak [38]. Institutional monitoring and micro-project execution are coordinated through mechanisms like the All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia on Sustainable Development Goals (APPGM-SDG), which bridges federal policy mandates with local communities via Participatory Rural Appraisals (PRA), Focus Group Discussions (FGD), and Inter-Agency Dialogues (IAD).

Table 2. Relations Between the SDG Conceptual Framework and the Local Context: Mapping SDGs 1, 6, 8, 9, and 15 to Local Realities and Implementation Challenges in P202 Sri Aman

SDG GOAL & TARGET	LOCAL REALITIES IN P202 SRI AMAN	STRUCTURAL GAPS & IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES
SDG 1: No Poverty (Target 1.2: Multidimensional Poverty)	Households maintain high fixed capital assets via Native Customary Rights (NCR) land and longhouse *bilek* units (93.4% homeownership), yet experience vulnerability in disposable cash flow.	Exposure to global cash crop price shocks (palm oil, pepper); physical distance limits access to formal commercial banking and digital financial safety nets.
SDG 6: Clean Water & Sanitation (Target 6.1: Safe & Affordable Water)	Treated municipal water serves the urban core of Simanggang, while interior longhouses in Lingga and Pantu rely on gravity-feed systems, rainwater harvesting, or raw river intake managed by SRWS.	Dry spells cause seasonal water shortages; river turbidity, agricultural runoff, and tidal bore salinity backflow complicate rural treatment systems.
SDG 8: Decent Work & Economic Growth (Target 8.5: Productive Employment)	Labour force participation is 66.9%, centered on smallholder farming, manual handling, and local public services.	Shortage of skilled, high-value employment drives youth out-migration (*modern bejalai*), exacerbating rural demographic aging (11.7% aged 65+).
SDG 9: Industry, Innovation & Infrastructure (Target 9.1: Resilient Infrastructure)	Trunk connectivity has improved via the Pan Borneo Highway corridor, but interior branch roads to remote riverine longhouses remain gravel or unpaved tracks.	Persistent mobile and digital connectivity gaps in upland valleys; tidal bore waves cause recurrent riverbank erosion, damaging rural jetties and bridges.
SDG 15: Life on Land (Target 15.2: Sustainable Forest Management)	Contains vital biodiversity corridors and watershed headwaters along Bukit Lesong (Pantu district) interspersed with agro-forestry smallholdings.	Balancing biodiversity protection with smallholder cash-crop expansion; resolving customary boundary demarcation

SDG GOAL & TARGET	LOCAL REALITIES IN P202 SRI AMAN	STRUCTURAL GAPS & IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES
		under Section 6 & 7 of the Sarawak Land Code.

Policy Integration and Multi-Stakeholder Governance

Advancing sustainable development across P202 Sri Aman requires an integrated multi-stakeholder governance model. The APPGM-SDG approach illustrates that effective localisation relies on structured alignment between parliamentary leadership, state technical agencies (DOA, JBALB, SFD), local municipal authorities (MDSA), and traditional grassroots leadership (*Tuai Rumah, Penghulu, Pemanca*). Grassroots participatory assessments ensure that developmental interventions, including decentralised gravity-fed water rehabilitation, and communal agro-processing centers will directly address community vulnerabilities while protecting native customary land and forest ecosystems.

2.0 RESEARCH METHOD AND METHODOLOGY

This parliamentary baseline report employs a systematic and evidence-based issue mapping approach designed in accordance with methodological standards established within the All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia on Sustainable Development Goals (APPGM-SDG) operational framework. A qualitative research methodology was adopted to capture the lived experiences, vulnerabilities, and developmental priorities of grassroots communities across the P202 Sri Aman parliamentary constituency, ensuring that all empirical findings are contextually grounded, analytically representative, and policy-actionable. Primary data collection techniques were rooted in Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) principles, incorporating semi-structured inquiries including Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) to capture grounded, localised perspectives. These ethnographic tools facilitated active participation and collaborative dialogue with community stakeholders, providing a granular understanding of localized socio-ecological dynamics. Primary field inquiries were complemented by rigorous desk studies that examined subnational demographic data, historical settlement morphology, and administrative records published by the Department of Statistics Malaysia and divisional authorities, establishing a foundational baseline to guide the fieldwork.

To ensure linguistic accessibility and cultural authenticity within Sarawak's multi-ethnic riverine geography, the research design incorporated the use of native and regional languages, particularly Iban and localised Sarawak Malay dialects, drawing on their communicative functions in everyday conversational interaction. This sociolinguistic accommodation removed administrative distance and fostered transparent engagement with longhouse residents and rural smallholders. To analyze the qualitative data, discourse analysis was applied, structured systematically around three core analytic dimensions: content, context, and assumption:

- Content: Analysed the themes, developmental priorities, specific grievances, and types of interactions or utterances during discussions.

- Context: Explored grammar (language structure and syntax), setting (spatial, temporal, and social backgrounds including longhouse *ruai* and *bilek* environments), and emotion (expressed feelings, urgency, or instincts) to interpret the broader environment of interactions.

- Assumption: Examined opinions, references, questions, and unstated normative worldviews to uncover underlying beliefs regarding Native Customary Rights (NCR) land security, institutional trust, and state agency expectations.

Table 3. Research Approach

ANALYTIC DIMENSION	THEORETICAL DEFINITION & CORE FOCUS	METHODOLOGICAL APPLICATION IN P202 SRI AMAN
Content	Thematic categorisation of utterances, interaction types, and formal statements (Coulthard 1977; Rahim 2018).	Systematic coding of explicit developmental deficits voiced by participants, including untreated water access, secondary road infrastructure, agricultural price shocks, and youth employment scarcity.
Context	Examination of sociolinguistic grammar, syntax, spatio-temporal environments, and affective/emotional registers (Stubbs 1983; Rahim 2018).	Interpreting discourse within the physical spaces of longhouse communal verandas (*ruai*) and private family apartments (*bilek*), while accounting for seasonal pressures (monsoonal flooding) and geographic remoteness.
Assumption	Interrogation of underlying beliefs, unstated norms, values, and perceptual frameworks (Rahim 2018).	Deconstructing community assumptions regarding Native Customary Rights (NCR) land security, reliance on urban remittances, and expectations of state agency interventions.

The integration of native languages and discourse analysis allowed for culturally sensitive and authentic interpretations of the data, ensuring that community dynamics were accurately captured. This methodological rigour emphasises participatory, inclusive, and evidence-based research practices, aligning with the principles of sustainable development goals. By combining ethnographic tools, qualitative data, and linguistic analysis, this study provides empirically grounded insights that reflect the lived realities of the communities studied.

2.1 Issue Mapping Approach and Fieldwork Execution

The empirical data-gathering strategy utilised across P202 Sri Aman was established upon community-based participatory mapping approaches. Rooted in Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) protocols, this approach emphasises the primacy of indigenous and local knowledge, collective community deliberation, and grassroots identification of structural constraints. Within the geographic boundaries of the P202 Sri Aman constituency, which spans the administrative sub-districts of Sri Aman, Pantu, and Lingga, the issue mapping exercise mobilised ten (10) comprehensive Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with local communities, grassroots organisations and functional statutory bodies. To ensure broad demographic representation across the constituency's 2,678-square-kilometre landmass, the sample was purposively stratified to capture perspectives across distinct socio-demographic cohorts, including rural youth, aging populations in traditional longhouses, agrarian smallholders, and semi-urban commercial operators within the Simanggang township corridor.

Institutional Coordination and Field Deployment Logistics

The issue mapping process, including the identification and site selection of targeted longhouses and settlement clusters, was conducted under the strategic guidance of YB Dato' Sri Doris Sophia Brodi (Member of Parliament for P202 Sri Aman) and her constituency service team. Administrative facilitation and operational escort were coordinated with the Sri Aman Divisional Administration under the leadership of Resident Tuan Mahra bin Salleh, supported by the district administrative officers of the Pantu District Office, Sri Aman District Office, and Lingga District Office, whose personnel accompanied the research team throughout field operations. Crucial grassroots access was achieved through formal collaboration with customary community authorities, including the Temenggung Iban of Sri Aman and resident regional area chiefs: Penghulu Belie anak Blassan of Banting, Penghulu Angin anak Aji, and Penghulu Mingging anak Sigan. The research team also worked closely with divisional sectoral officers, notably Mohd Israk Ismail (Divisional Officer, Department of Youth and Sports Sri Aman) and Puan Sharifah Mordiah (Department of Social Welfare Sri Aman), who coordinated specialised focus group sessions with youth and sports organisations and vulnerable social welfare beneficiaries.

The issue mapping cycle commenced with an initial inception and baseline profiling briefing on 20 January 2026. Following preliminary stakeholder alignment, a total of ten (10) field FGD sessions were completed between 14 April and 27 May 2025 across the three constituent state legislative assembly (DUN) areas: N30 Balai Ringin, N31 Bukit Begunan, and N32 Simanggang.

The APPGM-SDG team conducting fieldwork to map SDG issues in the Sri Aman parliamentary constituency comprises the following members:

1. Raine Melissa Riman : Lead Researcher
2. Dr. Eva Kristin Larry Sait : Researcher
3. Corrin Alicia Nero : Researcher
4. Prof. Datuk Dr. Denison Jayasooria : Head of Secretariat, APPGM-SDG
5. Dr. Teo Lee Ken : Director, Constituency Coordination Dept

Table 4. Sri Aman Parliamentary Constituency Issue Mapping Fieldwork Programme

DATE	DIALOGUE SESSION/FGD
14 April 2026 (Tuesday)	• **FGD 1:** Dialogue Session with Youth Communities of Sri Aman
15 April 2026 (Wednesday)	• **FGD 2**: Dialogue Session with PAWE Sri Aman • **FGD 3**: Dialogue Session with Iban Mentu
16 April 2026 (Thursday)	• **FGD 4**: Dialogue Session with Iban Engkeranji • **FGD 5**: Dialogue Session with Iban Semulong Ulu and Semulong Ili
17 April 2026 (Friday)	• **FGD 6**: Dialogue Session with Iban Ulu Undop • **FGD 7**: Dialogue Session with Iban Titikah Kubal
18 April 2026 (Saturday)	• **FGD 8**: Dialogue Session with Iban Tuba • **FGD 9**: Dialogue Session with Iban Muding
27 April 2026 (Monday)	• **FGD 10**: Dialogue Session with Iban Banting

2.2 Fieldwork Ethical Considerations

Field inquiries involving human participants were conducted in strict adherence to the Malaysian Code of Responsible Conduct in Research (MCRCR). The research design ensured that the highest standards of integrity, participant protection, and procedural transparency were maintained across all field sites:

- Informed Consent and Voluntary Participation: The lead researcher ensured that all ethical protocols were followed by obtaining prior informed consent from participants for audio recording, video documentation, and photography, emphasizing the voluntary nature of participation. In instances where FGD participants declined recording or photography, researchers recorded manual field notes, and statements were omitted from public presentation platforms.
- Confidentiality and Statutory Data Protection: To safeguard participants' privacy, all personal identifiers and sensitive localized data were treated with strict confidentiality. Identifying details were anonymized or removed from reporting

materials unless explicit, written consent was granted. Primary and secondary data records were handled and archived in accordance with Malaysia's Personal Data Protection Act 2010 (Act 709), ensuring secure storage, restricted access, and long-term retrievability.

- Non-Maleficence and Cultural Respect: Research methodologies were structured to avoid psychological, social, or economic harm. Field investigators adopted culturally appropriate protocols that respected local customs, traditional longhouse hierarchy, and regional linguistic norms, preventing exploitation and avoiding undue burdens on community hosts.

- Beneficence and Reciprocal Sharing: The study was designed to provide reciprocal benefits by accurately elevating community voices and grassroots developmental priorities. Field syntheses are shared with customary community chiefs, municipal authorities, and relevant statutory stakeholders to inform subsequent constituency planning and resource allocation.

2.3 Fieldwork Challenges and Adaptive Strategies

While field operations in P202 Sri Aman succeeded in gathering extensive primary data, researchers encountered several logistical, linguistic, and institutional complexities that necessitated adaptive strategies on the ground:

- Weather and Seasonal Mobility: While transportation proceeded efficiently along major highway corridors, seasonal equatorial weather patterns such as particularly intense monsoonal rainfall and riverine flooding, required flexible scheduling. Navigating unpaved secondary logging tracks and river crossings required contingency timelines and route optimization.

- Linguistic Complexity and Collaborative Translation: The multi-lingual environment of Sri Aman, which comprised regional Iban dialects, Sarawak Malay, standard Malay, and Chinese dialects, required attentive moderation. While native-speaking researchers facilitated longhouse discussions smoothly, non-native team members required collaborative debriefs and iterative transcript cross-checks during qualitative coding to preserve contextual nuances.

- Geographical Dispersion and Representation: The vast spatial distribution of settlements across 2,678 square kilometres presented logistical trade-offs. The research team addressed this by clustering sessions across key subregions, ensuring balanced demographic and geographic representation across riverine, agrarian, and urban nodes.

- Navigating Sensitive Community Topics: Certain thematic discussions, in particularly regarding Native Customary Rights (NCR) land boundaries, tourism resource allocation, and perceived developmental inequities, elicited strong viewpoints. Investigators maintained a neutral, facilitative stance to ensure a secure, respectful deliberative space for all participants.

- Institutional Coordination Gaps: While engagement with district administration and municipal leadership was cooperative, formal inter-agency coordination with certain specialised technical departments remained constrained by scheduling conflicts and administrative protocols. Establishing institutionalised mechanisms will be vital for future policy feedback loops

- Resource and Timeline Boundaries: Given the compressed schedule and available fieldwork resources, the team maximized efficiency through targeted group clustering, providing a robust empirical baseline while recognizing the need for expanded longitudinal follow-up.

2.4 Research Limitations

Although the study adhered to rigorous methodological, linguistic, and ethical protocols, several contextual constraints shaped the scope, depth, and analytical interpretation of the findings:

- Interpretive Nuance and Linguistic Plurality: The rich dialectal diversity of Sarawakian Iban and regional Malay dialects introduced interpretive complexities during transcript translation and thematic coding. Despite stringent cross-checking, subtle cultural idioms and localized aphorisms may have experienced minor semantic flattening in translation.

- Temporal Constraints on Participatory Depth: The compressed fieldwork duration precluded extended ethnographic stays within individual longhouses, occasionally limiting the exploration of complex, long-term intra-community disputes.

