



Persatuan Rimba Komuniti Kota Damansara

Fulfilling the vision for a people's forest

MAL/SGP/OP5/Y2/STAR/BD/12/18



FINAL REPORT 2014



THE GEF SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME

Template & Guidelines for Narrative Report

- Cover Page -

Type of Report:	FINAL
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Grantee:

Name:	Persatuan Rimba Komuniti Kota Damansara (KDCF Society)
Address:	99, Jalan Rimba Riang 9/15, 47810 Kota Damansara, Petaling Jaya, Selangor Darul Ehsan
Person in Charge:	Justine Vaz (President)

Identification of the project:

Project title:	Fulfilling the vision for a people's forest
Project number:	MAL/SGP/OP5/Y2/STAR/BD/12/18
Location:	Kota Damansara
GEF SGP focal area:	Biodiversity; Sustainable Forest Management
Type of project:	Community-based forest management; education, awareness and outreach.
Start-up date:	November 2012
Completion Date:	September 2014
Reporting period	20 months

Budget and Finance:

Total project cost:	RM156,740.00
SGP Grant amount:	USD50,000.00
Co-funding amount:	RM39,696.00 (Actual)
Contribution of the Local CSO:	RM155,853.00 (In kind)
Final project expenditure:	RM162619.65

Participants/Beneficiaries:

Target group:	Residents of Kota Damansara and Greater KL
Number of male participants:	Approx. 8,000
Number of female participants:	Approx. 8,000
Number of youth	Estimated 4,000
Number of children	Estimated 4,000
Number/participation of other stakeholders	Estimated 4,000

Prepared by: Justine Vaz

Date: 18 May 2015

- PART 1 -

NARRATIVE ELABORATION OF PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS ACHIEVED

I – Project background:

Fulfilling the vision for a People's Forest – connecting with wider community to safeguard the forest and ensure future sustainability

1.1 Project Site

The Kota Damansara Community Forest Reserve (KDCFR) is one of the last remnants of lowland dipterocarp forests remaining in the Klang Valley. This forest block of 801 acres was saved from housing development plans due to the concerted efforts of local residents and support from several previous GEF-SGP grants. Today it endures as an invaluable green lung within a dense urban setting - an important refuge for biodiversity and a testimony to what can be achieved through a concerted grassroots environmental campaign and political will.

1.2 Project Description

With the KDCFR officially gazetted as of 18 February 2010 (Sel GN 398/2010), the focus has shifted from defense of the forest to planning for balanced use for conservation, education and research, as well as recreational use. The Selangor Forestry Department affirmed its commitment to co-management together with local residents at the closing Workshop of the previous GEF-SGP project (held on Dec 20 2010). In response to the identified need for an organization to represent the diverse voices of the community, Persatuan Rimba Komuniti Kota Damansara (KDCF Society) was formally established in 3 Dec 2011. KDCF Society is committed to being a well-governed and consultative community counterpart to help protect and manage the Forest Reserve. It comprises local Residents' Associations, key environmental, recreation and education NGOs, as well as residents and supporters from surrounding neighbourhoods and from the greater Klang Valley area.

In 2012, the Selangor Forestry Department engaged town planning firm PAG Consult Sdn Bhd to formulate a management plan for the Reserve. KDCF Society participated actively with the studies and consultations. The draft Forest Management Plan has been developed along the lines of recommendations from the previous GEF-SGP project completed in 2010 and is now complete. It provides an important blueprint for zoning, implementing improvement plans, and general management of KDCF. Applications have also been made for funding under the 11th Malaysia Plan to install important infrastructure. What remains to be formalized is the management structure for co-managing the forest in consultation with the local community.

At this juncture, KDCF Society aims to play a strategic role in monitoring the development process and formalizing a meaningful platform for community participation in addition to the role we currently play as *de facto* forest managers. Although relations with the Forestry Department are cordial, it is important that the framework for consultation becomes institutionalized, or we risk the gains made from previous campaigns being undermined by leadership and policy changes. Enlarging our community of regular users is another priority even though there are no obvious threats to the forest now. Should the need arise to protect the Reserve from commercial interests, it will be necessary to tap into a widening base of supporters both at grassroots level and at policy level.

