SDG ACADEMIC NETWORK FORUM

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SDG SUMMIT, MALAYSIA

UNITED NATIONS / 6 – 7 NOV 2019

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Presentation Outline

- Focuses on social inclusion which integrates SDGs agenda.

- Divided into two parts:

1. <u>Policy engagement</u> – cost of living issue – prepared Draft Action Plan for National Cost of Living (2020-2022)

2. <u>Research</u> – 'Social inclusion through ICT adoption among the indigenous peoples of Sabah'

Part 1 : Policy engagement

Cost of living issue – prepared Draft Action Plan for National Cost of Living (2020-2022)

NATIONAL COST OF LIVING ACTION COUNCIL SECRETARIAT (NACCOL)

- On 17 Aug 2018, the Cabinet has agreed to reactivate the establishment of the National Cost of Living Action Council. The first National Cost of Living Action Supreme Council meeting was held on 27 Sept 2018. The Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs is the Secretariat to the Supreme Council Meeting as well as the Executive Committee Meeting.

- **Malaysian Social Science Association** (MSSA) – appointed consultant to lead & formulate the Draft Action Plan for National Cost of Living (2020-2022) under the National Cost of Living Action Council Secretariat (NACCOL). The draft plan is guided by the principle and through the pledge to 'Leave No One Behind'.

- Hence, seven clusters were established to formulate effective short-term, medium-term and long-term solutions and measures including detailed action plans to address identified issues and challenges.

5. Utility

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable & modern energy

6. Health

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

7. E-commerce

Productive employment and decent work for all incl. E-commerce

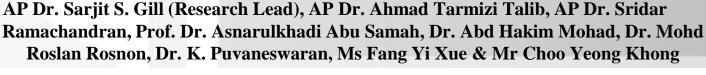# Process : stakeholders engagement (9 ministries & agencies)

Part 2 : Research

Social inclusion and overcoming the <u>digital divide</u> issue among rural indigenous communities in Sabah

AP Dr. Sarjit S. Gill (Research Lead), AP Dr. Ahmad Tarmizi Talib, AP Dr. Sridar Ramachandran, Prof. Dr. Asnarulkhadi Abu Samah, Dr. Abd Hakim Mohad, Dr. Mohd Roslan Rosnon, Dr. K. Puvaneswaran, Ms Fang Yi Xue & Mr Choo Yeong Khong

SOCIAL INCLUSION THROUGH ICT ADOPTION AMONG THE INDIGENOUS OF SABAH

The Malaysian Government has spent lots **money and resources to enhance the development of Information and Communication Technology (ICT)**.

The Government determination in developing inclusive and digital community can be seen clearly as the ICT development program are significantly highlighted in each Malaysian Plan. However, the impact of ICT development has created the issue of **digital divide** in society esp. rural communities**.**

The obstacles faced by the indigenous peoples are many but the main barriers remain resources, basic infrastructure, capacity building and access.

This study aims to examine the social inclusion through ICT adoption among the indigenous communities in Sabah.

The Geneva Declaration of the Global Forum of Indigenous Peoples and the Information Society (2003) states that:

"Information and Communication Technology (ICT) should be used to support and encourage cultural diversity and to preserve and promote the language, distinct identities and traditional knowledge of indigenous people, nations and tribes in manner which they determine best advances these goals."

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METHODOLOGY

Research approach: **Quantitative** approach.

Research instrument
i.**Survey** technique with structured **questionnaire**.
ii.**FGD** to inquire existing and emerging issues

Research location:

Phase	Location	Ethnic
Phase 1	Papar & Beaufort:	Melayu Brunei (120)
	Penampang	KadazanDusun (160)
	Kota Belud	Bajau (120)
Phase 2	Kudat & Pitas	Rungus (120)
	Ranau	KadazanDusun (190)
Phase 3	Sipitang	Kedayan (100)
	Long Pasia	Lundayeh (90)
	Keningau & Pensiangan	Murut (150)
Phase 4	Tawau & Lahad Datu	Suluk (100)
	Semporna	Bajau (150)

Sample Size : 1,300 respondents

KEY FINDINGS

Level of ICT Adoption	**Overall : adopted well to modern ICT tools, willing to learn new technology, possess moderate skills, with 3-6 hours of time spend in operating ICT. Most popular social media platform: Facebook, WhatsApp and YouTube.**
Categories	**Youth**: well adopted, interested in technology **Women**: interested learning new knowledge and technology esp. for online business **Elderly**: beginner user, possess most basic skills, prefer conventional tools

RECOMMENDATIONS: THE ICT- SDG NEXUS

Education &Training SDG4

- Internet centres – improve community's accessibility to internet, enhance ICT skills & literacy for elderly group
- Training & awareness program on the importance of cultural preservation through ICT
- Revisit the role of library – digital library – digital inclusion

4 QUALITY EDUCATION

Internet Outreach SDG9

- Increase the availability of the infrastructure such as community WIFI & internet centre esp. schools and community centre
- Provide distant reachable internet facilities esp. for rural and interior communities

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Digital Inclusion Policy SDG5 & SDG10

- Ministry of Communications & Multimedia – suggested internet access to be wider & extensive as a basic right for the people
- Adhere on reaching different groups esp. the indigenous communities
- Functional policy with check and balance mechanism

5 GENDER EQUALITY
10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

RECOMMENDATIONS: THE ICT – SDG NEXUS

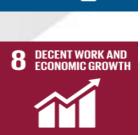**Internet & Digital Communication as Human Rights SDG16 & SDG17**

- Integrate National Human Rights Action Plan, as Pillar 2: Economics, Social & Cultural Rights.
- Adopt the guideline from Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries Convention, 1989 (No.169), in protecting the culture of the indigenous

ICT & Nation-Building SDG3 & SDG16

- ICT develops in promoting different cultures of the people, further contributing in building a united and harmony nation

Promoting Digital Economy SDG8

- Utilize the platform to promote the indigenous cultural products, handicrafts & cultural tourism

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

Conclusion

- These six recommendations can enhance social inclusion and address the digital divide among rural indigenous communities in Sabah.

- In many ways this recommendations localise SDGs Agenda in the Malaysian setting.

1. Kg Tamu Darat, Kota Belud (Bajau)
2. Kg Matunggung (Rungus), Kudat
3. Kg Nosoob (Kadazandusun), Penampang
4. Kg Bundu Tuhan, Kundasang
5. Kg Biau, Bongawan
6. Kg Lasing, Ranau
7. Kg Lohan, Ranau
8. Long Pasia (Lundayeh)
9. Kg Sinagangulu (Murut), Keningau
10. Sekolah Kebangsaan Ulu Senagang, Keningau
11. Kg Gelam-Gelam, Pulau BumBum (Bajau, Suluk), Semporna
12. Sekolah Kebangsaan Pulau Mabul, Semporna
13. Kg Bubul Lama, Semporna

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