- Participant Reluctance on Sensitive Governance Inquiries: Discussions touching upon welfare dependency, statelessness, identification documentation, and native land boundary disputes elicited cautious responses from some participants, occasionally leading to partial reporting on sensitive household challenges.

- Resource Boundaries on Triangulation: Budgetary and operational constraints limited the feasibility of multi-visit triangulations across remote interior locations,

relying instead on single-session focus group methodologies and key informant cross-referencing.

- Data Anonymization and Granularity Constraints: Stringent adherence to research ethics, personal data protection laws, and participant confidentiality necessitated the anonymization of specific community narratives, limiting the granular presentation of case studies in public reports.

- Customary Cultural Protocols: Navigating longhouse customary etiquette (adat) required careful diplomatic coordination. While successfully executed, maintaining protocol required conservative scheduling and cautious inquiry pacing.

These methodological constraints, while systematically managed, provide constructive parameters for refining subsequent phases of participatory issue mapping across parliamentary constituencies in rural Sarawak.

3.0 KEY ISSUES AND CROSS-CUTTING SDGS

Table 5. Key Issues and Cross-Cutting SDGs

NO	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	TARGETED GROUP	TARGETED LOCATION	PRIMARY SDG ALLIGNMENT
1	Secondary educational infrastructure deficit in Pantu District:	The absence of a secondary school within Pantu District generates systemic access barriers. Students having to attend SMK Balai Ringin/Simunjan (boarding facilities) with significant household transit costs (RM80–RM250/trip), contributing to elevated rural secondary attrition rates.	Social	Students, families with school-going children in Pantu	Pantu District (Tuba, Muding, Mentu)	**SDG 4: Quality Education** **Target 4.1:** By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes. **SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities** **Target 10.2:** By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status.

NO	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	TARGETED GROUP	TARGETED LOCATION	PRIMARY SDG ALLIGNMENT
2	Sub-standard residential school amenities and safety compliance	Critical operational bottlenecks affect rural educational facilities, specifically recurring water supply interruptions at SMK Melugu and unaddressed student safety concerns at SMK Simunjan residential hostels, necessitating structural intervention and standardised anti-bullying governance.	Social	Boarders, faculty	SMK Melugu, SMK Simunjan	**SDG 4: Quality Education** **Target 4.a:** Build and upgrade education facilities that are child-, disability- and gender-sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all. **SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation** **Target 6.1:** By 2030, achieve **u**niversal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all.
3	Sub-divisional educational administrative misalignment	An administrative anomaly persists wherein primary institutions such as SK Muding remain under the jurisdiction of Simunjan PPD (Samarahan Division) rather than Sri Aman/Pantu PPD, creating operational delays in resource	Governance	Parents	Muding (Pantu District)	**SDG 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions** **Target 16.6:** Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels. **SDG 10 Reduced Inequalities** **Target 10.2:** By 2030, empower and promote the social,

NO	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	TARGETED GROUP	TARGETED LOCATION	PRIMARY SDG ALLIGNMENT
		allocation, staffing deployments, and secondary school transition pathways.				economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status.
4	Digital curriculum delivery and IT infrastructure constraints	Persistent satellite internet disruption (VSAT) and hardware deficits in interior primary schools impede the effective implementation of the National Digital Education Policy and delay administrative reporting workflows.	Governance	Students, faculty	SK Mentu, SK Muding	**SDG 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure** **Target 9.c:** Significantly increase access to information and communications technology and strive to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet in the least developed countries. **SDG 4 Quality Education** **Target 4.a:** Build and upgrade education facilities that are child-, disability- and gender-sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all.

NO	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	TARGETED GROUP	TARGETED LOCATION	PRIMARY SDG ALLIGNMENT
5	Rural water filtration system malfunction and public health risk	The non-operational status of the SAWAS filtration system at Bukit Ragai due to delayed membrane maintenance results in raw water delivery with elevated turbidity and microbiological risks (nematode-like creatures) across 10 longhouse communities.	Environment	Residents of Tuba, Pantu	Tuba (Bukit Ragai)	**SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation** **Target 6.1:** By 2030, achieve **u**niversal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all. **SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being** **Target 3.3:** By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases.
6	Stalled SAWAS phase 2 capital execution	Project execution for SAWAS Phase 2 Package 5 (Banting Water Treatment Plant) has been suspended for three years following contractor performance failure, leaving surrounding settlements	Environment	Residents of Banting	Banting	**SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation** **Target 6.1:** By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all.

NO	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	TARGETED GROUP	TARGETED LOCATION	PRIMARY SDG ALLIGNMENT
		reliant on unmonitored raw water sources (rainwater) during dry seasons.				**SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure** **Target 9.1:** Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all.
7	Seasonal water insecurity and drought vulnerability	Interior clusters (Mentu, Muding) lack reticulated main connections, creating total water vulnerability during extended dry periods and necessitating high-cost travel to access temporary emergency water distribution by local authorities.	Environment	Residents of Mentu, Muding	Mentu, Muding	**SDG 6.1: Clean Water and Sanitation** **Target 6.1:** By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all. **SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities** **Target 11.5:** By 2030, significantly reduce the number

NO	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	TARGETED GROUP	TARGETED LOCATION	PRIMARY SDG ALLIGNMENT
						of deaths and people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global GDP caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations.
8	Federal road project stagnation and standard non-compliance	Progress on the R1 federal road construction contract (Balau–Banting) has stalled over a 3-year period with minimal site deployment. The narrow carriageway does not meet safety standards for multi-directional traffic and heavy logistics.	Economy	Residents of Banting	Banting–Balau	**SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure** **Target 9.1:** Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all. **SDG 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions**

NO	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	TARGETED GROUP	TARGETED LOCATION	PRIMARY SDG ALLIGNMENT
						Target 16.6: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels.
9	Former logging road degradation and hazardous debris	Unmaintained former logging tracks serving remote longhouse corridors exhibit extreme gradients and hazardous exposed steel rebar, causing severe vehicular damage and routine transit isolation during rainfall events.	Economy	Road users, farmers	Engkeranji, Semulong, Tuba	**SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure** **Target 9.1:** Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all. **SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being** **Target 3.6**: By 2020, halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents.

NO	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	TARGETED GROUP	TARGETED LOCATION	PRIMARY SDG ALLIGNMENT
10	Trunk highway junction safety and emergency access bottlenecks	Junction design constraints along the Pan-Borneo Highway at Simpang Batu Lintang, coupled with missing illumination, force emergency response vehicles (*Bomba*/Ambulance) into extended detours and increase night traffic collision risks.	Economy	Residents of Undop, Batu Lintang	Simpang Batu Lintang	**SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being** **Target 3.6**: By 2020, halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents. **SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities** **Target 11.2:** By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety and expanding public transport, with particular attention to the needs of vulnerable groups.
11	Riverbed siltation and navigational accessibility	Silt accumulation from land development has reduced navigable depths along Sg. Mentu, Sg. Tuba, and Sg. Muding, restricting small craft	Environment	Boatmen	Mentu, Tuba, Muding	**SDG 2: Zero Hunger** **Target 2.3:** By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, particularly women,

NO	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	TARGETED GROUP	TARGETED LOCATION	PRIMARY SDG ALLIGNMENT
		movement at low tide and severing agricultural transport and river-crossing points.				Indigenous Peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, productive resources, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment. **SDG 15: Life on Land** **Target 15.3:** By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world.
12	Agricultural drainage deficits in wet paddy zones	Paddy cultivation areas lack modern water control infrastructure and gated drainage channels, resulting in seasonal inundation, crop loss,	Environment	Paddy farmers	Mentu, Semulong, Muding, Banting	**SDG 2: Zero Hunger** **Target 2.3:** By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, particularly women,

NO	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	TARGETED GROUP	TARGETED LOCATION	PRIMARY SDG ALLIGNMENT
		and undermined local food security efforts.				Indigenous Peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, productive resources, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment. **Target 2.4:** By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, help maintain ecosystems, strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change and extreme weather, and progressively improve land and soil quality.

NO	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	TARGETED GROUP	TARGETED LOCATION	PRIMARY SDG ALLIGNMENT
13	Financial exclusion from utility digitization policies	The transition to mandatory digital billing, coupled with an absence of cash deposit facilities or agent banking in sub-districts like Pantu, creates severe compliance burdens for elderly rural consumers who incur high transit costs for manual payments.	Economy	Rural communities	Tuba, Muding, Pantu District	**SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities** **Target 10.2:** By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status. **SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure** **Target 9.c:** Significantly increase access to information and communications technology and strive to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet.
14	Irregular utility metering and cumulative back-billing	Extended intervals between physical meter readings (1–3 years) in interior areas lead to severe back-billing shocks for low-income households,	Governance	Rural communities	Ulu Undop, Titikah Kubal, Tuba	**SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities** **Target 10.2:** By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex,

NO	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	TARGETED GROUP	TARGETED LOCATION	PRIMARY SDG ALLIGNMENT
		increasing default risks and abrupt service disconnections.				disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status. **SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions** **Target 16.6:** Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels.
15	Childcare services deficit and informal senior caregiver stress	The shortage of affordable, accredited early childhood daycare facilities (TASKA) places an unsustainable informal caregiving burden on senior family members, impacting active ageing and household economic participation.	Social	Senior citizens, particularly grandparents	Sri Aman Town	**SDG 5: Gender Equality** **Target 5.4:** Recognise and value **u**npaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies, and the promotion of shared responsibility within households and families. **SDG 1: No Poverty** **Target 1.3:** Implement nationally appropriate social

NO	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	TARGETED GROUP	TARGETED LOCATION	PRIMARY SDG ALLIGNMENT
						protection systems and measures for all, including social protection floors, and achieve substantial coverage of the poor and vulnerable by 2030.
16	Institutional grant constraints for senior and rehabilitation centers	Statutory operational grants for PAWE and PPDK restrict capital expenditure or specialised personnel recruitment, development of geriatric friendly facilities such as ramp, and PWD friendly facility, shifting the burden of facility maintenance and active-ageing programming onto volunteer committees.	Socal	Senior citizens, PAWE staff	Divisional	**SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being** **Target 3.4:** By 2030, reduce by one-third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases (NCDs)through prevention and treatment, and promote mental health and well-being. **SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities** **Target 10.2:** By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin,

NO	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	TARGETED GROUP	TARGETED LOCATION	PRIMARY SDG ALLIGNMENT
						religion or economic or other status.
17	Compensation structure restrictions for community care workers	Community Rehabilitation (PPDK) personnel operate under capped allowance schemes (RM1,200–RM1,700/mo) lacking public service benefits, despite delivering intensive special-needs therapy and caregiving services.	Social	PPDK Personnel	Divisional	**SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth** **Target 8.5:** By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value. **SDG 1: No Poverty** **Target 1.3:** Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including social protection floors, and achieve substantial coverage of the poor and vulnerable.

NO	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	TARGETED GROUP	TARGETED LOCATION	PRIMARY SDG ALLIGNMENT
18	Spatial disparity in rural welfare allocation baseline	Standard monthly welfare quantum baselines (RM250/mo) are significantly diluted in interior zones due to elevated transportation tariffs and rural cost-of-living premiums, diminishing the net support value for vulnerable recipients.	Social	Rural B40 communities	Banting, Muding, Rural Division	**SDG 1: No Poverty** **Target 1.3:** Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including social protection floors, and achieve substantial coverage of the poor and vulnerable. **SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities** **Target 10.1:** By 2030, progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40% of the population at a rate higher than the national average.
19	Protracted delay in gazetted healthcare capital development	Land acquired in 2009 for the proposed Chabu Health Clinic (Banting) remains undeveloped, forcing surrounding populations into riverine transit under	Social	Residents of Banting	Banting (Chabu)	**SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being** **Target 3.8:** Achieve **universal health coverage (UHC)**, including financial risk protection, access to quality

NO	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	TARGETED GROUP	TARGETED LOCATION	PRIMARY SDG ALLIGNMENT
		hazardous tidal conditions for primary and maternal emergency care.				essential healthcare services, and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all. **Target 3.1:** By 2030, reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births.
20	Sub-district healthcare capacity and hazardous night transit	Pantu Health Clinic experiences operational overcrowding serving a wide radius, while remote residents (e.g., Muding cluster) face 1-hour transit over unlit, degraded roads during emergency medical scenarios.	Social	Pantu community	Muding, Pantu Sub-district	**SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being** **Target 3.8:** Achieve universal health coverage (UHC), including financial risk protection, access to quality essential healthcare services, and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all. **Target 3.4:** By 2030, reduce by one-third premature mortality

NO	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	TARGETED GROUP	TARGETED LOCATION	PRIMARY SDG ALLIGNMENT
						from non-communicable diseases (NCDs) through prevention and treatment, and promote mental health and well-being.
21	Geriatric mental health outreach and demographic engagement gaps	Undiagnosed depression among elderly rural populations remains unaddressed due to limited field screening, alongside low participation rates (<15%) among male seniors in PAWE active-ageing frameworks.	Social	Senior citizens	Sri Aman Town	**SDG 3: Good Health and Wellbeing** **Target 3.4:** By 2030, reduce by one-third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases (NCDs) through prevention and treatment, and promote mental health and well-being. **SDG 5: Gender Equality** **Target 5.5:** Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of

NO	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	TARGETED GROUP	TARGETED LOCATION	PRIMARY SDG ALLIGNMENT
						decision-making in political, economic and public life.
22	Act 668 transition risks and rural youth leadership depletion	The reduction of the youth age ceiling from 40 to 30 years under Act 668, coupled with rural-to-urban youth migration, creates administrative capacity deficits and governance compliance risks for rural youth bodies.	Social	Youth groups	Divisional	**SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities** **Target 10.2:** By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status. **SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions** **Target 16.6:** Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels.

NO	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	TARGETED GROUP	TARGETED LOCATION	PRIMARY SDG ALLIGNMENT
23	Commercial fee structures at public sports facilities	Commercial rate models (e.g., RM200/session) at SSC facilities impose access barriers for grassroots sports organizations, limiting structured youth recreation in urban centers.	Social	Recreational sports clubs	Sri Aman Town	**SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being** **Target 3.4:** By 2030, reduce by one-third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases (NCDs)through prevention and treatment, and promote mental health and well-being. **SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities** **Target 10.2:** By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status.