This GEF-SGP grant will be used to help to sustain the strategic momentum needed to secure the role of the community in the management of the KDCF in partnership with the Forestry Department. In addition, it will provided a platform for the Society to engage with local residents, schools and other institutions. Activities and programmes have been designed to reach out to the wider community and expand our membership base. Through public events, social media, word of mouth, and traditional print media, we seek to boost the profile of the forest reserve. The ultimate objective is to generate continuous support to safeguard and sustain the Forest Reserve in the long-term. The project will allow the KDCFR to fulfill its potential as a hub for environmental education and community participation, and a model other for green refuges abutting expanding urban areas.

1.3 Project Objectives

The main objectives of the project are as follows:-

- To enable KDCF Society members and partners to effectively co-manage the Forest Reserve and play a lead role in the implementation of the KDCF Forest Management Plan.
- To use plans to extend the network of low-impact trails and rehabilitate forest to connect residents, students, special interest groups and other recreational user groups to participate in volunteer trail-building and maintenance activities. This involvement nurtures a greater sense of ownership toward the Reserve (about 8 km of trails are planned over 20 months).
- To continue to provide a platform to engage with the Temuan Orang Asli community who will have a role in implementing the trail-building and maintenance programme while developing their own projects related to enhancing appreciation of indigenous cultural heritage.
- To develop effective tools for communication and outreach.
- To engage students from local schools and colleges to participate in KDCFR activities.
- To engage the business community to support for the implementation of the KDCF Management Plan.

1.4 Project beneficiaries

- Residents of Kota Damansara (estimated population 500,000) and those living in a 6 km radius of KDCF, recreational as well as special interest user groups, nature lovers from Greater KL.
- Members of the Temuan Orang Asli community from Sungai Buloh and Bukit Lanjan; the recently established Persatuan Kaum Temuan Berwawasan Selangor.
- Students from nearby education institutions which may include Section 9 Primary School, Section 10 Secondary School, Sri KDU, Segi College, the growing home schooling network and other interested youth groups.
- The expanding local business community that have expressed interest in supporting activities related to the KDCF.
- Other green causes seeking to reach out to the public, especially those groups that are seeking to care for forest areas and green spaces close to them.

1.5 Project approach

The project undertook a multi-pronged approach to boost public awareness of the existence of the community forest and the establishment of the Society as a conduit to engage with the forest. Public participation was achieved through community events as well as regular walks and volunteer activities. Various media channels were also engaged to communicate this message. Maps and flyers developed continue to serve as valuable tools for interesting and familiarizing people with the forest, thereby enlarging its support base.

The Forest Trail Network which now extend to 11 km is central to most KDCF activities. In addition, to providing a means of getting people into the forest, many people have become actively involved in the Society by participating in volunteer trail days. The prospect of being able to associate with the KDCF has attracted sponsor interest and this has been the main way by which we have enlisted private sector participation. Other smaller contributions and in-kind support have also been provided through CSR activities. The younger generation has also been involved through environmental education and community service activities that are a staple of our work.

For members of the Temuan Team that work closely with us, we have been able to provide continuous training and exposure, and steady income-earning opportunities in forest and trail management. In addition, we have affirmed their importance to the life of the forest reserve.

Finally, developing a base of members has been an important aim of the Society and this continues to demand our time and attention. Member databases require regular updating, as well as constant communication via our social media channels. The project has provided considerable support in enabling us to fulfill this need. Our activities are described in greater detail in the next section.

I - Activities:

1 Communications and awareness programme

Overview

This section describes efforts to introduce the newly registered Persatuan Rimba Komuniti Kota Damansara (KDCF Society) to the wider community and raise awareness of its objectives, mission, and the different ways in which the community can engage with the forest through our activities. This has played a central role in outreach and promoting public participation in the life of the forest. In contrast to the previous years, where KDCF was synonymous with grassroots green activism, today we are proud that it is generally touted as a model of public participation which can be emulated elsewhere. This positive profile has enabled us to tackle the important objective of achieving financial sustainability and diversifying funding sources.