NO	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	TARGETED GROUP	TARGETED LOCATION	PRIMARY SDG ALLIGNMENT
24	Centralization and financial barriers in sports coaching accreditation	High accreditation costs (~RM6,000) and centralized course locations in West Malaysia restrict local volunteer coaches from obtaining formal certification, constraining grassroots sports development.	Social	Competitive sports clubs	Divisional	**SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth** **Target 8.5:** By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value. **Target 8.6:** By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training (NEET).
25	Underutilised municipal youth facilities	The absence of a dedicated multi-purpose youth facility in Sri Aman Town, combined with the physical deterioration of municipal assets like the town amphitheatre, limits youth civic and cultural engagement.	Social	Youth	Sri Aman Town	**SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities** **Target 11.7**: By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces. **SDG 16: Peace, Justice and**

NO	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	TARGETED GROUP	TARGETED LOCATION	PRIMARY SDG ALLIGNMENT
						Strong Institutions **Target 16.6**: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels.
26	Municipal solid waste service coverage gaps	Rural settlements lack municipal solid waste collection, leading to uncontrolled burning or river dumping, which exacerbates localized aquatic pollution and draws crocodile populations near longhouse access points.	Environment	Rural communities	Mentu, Semulong, Tuba, Banting	**SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation** **Target 6.2**: By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all. **SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production** **Target 12.4**: By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle.
27	Agricultural feeder road	Severely degraded agricultural feeder roads (Jalan Pertanian)	Economy	Rural farmers	Semulong, Tuba, Mentu,	**SDG 2: Zero Hunger** **Target 2.3**: By 2030, double

NO	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	TARGETED GROUP	TARGETED LOCATION	PRIMARY SDG ALLIGNMENT
	deterioration and post-harvest losses	impede commercial logistics vehicles from reaching rural farm gates, causing crop spoilage and diminishing smallholder farm incomes.			Muding, Banting	the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers. **SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure** **Target 9.1**: Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure.
28	Off-grid telecommunication generator vulnerability	Interior cellular towers reliant on standalone diesel generators suffer prolonged outages (10–14 days) during fuel supply delays, disrupting local communications, emergency services, and digital transactions.	Economy	Rural communities	Titikah Kubal, Tuba	**SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy** **Target 7.1**: By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services. **SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure** **Target 9.1**: Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and

NO	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	TARGETED GROUP	TARGETED LOCATION	PRIMARY SDG ALLIGNMENT
						resilient infrastructure.
29	Community eco-tourism capacity and facility deficits	High-potential eco-tourism assets (waterfalls, trails, 4x4 routes) lack basic safety infrastructure, signage, and certified community hospitality operators, limiting rural economic diversification.	Economy	Residents of Muding, Ulu Undop	Muding, Ulu Undop	**SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth** **Target 8.9**: By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products. **SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production** **Target 12.b**: Develop and implement tools to monitor sustainable development impacts for sustainable tourism.

NO	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	TARGETED GROUP	TARGETED LOCATION	PRIMARY SDG ALLIGNMENT
30	Tidal river landing infrastructure deficits	The absence of floating jetties and concrete landing ramps along tidal riverbanks presents severe safety hazards for commuters, school children, and elderly residents negotiating mud banks during low tides.	Economy	Residents of Semulong, Muding, Banting	Semulong, Muding, Banting	**SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure** **Target 9.1**: Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure. **SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities** **Target 11.2**: By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all.
31	Administrative delays in community leadership gazettement	Multi-year processing backlogs in renewing or gazetting village heads (*Tuai Rumah*) freeze longhouse development committee (JKKK) banking accounts, disrupting public grant disbursements and welfare administration.	Governance	Community in 9 longhouses in Tuba	Tuba (Rh. Ngumbang & 8 longhouses)	**SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions** **Target 16.6**: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels. **SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities** **Target 10.2**: Empower and

NO	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	TARGETED GROUP	TARGETED LOCATION	PRIMARY SDG ALLIGNMENT
						promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all.
32	Sub-District administrative transition continuity gaps	Administrative boundary adjustments (e.g., district re-gazettement from Simunjan to Pantu) lead to temporary database freezes and inter-agency processing delays for welfare and infrastructure applicants.	Governance	Residents of Pantu District	Tuba, Muding (Pantu District)	**SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions** **Target 16.6**: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels. **SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities** **Target 10.3**: Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome.
33	Inter-Agency project monitoring and completion accountability	Inadequate post-execution auditing allows contractors to leave rural infrastructure works partially completed (e.g., unpaved road stubs, incomplete drainage), eroding	Governance	Residents of Banting	Banting	**SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions** **Target 16.6**: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels.

NO	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	TARGETED GROUP	TARGETED LOCATION	PRIMARY SDG ALLIGNMENT
		public trust and capital efficiency.				**SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities** **Target 10.3**: Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome.
34	Border corridor security deficits and unmonitored transit	Porous, unmonitored border tracks near Sg. Putong enable illegal cross-border movement, contraband movement, and narcotics trafficking, presenting security risks for border communities.	Governance	Border villagers	Ulu Undop (Sg. Putong)	**SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions** **Target 16.a**: Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime. **SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions** **Target 16.3**: Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice

NO	KEY ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION	TARGETED GROUP	TARGETED LOCATION	PRIMARY SDG ALLIGNMENT
						for all.
35	Logistical access barriers in immigration field verification	Mandatory site verification visits by immigration personnel for spousal Permanent Residency (PR) processing are frequently deferred due to rural road conditions, leaving longhouse applicants in prolonged legal limbo.	Governance	Rural communities	Tuba	**SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions** **Target 16.3**: Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all. **SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities** **Target 10.3**: Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome.

4.0 OVERVIEW OF ISSUES

4.1 Detailed Findings of Key Issues

Table 6. Detailed Findings of FGD 1

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
FGD 1: Registered Youth and Sports Clubs of Sri Aman **Date**: 14th April 2026 **No of Participants**: 45 **No of Groupings**: 5 Groups			
1	Commercial Fee Structures at Public Sports Facilities	Club representatives noted that, following the restructuring of the Sarawak Sports Council into the Sarawak Sports Corporation, access to sports facilities has become increasingly difficult for grassroots users due to high rental costs. Many local clubs and community-based groups expressed that the cost of utilising these facilities is beyond their financial capacity, resulting in reduced programme implementation and limited access for ordinary community users. Only clubs with stronger financial resources are generally able to consistently utilise the available facilities. At present, the only relatively affordable sports facility available to grassroots sports clubs is the facility at RPR Fasa II Sports Facility, located within Taman Sentosa Indah. This facility, developed under the RTP (Rural	**Youth and Sports Department, Sri Aman Division (JBS)** A suggestion has been raised to review and reduce the rental rates for sports facilities under the Sarawak Sports Corporation (SSC), which is under the State Government, to make these facilities more accessible and affordable for youths. This matter has previously been raised through the Youth Consultative Council for consideration by SSC and has also been brought up under relevant programmes. The concern also extends to schools, particularly regarding the affordability of facility usage. Currently, schools receive a 30% discount, while different rates apply to other

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
		Transformation Project) Fund by DUN Datuk Francis Harden, is highly in demand and is currently managed by the Majlis Daerah Simanggang. Other sports and recreational groups, such as aerobic clubs, have adapted by using alternative public spaces for their activities. These include the Sri Aman Waterfront Boulevard, Dewan Suarah Sri Aman, and even the local Pasar Tamu Sri Aman.	categories of users. A review of the existing rate structure and available discounts could therefore be considered to further encourage youth and community participation in sports.
2	Decline in youth participation in sports clubs	Youth participation in Sri Aman's sports clubs has been declining, with overall membership and engagement showing a downward trend. Two key contributing factors have been observed. First, youth out-migration for employment opportunities reduces the local pool of active participants, as many young people leave Sri Aman for work elsewhere. Second, social challenges—particularly issues linked to family instability and broken household structures—have affected some youths' ability to consistently participate in organised sports and community activities. Needing strong institutional and parental support.	*No response to this particular issue*
3	Centralization and financial barriers in sports coaching accreditation	Sri Aman has a strong pool of experienced sports coaches, particularly in sports such as boxing, where the district has consistently produced SUKMA-level athletes in recent years. However, many of these coaches remain uncertified**,** as formal certification pathways are	**JBS** There are qualified and certified coaches available, although their numbers remain limited. There is an existing supply of coaches, and boxing centres that establish Centres of

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
		primarily centralized in West Malaysia, particularly through institutions such as the Institut Sukan Negara. This creates a significant barrier for local coaches, as obtaining certification often requires travel to Kuala Lumpur, resulting in high logistical and financial costs. Even for sports where coaching certification is available in Sarawak, such as football, programmes like the AFC/FAM Diploma "B" Licence and other lower-level coaching courses still cost approximately RM6,000 and less which remains a major constraint for grassroots coaches.	Excellence are required to ensure their coaches undergo recognised certification and training. In Sri Aman, there are currently two boxing Centres of Excellence, with two additional centres still in progress. Becoming a qualified coach is largely driven by individual initiative as well as efforts by associations to obtain the necessary accreditation and certification. In addition to the National Sports Institute (ISN), other agencies also provide coaching, training and certification opportunities for sports coaches.
4	Youth policy and demographic changes	The recent policy change reducing the upper age limit for youth classification from 40 to 30 years old has significantly impacted youth clubs, as many people below the age of 30 have migrated for education or employment opportunities. This has resulted in declining membership numbers, placing some clubs at risk of closure. Existing committee members also require sufficient time to implement proper succession planning and leadership transition processes.	**JBS** The implementation of the revised age limit under the Youth Societies and Youth Development Act 2007 (Act 668), effective 1 January 2026, has reshaped the social composition and continuity of many youth clubs registered under the Registrar of Youth (ROY). Under Act 668, a six-year transition period was provided before the proposed legislation was tabled in Parliament. This transition period was intended to facilitate the necessary adjustments and succession arrangements.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
			One of the concerns raised is the tendency for existing office holders to remain in their positions for extended periods, reflecting a "legacy" approach to leadership and succession. A cooling-off period has been considered following studies conducted by the Department of Youth and Sports (JBS) and agencies under the Ministry of Youth and Sports (KBS). A 30-year age limit or tenure benchmark was also discussed as being broadly appropriate and aligned with practices at both the international and Malaysian levels.
5	Financial constraints and resource limitations	Limited funding continues to be a common challenge among registered youth clubs. As such, there is a growing need for accessible and affordable spaces where youths can gather and organise activities. Stakeholders highlighted the importance of establishing a dedicated youth hub within the town area that could serve as a shared venue for registered youth clubs to conduct meetings, organise events, and house club offices. It was noted that a stronger and more active youth ecosystem could help mitigate social issues affecting young people, including online gambling. An existing amphitheatre was identified as a suitable	**JBS** One form of support currently available through the Ministry of Youth and Sports (KBS) is the *Dana Sukan Komuniti*, a community sports fund provided to assist sports clubs and local community groups in organising sports-related activities and programmes.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
		location for conversion into a youth hub; however, the facility is currently poorly maintained by MDSA.	
6	Information accessibility and communication gaps.	Youth clubs located outside the Simanggang town centre, including those in Lingga, Bakong, Engkilili, and Lubok Antu, highlighted the existence of an information gap at the grassroots level, particularly in relation to available grants and funding opportunities. To address this issue, a proposal was put forward to establish a coalition or coordination platform comprising all youth clubs registered under the Sri Aman Division to facilitate information sharing and collaboration.	**JBS** KBS Sri Aman has organised a workshop inviting representatives from all registered youth clubs within the Sri Aman Division to brief on available grants and funding opportunities, as well as training on the standard required monthly report writing and others.
7	Governance, representation and institutional coordination	The annual Majlis Perundingan Belia Negara (MPBN), organised by KBS, is recognised as an important platform for youth leaders to engage with government agencies on issues affecting youths and discuss possible solutions. However, participants noted that representatives from relevant agencies are not always present during these engagements. There was also a view that political representatives should be included in these discussions to strengthen coordination and responsiveness to youth concerns.	*JBS has taken note of the suggestion.*

Table 7. Detailed Findings of FGD 2

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
FGD 2: Pusat Aktiviti Warga Emas (Pawe) Sri Aman **Date**: 15th April 2026 **No of Participants**: 10 **No of Groupings**: 1 Group Background: PAWE functions as a valuable "third space" for senior citizens, providing a communal setting where members can gather, interact, and organise activities together. Participation within PAWE has been particularly active among women members especially on social and community support, while involvement from men has been comparatively lower. Nevertheless, PAWE continues to play an important role in supporting the wellbeing of elderly women by offering a space for personal growth, social engagement, and lifelong learning. Through its activities, women senior citizens are able to develop skills, stay informed on current issues, build social networks, and engage in meaningful activities beyond their domestic responsibilities.			
1	Grandparents are informal caregivers	The rising cost of private childcare for children below pre-school age, which can range from RM500 to RM700 per month, has increased dependence on senior citizens as informal caregivers. Grandparents are increasingly expected to support working parents by providing childcare, creating additional responsibilities and pressures on the elderly population.	**Welfare Department, Sri Aman Division (JKM)** There are currently three TASKA operating in Sri Aman. The Department of Social Welfare (JKM) is responsible for approving the establishment and issuing permits for TASKA. In addition to privately operated TASKA, there are also government-supported facilities, with subsidies available to assist B40 parents with childcare costs. However, the fees charged by private TASKA cannot be directly controlled, as operators determine their own fee structure. Among the available options are TASKA SeDidik

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
			and mosque-based TASKA, which provide additional childcare options for the community.
2	Inclusive participation	Currently, participation in PAWE is largely made up of members who were primarily housewives, with relatively limited involvement from retired professionals and individuals from more diverse occupational backgrounds. Members expressed that greater diversity in participation would be beneficial, as it could encourage public awareness on PAWE, influence others to participate and enhance broader knowledge sharing, informal learning opportunities, and exposure to different perspectives, including greater awareness of current social and political issues. PAWE members have also highlighted the need to strengthen the participation of men within the organisation, noting that greater male involvement and more active engagement would contribute to a more inclusive community dynamic.	*Issue not related to agencies present.*
3	Centre sustainability	PAWE receives operational funding from the federal government which is required to cover overall operational expenses, including staff salaries and benefits.	**JKM** Underfunding remains a persistent challenge among PAWE and PPDK centres. Financial support provided through JKM is limited to covering operational expenses,

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
		However, members noted that the allocation is often insufficient to support activities and programmes beyond basic operational needs. Although additional funding may be obtained through a secondary account, such as contributions from state agencies or external sources, the responsibility of fundraising largely falls on the PAWE committee members themselves, many of whom are senior citizens. This creates an ongoing challenge in sustaining the centre's activities and long-term development. Securing sustainable funding is especially challenging for rural PPDKs, where it is often difficult to attract influential individuals to serve on PPDK committees, which play a crucial role in ensuring the continued operation of the centres. The involvement of prominent community members can also help raise public awareness on the importance of PPDKs and strengthen community support for these institutions.	including staff allowances (inclusive of SOCSO contributions), rental, utilities, and trainee allowances for PPDK participants, as well as the implementation of centre activities and programmes. Funding is sourced from both the Federal Government, primarily for operations, and the State Government, mainly for activities and programmes, subject to the approval of submitted proposals. As a result, many PPDKs remain severely under-equipped, with some facilities lacking even basic OKU-friendly amenities.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
4	Emotional wellbeing and active ageing	The PAWE community has also observed that depression is a significant issue that needs to be addressed among older adults, highlighting the importance of greater attention to mental health and emotional wellbeing within ageing populations.	**Sri Aman Divisional Health Office (PKBSA)** Sri Aman Division has a significant ageing population, with Lubok Antu recording a particularly high proportion of older persons, while Sri Aman also has a notable population aged 60 and above. At the community level, Klinik Kesihatan (KK) Sri Aman, Lubok Antu and Engkelili have implemented the Geriatric Community (GEKO) programme. The programme is open to community members, regardless of whether they have non-communicable diseases (NCDs). It includes health screening as well as mental health screening conducted with the involvement of counsellors and medical officers. Currently, the GEKO programme and *Program Aktiviti Warga Emas* (PAWE) operate separately. There is potential for greater collaboration between PAWE and KKM, including inviting KKM to conduct health and mental health screenings during PAWE activities.

Table 8. Detailed Findings of FGD 3

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
FGD 3: Iban Community of Mentu, Pantu **Date**: 15th April 2026 **No of Participants**: 68 **No of Groupings**: 5 Groups			
1	Absence of treated water supply.	There is currently no treated water supply across Mentu, which includes Mentu Tengah, Mentu Atas, Mentu Munggu, and Mentu Kelansing. Households rely entirely on a gravity-fed water system without filtration. During the rainy season, water quality often deteriorates, turning brownish to reddish in colour, which is believed to be due to increased siltation and soil erosion linked to surrounding oil palm plantations. In contrast, during the dry season, residents are required to travel approximately two hours to the Pantu District Office to obtain bottled water. These bottled water supplies are provided as assistance through the Divisional JKM offices and are typically distributed at district-level offices.	**Sri Aman Rural Water Supply Department (JBALB)** Mentu is not yet connected to the water grid for now.
2	Implementation of digital learning in rural schools	Telecommunication connectivity in the area is poor, requiring community members to hike up to Bukit Bejit or travel to Pengkalan Ai via rough terrain in order to obtain a stable signal. SK Mentu	*Note: Relevant agency (MCMC) not present during the interagency dialogue. Response from Sri Aman Deputy Resident (TRSA).*

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
		continues to face challenges in implementing digital learning, which is an essential component of the current education syllabus and system. The lack of stable internet connectivity hinders the continuity and effectiveness of the learning process. In addition, inadequate digital facilities in rural school further limits students' access to educational technology, making it difficult for children in rural areas to keep pace with broader technological advancements.	The issue of telecommunications infrastructure should be referred directly to the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) for further assessment and follow-up. For example, there have been recurring instances of fallen telecommunications poles along the roads in Lingga, which may pose safety concerns and affect connectivity. A clearer mechanism for identifying the responsible project or service provider would also be helpful for follow-up and maintenance. A related issue is the instability of the electricity supply in Lingga. When power interruptions occur, telecommunications services and water-related facilities may also be affected, as some telecommunications towers are directly dependent on the electricity supply. Power disruptions may take considerable time to stabilise, with some outages lasting up to an hour. A dialogue session was recently held at the Lingga District Office, during which MCMC highlighted the impact of unstable electricity supply on telecommunications services. Cases of vandalism involving telecommunications towers were also

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
			noted, which can further delay restoration as repair works require the relevant contractors to attend to the affected infrastructure. When the Lingga telecommunications infrastructure is disrupted, the impact can extend across a wider area. The connectivity link between Lingga and the Temudok station should therefore also be assessed, as any disruption at the Temudok station may affect the transmission of signals to Lingga. **Suggested follow-up:** The matter should be formally referred to MCMC to identify the relevant telecommunications infrastructure and service providers, assess the Lingga–Temudok connectivity link, and coordinate with the electricity provider and contractors on recurring disruptions and infrastructure maintenance.
3	Farm access and productivity challenges.	The main economic activity among residents in Mentu is farming, with agricultural lands located at a considerable distance from residential areas. To access their farms, farmers must cross Sungai Mentu; however, long-term accumulation of soil and sand has caused the river to become shallow. As a result, during dry seasons, low water levels	**Sri Aman Development Agency (SADA)** At the Steering Committee meeting, it was highlighted that the Department of Agriculture (DOA) should work together with SADA to plan and identify suitable farm roads and agricultural access routes that can benefit farmers across the respective areas.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
		make it difficult to cross, preventing farmers from reaching their land to harvest produce, including commodities such as oil palm fruit. In many cases, farmers are forced to wait for rainfall to raise water levels before they can access their farms, leading to delays, unharvested produce, and financial losses. This challenge is further compounded by the absence of proper farm roads (*jalan pertanian*) to facilitate access to agricultural areas. Residents have also noted the need for bridges across Sungai Empelanjau, Sungai Janang, and Sungai Kudak to improve access to their farmlands. Sungai Janang is also congested with forest debris making it difficult for boat travels.	DOA is encouraged to consolidate the needs of farmers within each area and submit proposals to SADA accordingly, so that the proposed farm roads can serve the wider farming community rather than individual farms. To date, eight proposals have been approved by SADA. One of the approved areas is in Lingga, at Tanjung Aboi, while the remaining approved projects are located in Pantu. Some of the projects in Pantu have been approved by the Steering Committee with allocations exceeding RM1 million. Further details on the approved projects can be confirmed with SADA.
4	Absence of modern irrigation system	While wet paddy cultivation remains an important agricultural activity for the community for self-consumption, some farmers continue to face challenges related to flooding in their paddy fields. This is largely due to the absence of modern irrigation and drainage systems, which limits effective water management and affects crop productivity and farming sustainability.	**Department of Irrigation and Drainage (DID)** Specific funding is available under DID for farm irrigation-related works. Farmers or individuals may submit requests directly to DID for assessment and consideration. Such requests will enable DID to identify specific irrigation needs at farm level and determine the appropriate assistance or intervention based on the requirements of each area.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
5	Road safety	There is an absence of street lighting along the road to Mentu, posing significant safety risks due to its hilly terrain, steep slopes, and challenging road conditions. Travelling at night, particularly during emergencies, can therefore be hazardous. Although the Public Works Department (JKR), as informed by community leaders, has announced plans for upgrades back in 2025, no concrete implementation has been observed to date. During the rainy season, residents are often required to walk on foot to go out as the current road conditions become slippery and unsafe for vehicles due to its hilly terrain and dangerous steep and acute angles. Driving is generally not recommended during this period due to safety concerns.	**TRSA** The existing reliance on the degraded former logging road remains a concern, particularly along the Tuba–Muding–Mentu–Rh Ipoh Ili and Rh Ipoh–Muding routes. A 42 kilometre road project has been designed under the Ministry of Rural and Regional Development (KKDW) and is currently being implemented as a build project under KKDW. **Public Works Department (JKR)** Dialogue and coordination have already been conducted between JKR and the Land and Survey Department (L&S) Sri Aman. The project is currently at the land acquisition stage. For interim road maintenance, the use of Malaysia Road Record Information System (MARRIS) allocations is limited due to funding constraints. In addition, MARRIS funds cannot be utilised for areas where a project has already been awarded. This raises a practical concern regarding how maintenance can be undertaken while the land acquisition process is still ongoing and before the new road project is completed.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
6	Teacher and leadership retention in rural schools	Due to its remote location and rural setting, SK Mentu faces challenges in retaining teachers and headmasters. At one point, the school was without a headmaster for approximately two years, and subsequent appointments have also seen short tenures, with one serving for only about 1.5 years.	*No specific response to this issue*
7	Absence of formal waste management system	There is an absence of proper waste management infrastructure, which has become a significant environmental concern. In the absence of formal disposal systems, waste is often discarded directly into rivers or are incinerated. This practice is particularly problematic as local communities continue to depend on these rivers as a source of fish and livelihood.	**Sri Aman District Council (MDSA)** Funding can be requested for waste management and sanitation initiatives in urban areas, while for rural areas, community-based programmes such as *gotong-royong* can be considered, particularly for longhouses located along main roads. The Council can also provide recommendations on possible improvements to waste management practices and facilities in rural communities. For example, areas such as Stumbin may benefit from improved waste management measures, while the situation at Batu Entulang could also be further addressed. Community awareness and education were also highlighted as an important component in encouraging residents to maintain cleanliness and care for the environment within their communities.

Table 9. Detailed Findings of FGD 4

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
FGD 4: Iban Community of Engkeranji **Date**: 16th April 2026 **No of Participants**: 29 **No of Groupings**: 5 Groups			
1	Road safety, reliance on degraded former logging road	The main access road after Batang Seterap, is affected by annual flooding during the monsoon season. This can isolate the community from nearby towns and disrupt the movement of people as well as essential supplies. During such periods of isolation, residents face significant accessibility challenges. However, relief assistance is provided through the District Office to support affected households. The main access road to Engkeranji and surrounding settlements remains largely unpaved, having originally functioned as a logging road before becoming the primary route for local communities. The road is currently in poor condition, characterised by difficult terrain, uneven surfaces, and loose rocks, making travel challenging for both residents and visitors. According to community observations, road	**Sri Aman Deputy Resident (TRSA)** Several road and infrastructure projects are currently being planned or implemented in the area. The TRSA has also identified SADA projects covering Engkeranji, Semulong and Keranggas, while a KKDW project for the area is currently at the tendering stage. **Public Works Department (JKR)** The Engkeranji–Kerupok route has been identified for future planning and development. Meanwhile, the Engkeranji–Banting project is already under construction and is progressing according to schedule, with no major issues reported to date.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
		upgrading works appear to progress slowly, with residents expressing that they have seen little noticeable improvement over the years. Maintenance efforts also appear limited, reportedly relying mainly on a single tractor for upkeep. While certain sections of the road have been cemented and some challenging stretches have been covered with tarred surfaces, overall accessibility and road conditions continue to pose significant difficulties for the communities. Economic opportunities such as participation in planting commodities such as oil palm is limited because of poor road access.	
2	Access to healthcare services	The nearest healthcare facility is the *Klinik Kesihatan* in Pantu, which is more than an hour away from the community. Access to hospital services requires travel to *Hospital Simanggang*, approximately two hours away. However, the area does receive a flying doctor service once a month at Munggu Sawa, which is about a 10-minute drive away and costs residents around RM5 for a return trip.	*See response under Muding below on healthcare facilities and recruitment*

Table 10. Detailed Findings of FGD 5

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
FGD 5: Iban Community Of Semulong Ili And Semulong Ulu **Date**: 16th April 2026 **No of Participants**: 18 **No of Groupings**: 2 Groups			
1	Tidal river landing infrastructure deficits	Residents of Semulong Ili and Semulong Ulu continue to rely on boat transport, particularly when the main road is flooded, as it also provides a shorter route to Lingga. However, the absence of proper jetty facilities makes access difficult, especially for older residents. This challenge is further compounded when transporting goods, as boarding and disembarking the boats, as well as carrying items, can be physically demanding and unsafe. Residents have therefore expressed the need for a floating jetty to improve safety, accessibility, and ease of transport, particularly during fluctuating river levels. In addition, the presence of crocodiles in the river raises further safety concerns for those who depend on river travel for daily mobility and access to nearby towns.	**SADA** SADA has provided jetties at Banting, Engkeranji and Pantu. Additional upgrading works are also being considered for the existing facilities, including the Banting jetty, with an estimated cost of more than RM1 million, while the additional works at Lubok Antu are estimated at approximately RM700,000. Jetty development is being approached through strategically located, centralised facilities that can serve several nearby longhouses and communities. This approach would allow the facilities to be shared and provide access to a wider area. For Banting, the existing wharf could be further upgraded to serve the surrounding communities, including during the interim period while awaiting completion of the Banting–Balau project. The proposed arrangement would provide a central access point for the communities in the area.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
			Similarly, the proposed jetty at Engkeranji, near Semulong, could serve the surrounding communities, including Munggu Sawa. JKR and SADA can coordinate on the identification and development of suitable centralised jetty locations to maximise accessibility for the communities in each area.
2	Stalled longhouse renovation works due to transportation cost	Semulong Ulu has been under construction for at least six years now due to challenges related to distance and road conditions. The transportation of building materials is costly, with residents spending around RM60 to travel to Sri Aman to purchase supplies. In addition, chartering a lorry to deliver materials such as cement and other construction items to Semulong costs approximately RM200. Labour costs further add to the burden, with workers charging about RM10 per 50kg bag to carry cement. Overall, these logistical constraints significantly increase construction expenses and slow down the progress of the project.	**TRSA** The proposed road construction projects in Engkeranji, Semulong and Keranggas under SADA are also expected to improve accessibility and help reduce the transportation costs associated with bringing building materials and other essential supplies into the surrounding communities.
3	Low paddy-production in traditionally paddy-producing communities	The community cultivates paddy primarily for self-consumption; however, production is insufficient to meet household needs throughout the year. As a result, families still need to purchase rice to supplement their food supply. The area is traditionally well known for paddy cultivation, particularly wet paddy and hill paddy	No agency feedback