Activity code	Details	Project achievements or milestones
1.1	<p>Promotion of Kota Damansara Forest Reserve via KDCF Society website and social media channels such as our Facebook group, Facebook page, Instagram and Twitter.</p>	<p>As an initial priority, the organization’s website www.kotadamansaraforest.org was relaunched in November 2011. It has been equipped with information on the organization, the history and values of the KDCF, and helpful visitor information such as a location map, and downloadable maps of the forest trails and ethnobotanical garden.</p> <p>The Society’s Facebook Group is the most effective means of sharing information and publicizing activities. Since its establishment, the Group has more than 2,650 members, and this figure continues to grow at a healthy rate. The Group, Facebook Page, as well as Whatsapp groups (both official and informal) enable people to organize their own activities and to reach out to others that are not yet familiar with the forest.</p> <p>Recently, the website has also been made Instagram and twitter friendly. We are increasingly making use of these media platforms to publicize our work. Because of the immediacy and effectiveness of using the social media options available to us, we did not proceed with developing an e-newsletter, and focused instead on providing regular news and updates via these channels.</p>
1.2 1.3	<p>Development of printed materials</p> <p>(Samples of the printed materials may be found in the Annex).</p>	<p>At the start of the project, flyers were produced in both BM and English to provide basic information on the Society. With the completion of the Forest Trails, we were able to design an attractive map/brochure that provides some background on the KDCF and its importance for biodiversity conservation while showcasing the expanded forest trail network and Sipew’s ethnobotanical garden. Visitors are able to use this map (which is available in BM and English versions) to plan their walks based on length of trails and fitness level needed.</p>
1.4	<p>Leaflet for Tahak Sipew’s Ethnobotanical Garden</p>	<p>A simple leaflet on Tahak Sipew’s Ethnobotanical Garden featuring drawings prepared by Mor Ajani of Temuan Team has been produced to support Environmental Education activities and Ethnobotanical tours. This leaflet is available for download from the Facebook group and the website.</p>
1.5	<p>Videos developed for outreach and</p>	<p>A public awareness video on KDCF was prepared. In addition some drone filming was carried out in order to get perspectives of the forest</p>

	<p>communications purposes</p> <p>Videos may be viewed on our website.</p>	<p>from above. The video has been edited to incorporate this aerial perspective. This video will feature in the school and general outreach programme in 2015.</p>
1.6	<p>KDCF featured in print and online media</p> <p>See Annex for highlights from print and online media</p>	<p>KDCF has continued to be featured in news articles in the print and online media. Features have been written on volunteer activities for students, community participation in the management of forest reserves, the launch of the new trails and CSR work by corporations.</p> <p>Aside from this, KDCF is also featured in blogs and youtube videos belonging to members and other supporters. This has helped to interest other like-minded groups to visit the Forest Reserve.</p>
1.7	<p>Advocacy and support for green initiatives for urban forest</p> <p>Participation in green events and meetings</p>	<p>KDCF Society hosted two visits from communities from AU3 and Bukit Melawati in Hulu Kelang that are the focus of the 'River of Life' project of the Department of Irrigation and Drainage (DID). The Director of DID accompanied community leaders and members on one of these visits. The authorities are keen to engage these groups in the restoration and establishment of a riverine park.</p> <p>Other groups that we have hosted include Friends of Bukit Kiara, Friends of Bukit Gasing, Friends of Setia Alam forest, and RAs of Bukit Tunku. These meetings have provided an avenue to share strategies and idea for boosting public support and also engaging with government authorities. Aside from public events at KDCF, KDCF Society has also promoted the forest and the Society's activities in talks, meetings and festivals.</p> <p>KDCFR has been discussed as a model of community participation in workshops to prepare the National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan, which suggests that there is potential to magnify the impact of this model nationally, even beyond the forest reserve boundaries.</p> <p>In addition, KDCF hosted a delegation from the GEF SGP constituents meeting on 13 May 2014 to provide an example of how the grants programme has helped advance the community forest management.</p>
1.8	<p>KDCF in academic research and tertiary level studies</p>	<p>KDCF Society has hosted groups of students that are interested in the forest community as a model of public participation. Students and teachers of Nottingham University conducted a field visit in 2014 as part of their course. A workshop was organized by Nottingham University in May 2015 to draw upon the community forest experience and to plan on further research to document the value of community participation of the KDCF as well as identify other opportunities for research into ecology, forest management and biodiversity.</p>



Weekend trail walks led by KDCF Forest Guides are the main means by which we introduce newcomers to the forest.

[L] Birdwatching conducted by MNS Selangor Branch.

[R] Volunteer lake clean up

[BELOW] Poster for Merdeka Day walk and breakfast



Rayakan Merdeka di KDCF lah!