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
		farming, especially in Munggu Sawa. This situation highlights broader concerns regarding food sufficiency and security in remote communities, which are often vulnerable to environmental disruptions and constrained by poor road access, further affecting agricultural productivity and food availability.	
4	Agricultural feeder road deterioration & post-harvest losses	The sale of agricultural commodities such as paddy, vegetables, and fruits, including durian, is significantly constrained by poor road access. Due to the difficult and poorly maintained road conditions, buyers are often unwilling to travel into the area to collect produce. As a result, much of the harvest cannot be transported to market in time, leading to post-harvest losses where fruits and crops are left to spoil on the trees or in the fields. In addition, many farmers do not intentionally cultivate for commercial sale, as they are aware of these logistical limitations and primarily focus on subsistence farming. However, these agricultural products represent a potential economic opportunity for the community if accessibility and transport constraints were improved.	*See response under Mentu*
5	Improper waste disposal practices	There is currently no proper waste management system or established disposal procedure in place. As a result, waste is often either dumped into rivers or disposed of through open burning.	*See previous response on similar issue.*

Table 11. Detailed Findings of FGD 6

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
FGD 6: Ulu Undop (Paku Ulu, Paku Ili, Sungai Putong, Kaong Ulu Undop, Radau, Sebangkoi, Munggu Ruan, Sebujok **Date**: 16th April 2026 **No of Participants**: 36 **No of Groupings**: 4 Groups			
1	Border security	Sg. Putong is located approximately 2 km from the border, where cross-border movement remains highly fluid, allowing easy entry and exit from the neighbouring country. There are plans to build a post in the area for the General Operations Force (GOF), locally known as Pasukan Gerakan Am (PGA), as the current security presence is considered insufficient. The current PGA post is in Titingkah. Due to its proximity to the border, the area has also been associated with smuggling activities involving controlled goods such as cooking gas, rice, and cooking oil, as well as more serious illicit activities, including drug trafficking. According to local accounts, these activities are not necessarily involving foreign actors, but are often carried out by local individuals. In one reported case, a	**PDRM** The establishment of a new PGA post along the Malaysia–Indonesia border has been approved by the Government and is expected to be constructed in the near future. In the interim, Sungai Putong is being monitored by PGA Battalion 23, following the designation of Temudok as a battalion-level post. Titingkah is monitored by PGA Battalion 13 Sibu. PDRM also highlighted that enforcement measures are in place to monitor the movement of controlled goods, including rice and cooking gas. While the movement of goods in excessive quantities may result in seizure, small-scale purchases for household use may be considered within the context of local community needs and established practices. This is particularly relevant to communities in border areas, where access to basic goods from nearby Lachau town is more convenient than other Indonesian settlements which take several hours by road.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
		local couple was detained after attempting to smuggle drugs into Indonesia, where the substances were perceived to have higher value. There have also been reported cases involving vehicle theft, where stolen cars are allegedly moved through informal or illegal routes across the border into Indonesia. According to local accounts, such activities are believed to be carried out by local individuals as in Sarawakians from other areas taking advantage of the area's porous and remote border access. In one reported incident, a local farmer's 4WD Toyota Hilux was stolen and is suspected to have been taken across the border.	PDRM further noted that enforcement activities have resulted in seizures and arrests involving contraband and narcotics trafficking, with PGA operations recording arrests on a regular basis. Continued enforcement and community awareness efforts were noted as important measures in reducing such activities. The presence of security and control posts has also contributed to improved monitoring of the border area. At the Malaysia–Indonesia security cooperation level, PDRM Sarawak has previously engaged with the Indonesian police authorities in Kalimantan to strengthen coordination on border security matters. Issues concerning border management are also discussed through the SOSEK Malindo mechanism, including the proposed establishment of a border post at Sei Kelik near the Lachau Quarry area. The Sei Kelik area is currently accessible from the Indonesian side by road, while access from the Malaysian side remains largely dependent on a track through the forest, with the journey on foot taking approximately two hours. The Resident's Office has visited the area and noted the differing levels of accessibility between the two sides. The proposed border post at Lachau–Sungai Kelik would further strengthen border monitoring and formalise access, including

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
			arrangements to prevent unauthorised overnight stays across the border. The development of formal border facilities at Gua, Sei Kelik and Sungai Putong may also provide opportunities for local economic development, subject to the relevant security, infrastructure and regulatory considerations. Discussions have also taken place regarding possible connectivity through Badau, Indonesia, with an agreement reached in principle on the relevant passage arrangements. Border security and management matters are coordinated within the relevant national security framework, including the **National Security Council (MKN)**, with PDRM and other relevant agencies responsible for the respective operational and enforcement aspects.
2	Road planning	Entering the area via the Pan Borneo Highway from Kuching requires entering through Simpang Batu Lintang. However, the P-turn to Batu Lintang along the Pan Borneo Highway is located quite far away. This poses a challenge for emergency services such as the fire department and ambulances, as they need to travel a longer distance before being able to make the turn.	**JKR** The Pantu–Keranggas road project was previously submitted under RMK-12, RP1 through the headquarters RTP branch. An earlier application had lapsed due to an issue during the previous submission, but the matter has since been addressed. A further application was submitted under RMK-12, RP4 and is currently awaiting a funding decision. The proposed development includes a grade-separated junction, subject to funding availability.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
		In addition, the absence of street lighting in the area makes it easy to miss or overshoot the junction, especially at night. Village heads also believe that the road delineation is not very well planned, with roads that are winding, hilly, and uneven. In addition, the roads are narrow and feature sharp bends, making travel difficult and potentially unsafe, particularly during heavy rain. Although the road should comply with the standard 3-inch tar specification, residents believe the existing road does not meet the required standards. The road is riddled with potholes, and heavy lorries are frequently blamed for damaging the roads.	**TRSA** Road improvement needs extend beyond Pantu–Keranggas. The Lachau area also requires attention, particularly given the number of longhouses located along the Lachau–Selanjan–Angkong stretch, which serves more than 50 longhouses. A flyover or other suitable grade-separated solution at strategic locations, including Bukit Lintang, could be considered to improve connectivity and road safety. At Batu Lintang, concerns have been raised regarding vehicles travelling against the flow of traffic, reportedly to avoid making longer turns or detours. This creates additional road safety risks, particularly for communities travelling towards SMK Engkilili. Similar concerns may also apply to other stretches along the main road network. Road safety and infrastructure requirements should be assessed across a wider corridor, including Jaong, Selantik, Pantu, Lachau, Batu Lintang, Engkilili and Lubok Antu. The frequency of road accidents in the Engkilili area was also highlighted as an issue requiring further assessment. **JKR** Funding availability is an important consideration in determining the scope and design of road improvement

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
			projects. For example, a proposed grade-separated junction could involve an estimated cost of approximately RM100 million. The design and scope of major road infrastructure therefore need to be considered alongside available funding. **TRSA** Data on traffic volume, road users and affected communities should be incorporated into the assessment. Such data could be provided by the District Office and used to support the planning and justification of appropriate interventions, including flyovers, underpasses, junction improvements or upgrading of the existing road alignment. Road safety should remain a key consideration in determining the appropriate design. In terms of road safety awareness, campaigns are conducted regularly, particularly during festive seasons, with at least four road safety campaigns held annually. The Ministry of Transport (MoT) also conducts related road safety campaigns. Continued community awareness is important to encourage road users to make appropriate use of existing road infrastructure.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
			PDRM Sri Aman Enforcement and road safety operations are also carried out in collaboration with the District Office and Resident's Office. Integrated operations are conducted periodically, including along the Pan Borneo Highway, with attention to issues such as overloaded lorries and heavy vehicles carrying materials near the Batu Lintang junction. Roadblocks are also conducted from time to time. Enforcement activities, which previously focused more on roads within the interior areas of Sri Aman, have now been extended to the Pan Borneo Highway and other major routes.
3	Tourism potential	The area has notable tourism potential, particularly Wong Radau, which is located approximately a 15-minute walk from Radau Longhouse. However, supporting infrastructure such as access roads, rest huts (*pondok*), and changing facilities are poorly maintained, limiting its attractiveness and accessibility to visitors. There is also a waterfall located near Rh. Bair, which presents additional eco-tourism potential if properly developed and maintained.	*See response by SADA under Muding below on tourism development.*

Table 12. Detailed Findings of FGD 7

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
FGD 7: Titikah Kubal **Date**: 17th April 2026 **No of Participants**: 13 **No of Groupings**: 1 Group			
1.	Irregular utility metering & cumulative back-billing	Residents face accumulated water bill charges amounting to hundreds of Ringgit due to inconsistent billing practices. Although treated water supply was installed in 2021, residents reported having received water bills only about four times since then.	**TRSA** A written request is to be submitted to the JBALB to facilitate follow-up on meter reading arrangements. Bills can also be paid online or at any Sarawak Service Counters.
2.	Network disruptions	Despite being located near a telecommunications tower, network connectivity in the area started lagging in the last 2 months. Limited internet and phone access make it difficult for residents to obtain important information, including matters related to schooling and other essential services.	*See previous response on similar issue.*
3.	Flash floods	The area is also prone to flash floods during periods of heavy rain due to the road's close proximity to the river. Flooded roads become impassable and typically take 4–5 hours for the water to subside. Villagers suspect that the issue may be linked to a nearby micro-hydro dam - Wong Pupo, that is no longer in operation.	No response to issue.

Table 13. Detailed Findings of FGD 8

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
FGD 8: Tuba **Date**: 18th April 2026 **No of Participants**: Approximately over 50 **No of Groupings**: 5 Groups			
1.	Water quality and safety	All 10 longhouses in the area, of which only two *Tuai Rumah* appointments had been formally renewed as of April 2026, are dependent on gravity-fed water supply systems. The water reservoir located at Bukit Ragai was identified by the community as part of the JBALB Sarawak Alternative Water Supply (SAWAS) Programme, reportedly completed in 2018. However, residents stated that the SAWAS tank filtration system is currently not functioning or not being utilised. According to the community, water quality remains poor, with noticeable siltation frequently present in the water supply.	**JBALB** JBALB clarified that its role in Sarawak Alternative Water Supply (SAWAS) projects is primarily focused on the construction and installation of the water supply system. Once the installation is completed and handed over, ongoing operation and maintenance are to be managed by the respective community. For Tuba, the SAWAS system only uses membrane filtration without chemical treatment. The water undergoes filtration and is considered clean, but it is not chemically treated. However, there is currently some uncertainty regarding the status and jurisdiction of the Tuba water supply project. According to the Tuba community, there is no SAWAS project in the area. The Sri Aman Deputy Resident (TRSA) suggested that the area may previously have fallen under Simunjan District, and JBALB may need to verify whether the administrative boundary or jurisdiction has since changed to Sri Aman.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
		Residents also reported the presence of small worm-like organisms, described as resembling nematodes, coming from household taps. Individual water pumps and filters are costly, which is about RM2000.00 per unit. Residents have reported experiencing stomach aches and skin rashes believed to be associated with the consumption and use of their current water supply. Although JBALB has reportedly conducted water quality testing, residents stated that they were not informed of the results and therefore remain uncertain about whether the water supply is safe for consumption. Despite these concerns, there are currently limited alternatives available, forcing many households to rely on bottled water for drinking purposes, which places an additional financial burden on residents.	JBALB Sri Aman further clarified that previously the relevant community water supply project falls under JBALB Samarahan. As a community-based project, the system is handed over to the community upon completion of the installation, with the community subsequently responsible for its operation and maintenance. The TRSA raised the need to further consider whether the community has the capacity and resources to manage and maintain the system independently, particularly when technical or operational issues arise. If the Tuba area is not within JBALB Sri Aman's current jurisdiction, a clear referral mechanism may be needed to ensure that communities know which agency to approach for assistance. JKM clarified that its role in water supply is limited to providing assistance to locations without piped water or SAWAS facilities. The TRSA therefore noted the need to further clarify the responsible agency and appropriate referral mechanism for communities facing issues with their community water supply systems. He proposes the matter be taken note of for further consideration and coordination among the relevant agencies.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
2	Cost of water reservoir unplanned or emergency maintenance	Although the communities take turns maintaining and cleaning the dam, they continue to face difficulties due to what they perceive as poor construction quality, requiring them to bear substantial maintenance costs themselves. Residents further stated that they are uncertain about the official project handover date. When pipe failures occur, longhouse residents are responsible for carrying out repairs independently, often under emergency conditions in addition to routine dam maintenance.	See response above.
3	Piping material	The current piping system, which residents claim was installed through a development project, uses steel pipes. Community members questioned why HDPE pipes were not used instead, expressing concerns about the long-term risk of rust and deterioration. During prolonged hot or dry seasons, water scarcity also becomes a recurring issue for the affected longhouses.	No response to this issue in particular.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
4	Unstable telco connectivity	Telecommunication connectivity in the area remains unstable despite the presence of a telecommunications tower. According to residents, the tower is not connected to the main electricity grid and instead relies on a diesel-powered generator that requires routine refuelling and maintenance by contractors. However, poor road access and inconsistent maintenance frequently disrupt this process, resulting in service interruptions when the generator runs out of diesel. Residents have questioned why the tower has not been connected to a permanent electricity supply, particularly as the surrounding communities are already connected to the grid. Residents also noted that during the previous year's Gawai season, telecommunication services experienced major disruptions and failures.	*See previous answer to related issue under Mentu.*

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
		According to the community, the quality of telco connectivity remains inconsistent, with periods where the connection functions adequately for around 10 days, followed by another 10 days of poor or unstable service. Residents stated that diesel supplies for the telecommunications tower typically last only between 10 to 14 days, making service continuity highly dependent on regular refuelling and maintenance.	
5	Service delivery challenges	Electricity bill payment has become a significant issue for residents in Tuba, particularly as SEB increasingly prioritises app-based and online payment systems. Poor road conditions and the remote location of the village also make it difficult for SEB technicians to access the area for manual meter readings. Based on the residents' experience, the meter reader only comes once a year. This situation is further complicated by	**TRSA** suggested that affected residents communicate directly with, or submit a written request to, the respective **Regional Manager** of Sarawak Energy Berhad (SEB)to facilitate follow-up on meter reading arrangements and the accuracy of billing records. Relevant regional management may then coordinate with the respective meter-reading teams to review the matter and ensure that future readings are conducted regularly to minimise the occurrence of backdated bills.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
		the fact that many residents are elderly and have limited familiarity with smartphones, internet services, or online banking facilities. Travelling from Tuba to the nearest SEB office to make payments can cost approximately RM200-RM250 for a return trip, making physical payment arrangements financially burdensome. As a result, both access to services and service delivery remain challenging for the community.	
6	Road access challenges	Road access to Tuba remains extremely difficult and challenging, with only four-wheel-drive vehicles and trucks able to navigate the route. The journey to Simanggang town centre takes approximately two hours. Originally constructed as a timber logging road, the main access route is now in very poor condition, characterised by rough, rocky, and dirt surfaces. In several stretches, damaged cemented sections have exposed steel reinforcement bars protruding from the road surface,	**JKR** The road development project in Tuba is a federal project under KKDW, with the land acquisition process currently ongoing. JKR clarified that maintenance of the Tuba Road is carried out under the relevant concession arrangement and can be undertaken upon request. The availability of funding under the Malaysian Road Record Information System (MARRIS) is subject to the overall allocation for the division, which needs to be distributed across different areas and road maintenance requirements. As a result, the scope and frequency of maintenance are dependent on the available allocation.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
		creating serious safety hazards for road users. Residents have also reported high vehicle maintenance costs, including tyre replacements as frequently as every month, with each tyre costing approximately RM450. Frequent tyre punctures and blowouts are reportedly caused by the exposed reinforcement bars and poor road conditions during travel. Poor road conditions have also contributed to broader administrative challenges.	The TRSA requested further information on the length of the Tuba–Keranggas route and the MARRIS allocation available for the area, including the extent to which funding limitations affect maintenance coverage. This information would help clarify the current maintenance capacity and identify areas requiring further attention. The condition of the roads may become more challenging during the rainy season, particularly where there are risks of soil erosion and landslides. The Pantu District Office will gather further information on the affected areas, including Menangkin and surrounding locations, for consideration at the next divisional meeting. From the perspective of ongoing development projects, JKR reported that the Tuba–Muding–Mentu–Rh Ipoh Ili and Rh Ipoh–Muding routes form part of a 42 km federal project under KKDW. The project is currently at the design and build stage under KKDW. JKR and the Land and Survey Department Sri Aman have already held discussions, and the land acquisition process is currently ongoing. The use of MARRIS funding for an area with an awarded development project is also subject to the relevant funding and project arrangements. This raises the need to clarify the

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
			appropriate interim maintenance mechanism while land acquisition and project implementation are still in progress.
7	Education facility	The communities have requested the establishment of a secondary school in Pantu, as it would provide more accessible educational facilities for settlements within the Pantu District. Currently, students must travel long distances to attend secondary school, with options including SMK Simunjan and SMK Balai Ringin, both located approximately 65 km away and requiring around two hours of travel through difficult road and terrain conditions. Another option in the previous years was SMK Sebuyau, which is about 128 km away and takes approximately three hours to reach. The cost of transporting children to school is also considered burdensome, with return travel expenses estimated at RM200–RM250.	**Pantu District Office** The existing primary school (SK) capacity is currently sufficient. However, there is a need for a secondary school (SMK), and a proposal has been prepared to address this gap. The proposed SMK development has been put forward for consideration under the RMK-13 development programme. A suitable site for the proposed school has not yet been identified or allocated. **Sri Aman Deputy Resident (TRSA)** The proposal for a secondary school in Pantu has been raised for more than 30 years. At present, students from Pantu are primarily served by SMK Melugu, while SMK Balai Ringin is also located a considerable distance away. The need for a secondary school in Pantu has been raised by successive Members of Parliament and elected representatives. Accessibility remains a significant consideration, particularly for students from Mentu, Menuang, Muding and surrounding communities. Although some of these areas may not be geographically far from Pantu, road conditions, including the use of former logging roads, can result in journeys of four to five hours. Students may therefore face considerable difficulty travelling to school, while some communities, such as Munggu Sawa, may need

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
			to stay overnight when travelling to Sri Aman for programmes or services. The demand for secondary education is expected to increase as the student population in Pantu and Bukit Bengunan grows. Updated data from the District Education Office (PPD), including the number of current primary school students and projected secondary school enrolment, would be useful to support further assessment of the proposal. The TRSA therefore highlighted the continued need to consider the establishment of a secondary school in Pantu. As education is under federal jurisdiction, the matter would require coordination with the Ministry of Education and the relevant education authorities. The Resident's Office noted that a meeting had previously been held with YAB Dato' Sri Doris Sophia Brodie, the Pantu District Office, PPD Sri Aman and other relevant agencies, including KMKK and JKR. Several preliminary discussions have also taken place, with at least two to three meetings having been held on the matter. **Suggested follow-up:** The Pantu District Office and PPD Sri Aman should provide an official update on the current status of the proposal, including the latest student enrolment and projected demand data, site considerations, previous recommendations and

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
			the next steps required for consideration under RMK-13. The Resident's Office can coordinate the follow-up with the relevant agencies based on the official feedback received.
8	High transportation cost to school	Both SMK Simunjan and SMK Balai Ringin operate as boarding secondary schools. Students attending SMK Simunjan are generally required to return home every weekend, while those studying at SMK Balai Ringin are allowed to return once every two weeks. This arrangement places a considerable financial burden on families, particularly in terms of transportation costs. The residents request for a secondary school closer to the area is also closely linked to concerns over bullying cases involving students staying in hostels.	**TRSA** Parents have also expressed concerns regarding sending their children to boarding facilities. Factors raised include the condition of existing facilities and concerns about student welfare, including bullying. Some parents indicated a preference for their children to commute daily if a secondary school were available closer to their communities.
9	Administrative process challenges	Administrative matters such as frozen JKKK accounts (Rh Ngumbang), grant applications, and welfare assistance applications have been affected by the absence of officially sanctioned headmen or *Tuai Rumah* in several longhouses. As a result, residents are	**TRSA** Previously, informal settlements may have found it easier to open bank accounts. Under the current requirements, however, a longhouse that has not been formally recognised or lacks an officially appointed headman may not be eligible to open an account in its name, subject to the bank's requirements.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
		often required to rely on neighbouring official *Tuai Rumah* or the *Penghulu* to manage administrative processes and official documentation. However, the Penghulu reside far from the affected communities, creating additional difficulties and delays in accessing administrative and welfare-related services.	For a longhouse to obtain formal recognition, the application needs to be considered by the relevant committee chaired by the Resident, with representatives of the relevant constituency among its members. Once approved, the *Tuai Rumah* (TR) may be issued the appropriate certificate, which can then be used to support applications for an official bank account. Accordingly, an individual who has not been formally appointed as a TR would not be able to fulfil requirements that specifically require an officially recognised TR. For matters involving official requirements and documentation, the community may obtain the relevant details and guidance from the District Office. Under Iban customary practice, there are also considerations regarding the minimum number of households required for a longhouse community, as well as customary arrangements concerning households and leadership. These matters should be considered alongside the applicable official administrative requirements. For the appointment of community leaders, the criteria discussed include: ● **Age:** The *Tuai Rumah* should generally be at least 30 years old, while the appointment of a *Ketua Kaum* (KK) is subject to the applicable age requirements, including a minimum

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
			age of 30 and maximum age of 60 at the time of appointment. • **Health:** The candidate should be physically and mentally fit to carry out the responsibilities. • **Financial status:** The candidate should not be an undischarged bankrupt. • **Integrity:** The candidate should have no record of corruption or related misconduct. The specific requirements and supporting documentation should be verified with the relevant District Office, as these may depend on the type of appointment and applicable administrative provisions. In the Tuba area, there are currently two officially recognised longhouses, while approximately six others are understood to be informal or not yet formally recognised.
10	Impacts of re-gazettement on access to public services	The residents are highly aware of administrative shifts and jurisdictional transitions and note that applications for welfare and development funding must often be adjusted in response to these changes. For example, when Samarahan was established as a division, Tuba was gazetted under the	

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
		jurisdiction of Simunjan district. Subsequently, following the elevation of Pantu to district status, the area was re-gazetted under Pantu district. Residents observe that delays in processing applications are among the key challenges they face during and after such re-gazettement processes.	
11	Absence of waste management system and services.	Waste management system is absent, and residents resort to burning, burying or simply throwing trash into the river, which attracts crocodiles. The presence of crocodiles underneath their homes raises fears among residents, especially fishers who rely on the river to catch fish. Sungai Tuba is well known for its tapah fish, which remains an important economic resource for the community.	*See previous response on related issue.*
12	River siltation and flood risk management	Sungai Tuba has become increasingly shallow due to progressive siltation, and residents have highlighted the need for cleaning and dredging by the Drainage and Irrigation Department. There are also concerns that crocodiles may more easily enter residential areas	**Department of Irrigation and Drainage (DID)** A RM3 million federal allocation has been provided for river-related works, with the current focus being on Pantu following flooding earlier in the year. The priority is to address river overflow, which affects the wider district. The siltation issue is partly associated with agricultural development, including oil palm activities, which has increased sedimentation and affected

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
		during flood events, as there were reported cases last year of crocodiles being stranded in front of the jetty during flooding.	the capacity and flow of the waterways. If there is any balance remaining from the allocation, consideration could be given to clearing waterways at locations where there is a clear need, particularly for navigation purposes. Individuals or communities requiring such works may submit requests directly to the for assessment. **TRSA** River overflow should remain a priority as its impact extends across the district. For the Langgir community, the District Officer of Lingga could submit a formal request for assistance, as the community currently faces access constraints and requires the stream to be cleared for navigation. The waterway has reportedly been obstructed by fallen timber. Under SADA, JKR is the technical agency. DID has also undertaken cleaning works along Sungai Langgir earlier this year. Several factors have contributed to the worsening overflow and siltation. These include the opening of agricultural and oil palm areas, where drainage channels have been directed towards the river system, increasing the volume and speed of water discharge and contributing to sedimentation. The accumulation of timber and other debris in the waterways is another contributing factor.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
			The TRSA noted that the Strap area has historically been prone to flooding, but the severity has increased in recent years. Drainage from newly developed agricultural areas is increasingly concentrated towards Sungai Strap, exceeding the capacity of the existing waterway, particularly during the monsoon season. Although DID has undertaken stream-clearing works, these interventions may not be sufficient to address the overall drainage capacity. There are also concerns over stagnant water, as the flow towards Sungai Lingga and subsequently Batang Lupar is insufficient. Consequently, the Pantu bridge area is expected to remain vulnerable to flooding during the monsoon season. Road access can be disrupted for weeks, particularly affecting communities in Lingga and Pantu, and annual food assistance has had to be provided to communities that become isolated. **Suggested intervention:** JKR could assess the feasibility of upgrading the road section approximately 1 km from the Strap bridge by raising the road level by an estimated 5-6 feet. This could help maintain road connectivity during flood events and reduce the risk of the road being cut off. Further technical assessment by JKR is recommended to determine the appropriate road elevation, drainage requirements and other measures needed to address the recurring flooding and prolonged water stagnation in the area.

Table 14. Detailed Findings of FGD 9

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
FGD 9: Muding **Date**: 18th April 2026 **No of Participants**: 52 **No of Groupings**: 5 Groups			
1	Secondary school infrastructure deficit	Residents have requested the establishment of a secondary school in Pantu, similar to the needs raised in Tuba, as population growth continues in the surrounding areas. This is seen as a way to improve access to education, reduce long travel distances, lower transportation costs, and improve school retention rates among rural students. Currently, students from Muding travelling to SMK Melugu incur costs of approximately RM80 per trip per student. In addition, SMK Melugu, which is a boarding school, has experienced water supply shortages at times, requiring students to return home during such disruptions. Student registration jurisdiction remains a challenge, as some students are still referred to Simunjan or Sebuyau based on the address stated in their IC, resulting in overlapping school	*Refer to previous response*

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
		placement under different schooling districts. SK Muding, for example, falls under the Simunjan PPD, which is currently under the Samarahan Division jurisdiction and has not yet been administratively realigned under the Sri Aman Division. Pantu only became a full district in 2021, and residents perceive that there are still ongoing administrative adjustments affecting jurisdictional clarity. This is also another reason why they need a secondary school within the vicinity (Pantu).	
2	Jetty infrastructure	Residents of Muding Tengah and Muding Atas still rely heavily on the river, Sungai Muding for their livelihood and daily sustainability, with the river remaining highly relevant in their everyday lives, especially during drought periods. In this context, they have expressed the need for a jetty and a footbridge to improve safe and reliable access.	*Refer to previous related response.*
3	Access to clean treated water	Residents continue to rely on a gravity-fed water supply system. During drought seasons, water availability becomes insufficient or unavailable, leading to a heavy dependence on welfare assistance. On some days, households are also required to purchase bottled water to meet their basic daily needs. A solution to this as proposed	JBALB - Muding is still not connected to the state water grid.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
		by the community is to have a dedicated rainsaver system in each longhouse.	
4	Tourism potential development	The area has significant tourism potential due to its natural assets, including waterfalls such as Wong Radak and Wong Lapong in Kampung Lalih. It is also known among 4x4 enthusiasts, which further supports opportunities for adventure and eco-tourism development. In addition, the presence of suitable hilly land offers agricultural potential, including wet and hill paddy cultivation as well as fruit tree farming. However, key challenges remain in terms of accessibility and community capacity. Residents highlighted a lack of knowledge and experience in managing and operating tourism-based projects, indicating a need for capacity building and support. They also drew comparisons with the Bidayuh communities in Padawan, where eco-tourism has been successfully developed as a niche local economic activity.	**SADA** A number of programmes have already been proposed in Sri Aman, for example in Gunung Lesong. SADA has allocated approximately RM50 million for Gunung Lesong under the Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC). The area has significant natural attractions that could support tourism development, particularly for hiking and nature-based activities. However, infrastructure remains a major constraint. There is also a community-based tourism (CBT) initiative led by Dr Victor Luna (Assistant/Principal Assistant Secretary at the Ministry of Tourism, Creative Industry and Performing Arts (MTCP) Sarawak). The local councils have likewise put forward various recommendations and proposals for the area. For tourism products such as waterfalls, hiking trails and 4x4 routes, there are some constraints relating to land ownership. Many of these areas involve Native Customary Rights (NCR) land or individually owned land, and access may require passing through private farms or agricultural areas. Permission from the respective landowners is therefore required, and in some cases, a

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
			route may involve multiple landowners, which can make implementation more complex. One possible approach is for the community to take the lead in developing and managing the tourism products, particularly where there is strong community cohesiveness and willingness to work together. In such cases, MTCP would generally be able to provide support. Community-led management may therefore be more suitable for tourism activities located on community or privately owned land. Where tourism projects are located on State land or within urban areas, government agencies may be in a better position to undertake and manage the development directly.
5	Development of Pantu as a district	Residents aspire for Pantu to achieve a higher level of development befitting its status as a district, with improved access to essential services and infrastructure. This includes the establishment of a secondary school, an upgraded clinic, and additional commercial facilities such as a petrol station. They also highlighted the need for basic financial services beyond the district office vicinity, particularly	*Note taken.*

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
		banking facilities such as a cash deposit machine (CDM), to improve convenience and reduce the need for long-distance travel for routine transactions.	
6	Farm access roads	Residents' main livelihood is agriculture, with cash crops such as pepper and oil palm, alongside paddy cultivation primarily for subsistence. As such, there is strong demand for improved farm roads and plantation access roads to support the agro-based community and enhance productivity, mobility, and access to markets.	*See previous response on farm access roads.*
7	Congested clinic facilities	Population growth has increased the need for larger and upgraded clinic facilities in Pantu. Residents currently face long waiting times as one of the key challenges in accessing healthcare services. For rural communities, this is further compounded by the need to travel long distances over poor road conditions, often requiring several hours of journey time. When combined with extended waiting periods at the clinic, a full day is often spent accessing basic healthcare services. Returning home in the evening also poses safety risks due to the absence of street lighting along rural roads, making travel conditions particularly dangerous.	**Sri Aman Divisional Health Office** Pantu currently has three Medical Officers (MOs), against an intended capacity of five, leaving two vacancies. The clinic has also been upgraded within the existing clinic compound. At Klinik Skrang, one additional MO only recently joined in July, while the overall staffing requirement remains higher than the current availability. There are also challenges in filling approved MO positions. Although 17 MOs were expected to be placed in the relevant facilities, only two have reported to date. Staff availability can also be affected by training and other official duties; for example, when two of the three

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
			MOs at Pantu attend courses, only one MO remains available to provide services. Muding is under the Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) and falls under PKB Sri Aman for medical services. Across the Sri Aman area, there are 15 clinics, of which seven have MOs, although staffing at these facilities is not yet at full capacity. Recruitment and retention are affected by several factors, including the transition from contract to permanent appointments and whether officers accept postings offered to them. One of the practical challenges is the availability of suitable accommodation and staff quarters. Clinics require sufficient accommodation for on-call personnel, including doctors, medical assistants and staff nurses. Where accommodation is limited or officers have family commitments, it may be more difficult for staff to take up or remain in rural postings. For Pantu specifically, accommodation remains a concern. One of the local MOs is from Pantu, while two others reside in Sri Aman and stay at the clinic when they are on call. Ensuring adequate accommodation and a

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
			supportive working environment is important to enable healthcare personnel to provide consistent services. Pantu also has potential to develop as a health service centre, particularly given its proximity to the international border. Its location could potentially support future health-related services and, subject to feasibility studies and relevant planning, contribute to health tourism opportunities for communities in the border area. The key consideration is therefore not only the availability of clinic infrastructure, but also ensuring sufficient medical personnel, accommodation and supporting facilities to enable the clinics to operate effectively. The welfare and working conditions of healthcare personnel should be considered as part of efforts to strengthen rural healthcare delivery.

Table 15. Detailed Findings of FGD 10

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
FGD 10: Banting **Date**: 27th April 2026 **No of Participants**: 52 **No of Groupings**: 3 Groups			
1	Stagnant access road development	Residents observed that the current Balau–Banting Road development appears to be stagnant, particularly at the bridge construction site. They expressed concern that progress has been slow, with perceptions that contractor activity has reduced significantly. Community members also noted that only a small workforce, reportedly three people, is currently present on site. In addition, residents reported that they have not observed the presence of any JKR personnel or project consultants at the site. Road access development to Banting has been a long-standing issue, with multiple proposed routes discussed over the past decades. The latest development involves an R1 standard federal road via Balau, which	**JKR** acknowledged that the road construction project remains ongoing and that the current construction conditions may affect the safety and accessibility of the road. The project has experienced delays, although it was reported to be progressing according to schedule as of July. Further delays have since occurred, and JKR indicated that a Termination Committee meeting may be convened to determine the appropriate course of action. The project has been ongoing for approximately four years. JKR explained that several factors had contributed to the delay, including the COVID-19 pandemic and land tenure issues, which have since been resolved. The current delay was attributed primarily to internal issues faced by the contractor. JKR also noted that approximately RM3 million in funding from KKDW remains pending to enable the contractor to increase manpower. The project falls under RMK-12.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
		has been under construction for approximately three years and was initially expected to be completed in 2025, with at least three reported groundbreaking ceremonies over time. However, progress has been slow, and concerns remain regarding the current condition and design of the road. The carriageway is considered too narrow to function effectively as a dual-direction route, with vehicles often required to move onto the roadside or bushes to allow oncoming traffic to pass. In addition, sections of the road surface are uneven and not well maintained, further affecting travel safety and comfort.	The **TRSA** highlighted that several Extensions of Time (EOT) have already been granted, reportedly on approximately 15 occasions. The TRSA further emphasised the importance of prioritising road sections that provide access to communities, particularly the section serving approximately 10–11 longhouses, a school and an estimated 3,000 residents. The alignment and prioritisation of road sections should take into consideration the number of communities and population served. Concern was also raised regarding the proposed prioritisation of the Menuang–Menangkin section as an R3 road during the Technical Committee meeting, given the relatively smaller population served in that area compared with other sections requiring improved access. The TRSA also noted that the project has been ongoing for an extended period, with limited visible progress at certain sections. While contractor personnel remain at the site, some machinery was reportedly not in operation. Weather conditions were cited by the contractor as one of the factors affecting progress; however, the TRSA called for closer monitoring of the project and timely resolution of outstanding implementation issues.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
			It was also noted that KKDW has reportedly channelled funding to JKR for the project. Further clarification and coordination between JKR and KKDW may therefore be required regarding the status of outstanding funding and the contractor's mobilisation requirements. The TRSA emphasised that priority should be given to ensuring that the road provides safe and accessible connectivity to the bridge and surrounding communities, particularly where the road serves as an essential access route for residents, students and other users.
2	Stalled water supply project	The water treatment plant project under the Sarawak Water Supply Grid Programme – Stressed Areas for SAWAS Phase 2 Southern Region, Package 5 (Banting) by JBALB has reportedly been stalled or inactive for approximately three years. Although the project was originally scheduled for completion on 14 January 2024, it is currently not operational. This issue was reported during a focus group discussion with the Director of JBALB. The project is said to have been halted due to funding constraints. The community in Banting continues to rely on a gravity-fed water supply system. The gravity-	**JBALB** noted that the SAWAS Banting project includes the construction of a water treatment plant and is currently under **Liquidated Ascertained Damages (LAD)**. No Extension of Time (EOT) has been granted, and the contractor continues to carry out the remaining works. The project is currently at the final works stage, with completion expected between September and October. The project is being monitored by JBALB Headquarters (Kuching). The **TRSA** noted that residents of Banting have previously submitted a written request to the Resident's Office regarding the project. Given the scale of the project, which is expected to benefit approximately **3,000 residents across**

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
		fed water system is currently maintained by the grassroots community, with 10 longhouses taking turns on a monthly basis to clean the pipes and the dam.	**11 longhouses**, the TRSA emphasised the importance of completing the project as scheduled. Further monitoring and follow-up by JBALB Headquarters on the remaining works and expected completion timeline were noted.
3	Unclear status of clinic development	The proposed *Klinik Kesihatan* site near Chabu was reportedly first subject to land acquisition processes approximately 37 years ago, with compensation said to have been completed in 2009 and the land ownership subsequently transferred to the Ministry of Health (KKM). However, despite this long-standing arrangement, no development has taken place on the site since the closure of the *Klinik Ibu dan Anak* in the 1970s, which was previously shut down due to low population at that time. Residents in Banting continue to face significant accessibility challenges in this case to healthcare facilities or when travelling out of the area, as movement is highly dependent on river tide conditions. This becomes particularly critical during emergency	**PKBSA** noted that the development of a ***Klinik Kesihatan* (KK) in Banting** is included in the phased development planning for 2026–2030, subject to identified needs and the availability of funding. As of 2026, funding for the proposed facility has not yet been allocated. In the interim, healthcare services are being supported through periodic outreach from **KK Lingga**. A healthcare team comprising a Medical Officer (MO), Medical Assistant (MA), *Jururawat Masyarakat* (JM) and one healthcare support personnel (PPK) conducts visits to Banting approximately every two to three months. The outreach service operates on an in-situ basis, providing selected clinic services within the locality. KKM also conducts outreach programmes in collaboration with **MERCY Malaysia**, including mobile clinic services. Banting is currently categorised as a smaller locality, with patient attendance generally below 50 visitors per day. KKM

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
		situations. The community recalled past incidents where access constraints and strong river currents during rising tides resulted in fatal outcomes, including a case involving a couple en route for childbirth.	noted that the existing outreach arrangements are taken into consideration when determining the priority for establishing a permanent facility. Routine follow-up visits are conducted approximately every three to four months, although not all visits include a Medical Officer. KKM has also conducted visits to assess healthcare needs in the area. Maternal and child health services are supported through visiting nursing staff, including childhood immunisation and maternal health follow-up. Pregnant women requiring ultrasound scanning are referred to KK Lingga. The **TRSA** highlighted that improved road connectivity would expand access to healthcare services for approximately **14 additional longhouses in the Banting area**. With the wider service catchment comprising approximately 24 settlements, the potential population served could reach around **5,000 people**, based on available population estimates, including populations in the Banting and Bukit Lesong areas. In view of the potential expansion of the service catchment following improved road connectivity, the TRSA suggested that the need for a permanent KK in Banting be further

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
			assessed and considered in future development and funding planning.
4	Agriculture development and market access constraint	Banting has had both successful experiences and unrealised potential in agricultural development. The community previously recorded a successful paddy scheme between the late 1970s and early 1980s. However, this activity gradually declined over time, largely due to access constraints. It became increasingly difficult to transport agricultural inputs into the area and to move produce out to markets, which contributed to the eventual dwindling of the scheme.	*Related to road access issue*
5	Adequacy of welfare assistance for rural and interior households	Welfare assistance requirements and policies for rural and interior recipients are perceived by some as not fully aligned with current living standards and local realities. For example, in cases where only one member of an elderly couple receives assistance of approximately RM250 per month, a significant portion of this amount is quickly absorbed by essential costs. Transportation to town alone can cost around RM60 for two persons, while basic necessities such as rice, salt, MSG, and detergent may amount to	**JKM** For rural communities, welfare assistance is provided based on the needs and eligibility of individuals and households. The term "*ketirisan keluarga*" was raised in relation to situations where assistance received by an individual may not fully benefit the intended recipient, particularly where family members are involved. Among the available assistance are the RM600 monthly assistance for senior citizens and RM250 general assistance, with eligibility for general assistance based on specific criteria, including the applicant's ability to work and overall

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
		about RM50. After covering these essential expenses, little to no funds remain for other basic needs, highlighting concerns about the adequacy of current welfare support levels in rural contexts.	circumstances. Some recipients may also receive other forms of assistance, such as SARA and SKAS. **TRSA** There may be value in gathering information directly from communities to better understand how welfare assistance is accessed and utilised. However, further assessment and analysis would be required to identify specific issues and determine appropriate interventions. There is also concern regarding the utilisation of assistance such as SKAS. For example, issues have been observed in Lingga involving transactions at participating shops, including cases where recipients may withdraw or misuse the assistance. These situations may warrant further review to better understand the underlying causes and ensure that assistance reaches its intended purpose. For widows and families with children, the level of assistance is determined according to the relevant eligibility criteria, including the number of children in the household. Guidance is also provided to beneficiaries on the available assistance and application processes.

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
			To facilitate access to welfare services in rural areas, welfare officers are present at the District Office every Tuesday to meet with KMKK representatives and members of the local community. This provides an avenue for residents to raise welfare-related matters and obtain information or guidance on available assistance.
6	Interagency project completion monitoring	Residents in Banting have expressed concerns over a pattern of incomplete or poorly sustained government projects involving various actors, including past political representatives and government agencies. They describe these initiatives as being partially implemented or not fully followed through, resulting in limited long-term benefits for the community.	**TRSA** It was noted that several agencies, together with the Resident's Office and KKDW, had conducted site visits in recent months to review the various development projects in Banting. JKR has also been actively engaged in coordinating the implementation of the projects and addressing issues as they arise. The implementation of some projects has nevertheless been affected by various challenges at the contractor level, including manpower constraints, outstanding payments and other operational matters. It was noted that such implementation complexities may not always be apparent to the public, although they can affect the timely delivery of the intended facilities and infrastructure. The SDO and KKDW were noted to have close knowledge of the implementation status and challenges affecting the Banting projects. In relation to the ongoing bridge project,

NO.	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY FEEDBACK
			the contractor is currently undertaking alignment slab works and has increased manpower on site. It was noted that termination of a contract is not necessarily straightforward, particularly where alternative funding and arrangements would need to be identified to complete the remaining works. The issue of link-road connectivity was also highlighted, as the completion of individual infrastructure components needs to be considered together with the supporting road network to ensure that the intended facilities can be accessed and utilised by the surrounding communities. Inter-agency project monitoring is being undertaken through close coordination between the implementing agencies, funding agencies and the relevant development units. Continued coordination and timely monitoring by the implementing agencies were highlighted as important to identify implementation issues early, facilitate necessary interventions and support the timely completion of projects.

4.2 Issue Prioritisation

4.2.1 Prioritised Issue 1: Rural Connectivity and Infrastructure Access

Federal Road Project Stagnation & Standard Non-Compliance

Road access development to Banting has been a long-standing issue, with multiple proposed routes discussed over the past decades. The latest development involves an R1 standard federal road via Balau, which has been under construction for approximately three years and was initially expected to be completed in 2025, with at least three reported groundbreaking ceremonies over time. The carriageway is considered too narrow to function effectively as a dual-direction route, with vehicles often required to move onto the roadside or bushes to allow oncoming traffic to pass. In addition, sections of the road surface are uneven and not well maintained, further affecting travel safety and comfort.

The project has been ongoing for an extended period, with limited visible progress at certain sections. While contractor personnel remain at the site, some machinery was reportedly not in operation. Weather conditions were cited by the contractor as one of the factors affecting progress; however, the Resident Office called for closer monitoring of the project and timely resolution of outstanding implementation issues. It was also noted that KKDW has reportedly channelled funding to JKR for the project. Further clarification and coordination between JKR and KKDW may therefore be required regarding the status of outstanding funding and the contractor's mobilisation requirements. The Resident Office emphasised that priority should be given to ensuring that the road provides safe and accessible connectivity to the bridge and surrounding communities, particularly where the road serves as an essential access route for residents, students and other users.

The persistence of this infrastructural deficit threatens to compound multi-dimensional risks for the primary intended beneficiaries across the Banting enclave. In the absence of an all-weather road connection, the community remains constrained from commuting via land, enforcing an indefinite dependency on riverine transport. While the Banting and Batang Lupar river systems have historically served as the community's primary mobility artery, relying on water transit poses hazards. Navigational constraints, tidal variations, and the presence of the tidal bore (*benak*) have contributed to fatal transit delays during acute medical emergencies, including obstetric complications during childbirth and the critical evacuation of elderly patients to regional health facilities.

Furthermore, it is strongly recommended that Community Leaders and Village Chiefs (*Ketua Masyarakat dan Ketua Kaum*, KMKK) be formally mobilised to exercise participatory grassroots surveillance, with particular oversight of stalled or "sick" physical development projects within their respective jurisdictions. Operating as statutory administrative

liaisons at the longhouse and village level, empowered KMKK officers, including the *Penghulu* and *Tuai Rumah*, are strategically positioned to conduct continuous on-site tracking, identify contractor non-performance or site abandonment early, and report milestone deviations directly to the District Action Committee (*Jawatankuasa Tindakan Daerah*, JTD) and municipal executing agencies

Table 16. Summary of Issue 1

Problems relating to prioritised issue	1. Federal Road Project Stagnation & Standard Non-Compliance
Recommendations	2. Establish reporting mechanism - from grassroots to agency 3. Strengthen participatory grassroots surveillance
Affected Group(s)	Residents of Banting, Sri Aman
Location	Banting
SDG RELATED TO ISSUES	
Related SDG	**Related SDG Targets**
SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	Target 9.1: Develop quality, reliable, sustainable, and resilient infrastructure to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all.
SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	Target 3.6 & Target 3.8: Halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents; achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection and access to quality essential healthcare services.
SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	Target 11.2: Provide access to safe, affordable, accessible, and sustainable transport systems for all, notably by expanding public transport and improving road safety, with special attention to vulnerable populations.
SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions	Target 16.6 & Target 16.7: Develop effective, accountable, and transparent institutions at all levels; ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory, and representative decision-making at all levels.

4.2.2 Prioritised Issue 2: Skill Building, Early Intervention, and Youth Retention in P.202 Sri Aman

The acute demographic flight of the 15-35 age cohort across P.202 Sri Aman is fundamentally driven by a mismatch between traditional primary-sector livelihoods and the economic aspirations of educated youths. While circular mobility (*bejalai*) historically served as temporary expeditionary labour, it has evolved into permanent out-migration, leaving rural longhouses demographically skewed toward elder dependents and young children. Mitigating this outflow requires targeted skill-building opportunities and early institutional support that anchor youths within high-value localised value chains.

The persistent out-migration of youths from the P.202 Sri Aman constituency is driven by structural economic constraints, income disparities, and localised social isolation. Local employment remains largely limited to manual, low-margin smallholder agriculture, such as oil palm, pepper, and rubber cultivation, alongside basic civil service positions, offering few opportunities for technical, digital, or creative career advancement to secondary and tertiary school leavers. This structural limitation is compounded by significant inter-regional wage differentials, where competitive earnings in industrial growth nodes like the Samalaju Industrial Park in Bintulu, metropolitan Kuching, Peninsular Malaysia, and Singapore render rural, entry-level labour financially unviable for younger cohorts. Furthermore, the lack of vocational training institutions, youth spaces, recreational facilities, and community innovation hubs creates a sense of social disconnection, reinforcing geographic push factors that direct the emerging workforce away from their natal communities toward major urban centres.

Although this structural deficit was not explicitly recorded as a formal agenda item during the scheduled Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), observational fieldwork, informal engagements, and ethnographic interactions revealed an urgent imperative to establish protective scaffolding and early intervention mechanisms for rural youths, particularly school dropouts. In the absence of viable conventional academic pathways, these at-risk youths face heightened vulnerabilities to socio-economic marginalisation, underemployment, and localized social friction within their natal settlements. Consequently, there is a critical need to construct institutionalized alternative pathways centred on technical and vocational education and training (TVET), modular skill-building programs, and practical apprenticeships. Providing accessible, market-aligned vocational certifications not only equips early school leavers with sustainable livelihood capabilities but also serves as an indispensable human capital strategy to anchor and retain productive young labour within the emerging rural economy of P202 Sri Aman.

Table 17. Summary of Issue 2

Problems relating to prioritised issue	1. Alternative pathways for youth - retention
Recommendations	1. Construct institutionalised alternative pathways through TVET 2. Modular skill building program 3. Youths from B40 or poor family to be given financial support to enable them to continue further after F5.
Affected Group(s)	Youths in Sri Aman
Location	Sri Aman
SDG RELATED TO ISSUES	
Related SDG	**Related SDG Targets**
SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	Target 8.5: By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people, and equal pay for work of equal value.
SDG 4: Quality Education	Target 4.4: By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs, and entrepreneurship.
SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities	Target 10.7: Facilitate orderly, safe, regular, and responsible migration and mobility of people.
SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	Target 11.a: Support positive economic, social, and environmental links between urban, peri-urban, and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning.

4.2.3 Prioritised Issue 3: Lifelong Learning and Active Ageing

With the elderly cohort (aged 65 and above) comprising 11.7 percent of the population in P.202 Sri Aman, the constituency has surpassed the United Nations 7 percent threshold for an ageing society and is rapidly approaching the 14% benchmark for an aged demographic profile. This structural grey-shift is further accentuated by the sustained

out-migration of working-age adults (the historical *bejalai* phenomenon), which concentrates older adults in rural riverine longhouses and farming settlements. In this "empty-nest" rural environment, the traditional reliance on intergenerational family care is eroded, elevating lifelong learning and active aging from secondary welfare options into foundational public health and socio-developmental necessities.

The physical dispersion of longhouse communities and the absence of young adult cohorts during non-festive periods leave rural seniors vulnerable to social isolation, depression, and progressive cognitive decline. Community-based lifelong learning initiatives provide structured cognitive stimulation, mental agility exercises, and continuous social connectivity. The PAWE community has also observed that depression is a significant issue that needs to be addressed among older adults, highlighting the importance of greater attention to mental health and emotional wellbeing within ageing populations.

If left unaddressed without structured active ageing frameworks, the mental health of rural elders in P.202 Sri Aman will deteriorate into chronic psychosocial distress, marked by acute loneliness, severe depressive episodes, and accelerated cognitive decline. The structural hollowing-out of longhouses, driven by the continuous out-migration of working-age adults, leaves older residents stranded in an isolating "empty-nest" environment, stripped of regular intergenerational interaction and day-to-day emotional companionship. Without community-level stimulation, purposeful daily activities, or decentralized engagement hubs like the Senior Citizens Activity Centre (PAWE) outside the urban centre, isolated seniors experience a profound loss of self-worth and social utility. Over time, this chronic confinement and sensory under stimulation worsen depressive symptoms, induce emotional withdrawal, and heighten susceptibility to geriatric anxiety and neurodegenerative decline, turning manageable mental health vulnerabilities into debilitating crises within geographically isolated settlements.

Table 18. Summary of Issue 3

Problems relating to prioritised issue	1. Lifelong Learning and Active Ageing
Recommendations	1. Strengthen active learning and age friendly community spaces 2. Community awareness and campaign on the function of PAWE 3. Overcoming technological isolation prevents older rural cohorts from being disenfranchised by the rapid digitization of civic governance, banking, and

	public safety programs.
Affected Group(s)	Ageing community
Location	Sri Aman
SDG RELATED TO ISSUES	
Related SDG	**Related SDG Targets**
SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities	Target 10.2: Empower and promote the social, economic, and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, or economic status.
SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions	Target 16.5 & Target 16.6: Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms; develop effective, accountable, and transparent institutions at all levels.
SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	Target 3.4: Reduce premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment, and promote mental health and well-being.
SDG 4: Quality Education	Target 4.4 & Target 4.6: Substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills; ensure that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy.

5.0 PRELIMINARY IDENTIFICATION OF SOLUTION PROJECTS

Three (3) major projects have been identified for the Sri Aman parliamentary constituency to address several issues that have emerged.\

	PROJECT 1	PROJECT 2	PROJECT 3
Project Title	*Pusat Pembelajaran Literasi Digital Komuniti: Bengkel Pemantapan Kemahiran I.T*	*Penjanaan Pendapatan & Keusahawan: Program Latihan Kemahiran Belia - Kursus Pemasangan Elektrik Satu Fasa & Penyaman Udara* (Certificate of Service Technician Programme – CSTP)	*Projek Smart Sewing: Menjahit dan Pemasaran Digital Warga Emas*
Relevant SDG(s)	SDG 4, 8, 9, 11, 16, 17	SDG 4, 8, 9	SDG 1,4, 8
Objective(s)	1. To enhance basic IT and digital literacy skills among community leaders, JKKK secretaries, and Women's Bureau members. 2. To improve participants' ability to prepare official documents, including proposals and meeting minutes, in a systematic and professional manner. 3. To provide practical training on digital applications, particularly Google Workspace, for administrative purposes.	1. To equip youth with practical, industry-oriented technical skills in single-phase electrical wiring and air-conditioning servicing and maintenance. 2. To improve participants' employability by providing them with relevant technical training, competency assessment, and industry exposure. • To provide opportunities for youth to pursue employment or self-employment in the technical sector, including offering electrical wiring and air-conditioning services to the local community.	1. To enhance participants' modern sewing skills, particularly among senior citizens and the local community. 2. To develop participants' ability to create handmade sewing products that meet market needs. 3. To improve participants' digital literacy and ability to use digital platforms for product marketing. 4. To equip participants with practical sewing and digital

	PROJECT 1	PROJECT 2	PROJECT 3
	4. To strengthen participants' computer and typing skills through hands-on training. 5. To empower participants to carry out administrative duties more efficiently, professionally, and in line with current digital requirements.		marketing skills to create opportunities for income generation.
Expected Outcome(s)	1. Improved ability to produce quality official documents in a more systematic and professional manner. 2. Enhanced digital and IT skills, including more efficient use of digital technologies and applications for administrative purposes. 3. Increased confidence in carrying out administrative duties professionally. 4. Improved administrative efficiency among community leaders, JKKK secretaries, and Women's Bureau members. 5. Greater application of digital	1. Improved technical skills among participating youth in single-phase electrical wiring and air-conditioning servicing and maintenance. 2. Increased employability and workplace readiness through practical, industry-oriented training, competency assessment, and industry exposure. 3. Increased employment and self-employment opportunities in the technical sector, including opportunities to provide electrical and air-conditioning services to the local community. 4. Improved income generation and career development prospects	1. Improved sewing skills and the ability to produce quality handmade products using sewing machines. 2. Enhanced digital skills, including the use of computers, social media, and e-commerce platforms for product marketing. 3. Increased capacity to promote and sell handmade products through online platforms. 4. Greater opportunities for sustainable income generation through the production and sale of handmade sewing products.

	PROJECT 1	PROJECT 2	PROJECT 3
	technology in daily community affairs and administrative tasks.	through the application of acquired technical skills, practical experience, and relevant certification, including CSTP for air-conditioning participants.	
Solution Provider	Pusat Pembangunan Kemahiran Sarawak (Sarawak Skills Development Centre)	Pusat Pembangunan Kemahiran Sarawak (Sarawak Skills Development Centre)	Pusat Aktiviti Warga Emas (PAWE) Sri Aman
Activities/ Processes	Four groups (one group per month; 25 participants per group) Project activities for each group: 1. Preparation of Meeting Minutes and Official Letters • Train participants to prepare meeting minutes and official letters according to standard formats and administrative practices. 2. Preparation of Programme Proposals • Train participants to prepare complete and well-structured proposals for programme implementation, funding	Phase 1: Promotion & Participant Selection • Promote the programme through social media, government agencies, educational institutions, community leaders, and industry networks. • Conduct applications, screening, interviews, and participant selection. Phase 2: Youth Skills Training • Single-Phase Electrical Wiring: Electrical safety, equipment use, domestic wiring, distribution board installation, electrical testing, and competency assessment. • Air-Conditioning Servicing: Basic systems, installation, maintenance, troubleshooting, refrigerant handling, practical training, and CBT-based	Month 1: 1. Basic Skills Assessment – Assess participants' existing sewing skills and organise suitable training groups. 2. Sewing Machine and Basic Sewing Training – Train participants in safe sewing machine operation and basic sewing techniques. 3. Advanced Product-Making Workshop – Develop sewing products such as bags, aprons, cushions, and accessories. Month 2: 1. Product Finishing Workshop – Improve product finishing and

	PROJECT 1	PROJECT 2	PROJECT 3
	applications, and grant requests. 3. Preparation of Programme and Activity Reports • Guide participants in preparing clear, systematic programme and activity reports as records of implementation and evidence of project achievements. 4. Introduction to Google Workspace • Train participants to use Google Workspace applications, including Google Docs, Google Forms, and Google Drive, to improve community management, communication, document preparation, data management, and information sharing. 5. Presentation of Training	competency assessment. Phase 3: Industrial Training • Six-month industry placement to apply technical skills, gain workplace experience, and improve employability. Phase 4: Monitoring Visits • Monitor participant progress, gather employer feedback, and assess the implementation of industrial training.	quality to meet market requirements. 2. Product Branding and Packaging Workshop – Develop product branding, logos, labels, and packaging. 3. Basic Computer and Digital Skills Training – Introduce participants to computers and digital applications. 4. Product Photography and Photo Editing Workshop – Teach participants to produce quality product images using mobile phones and computers. Month 3: 1. Digital Marketing Training – Introduce marketing through Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, and e-commerce platforms. Entrepreneurship and Sales Mentoring – Cover pricing, sales strategies, customer management, and order

	PROJECT 1	PROJECT 2	PROJECT 3
	Assignments • Participants present the assignments completed throughout the training, including meeting minutes, official letters, project proposals, reports, and Google Workspace applications, to strengthen their communication, leadership, and presentation skills.		handling. 2. Community Product Exhibition and Sales – Showcase and sell products to the community, providing participants with practical sales experience. 3. Final Evaluation and Entrepreneurship Action Planning – Conduct a final assessment, award certificates, and develop an action plan for continued entrepreneurship.
Total Funding (RM)	40,000	40,000	40,000
Location	Sri Aman	Sri Aman	Sri Aman
Duration	4 months	4 months	4 months

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