31 Ogos 2013
Shelter Sec 10
Hidangan ringan
9 - 11 am

2 Public events

Overview

In keeping with the tradition of KDCF sharing its environmental message through community events, several Open Days and public events were held during the project period. These environmental festivals provided an opportunity for KDCF members to introduce the Reserve to people not yet familiar with it. The various Open Days guided nature walks for different ages/interest groups, birding excursions, trail runs, guided mountain bike excursions, volunteer activities such as tree planting, lake clean up, and trail maintenance. Invited exhibitors put up food stalls, flea market and information/awareness booths. Other offerings included face painting and crafts for children, live performances, Orang Asli handcraft demonstration and sale, street soccer competitions for children, inflatables for children, and parenting forums. Most of these events were run with funds raised from partner organizations and supporters, with in-kind support from MBPJ.

Table 2.1 Open Days at KDCF during the reporting period

Date	Event	Highlights
8 Dec 2012	Green Community Day	An event to introduce KDCF Society to the public. More than 400 people attended and 90 people registered as inaugural Society members.
6 June 2013	World Environment Day – Think.Eat.Save The emphasis of this event was on civil society engagement and public participation. It attracted a number of exhibitors from groups that are spearheading initiatives for green living, nature conservation, voluntarism and urban gardening, among others.	World Environment Day @KDCF was jointly held with MNS Selangor Branch. An estimated 1,000 people attended over the course of the day, including local MP (YB Sivarasa Rasiah) and MBPJ Councillor (Kandeah Subramaniam) who both contributed support. We also signed up another 112 KDCF members. The exhibitors and groups of note included:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MNS Selangor • MNS Special Interest Groups • Misssgreenie.com • Do Good Volunteers • MESYM • GEF-SGP • MBPJ Health Department • TTDI Edible Project • TRAKS • Organic farmers • Titi Eco Farm Resort, Negeri Sembilan • KDCF Society • Sepak Raga Tuju
31 Aug 2013	Merdeka Day@KDCF breakfast	A simple family event that attracted 50 people for a trail walk and breakfast.
17 Aug 2014	KDCF Day	Held as a joint event with MNS Selangor Branch at Taman Rimba Riang, Section 9 in conjunction with the launch of the Harmoni Trail. More than 400 people signed up for guided nature walks on the newly launched trail. This event featured an outdoor restaurant, a street football tournament, green stalls and info booths, an art competition, parenting talks, and live music. More than 90 volunteers from MNS and KDCF helped organize the event, including students from Sek Men Sec 10, and also members of the Kota Damansara Football Club.
16 Sept 2014	Malaysia Day	A fitness and forest recreation themed activity held at Hutannya Padang Kota with the Sierra Damansara RA to highlight the need to protect the forest park which was being affected by MRT construction. The event attracted about 60 people including many residents of Sierra Damansara. YB Sivarasa attended to listen to the woes experienced by local residents and follow up meetings were held to address the protection and maintenance of the forest and the community field.

2 Public events



Posters and images from community events held at KDCF.



Green Community Day is a day to come out and enjoy the Kota Damansara Community Forest Reserve. It's forest fun for the whole family! Come meet the forest community and learn how you can get involved!

- 🌿 Forest activities > guided nature walks • bird watching • ethnobotanical tour • forest walks • mountain biking • gotong royong and lake clean up
- 🎨 Exhibitions and booths > Orang Asli craft demo • MNS • KDCF • YAWA booths • medicinal plants •
- 👦 Fun for kids > arts & crafts • wave-boarding • roller-blading • facepainting • henna • games • scavenger hunt • drum circle workshop

🍷 Food stalls
🛍️ Flea market
T: 012 352 0215

Sat, 8 Dec 2012
Green Community Day @ KDCF
7.30am - 2.00pm
www.kotadamansaraforest.org

Organized by volunteers from the KDCF Society with Malaysian Nature Society (MNS), Trails Assoc. of KL and Selangor (TRAKS), Yayasan Anah...
Supported by Selangor Forestry Department, MRF Councilor for...



YOU'RE INVITED TO
GET YOUR GREEN ON at KOTA DAMANSARA COMMUNITY FOREST
KDCF SOCIETY AND MNS SELANGOR BRANCH
OPEN DAY

Organic food • fruits and veggies • Fresh coconuts • Roti canai and teh tarik • nasi lemak • Fresh from the oven • gourmet coffee

TAMAN RIMBA RIANG
SUNDAY, 17 AUG 2014
8.30 AM - 3.00 PM

• MNS special interest groups • Guided nature walks • Birdwatching • Mountain biking • Fun trail runs • Zumba fun • Art competition • Healthy living • Outdoor activities • Green causes • Games for children • Arts and crafts • Face painting and henna • **LUCKY DRAWS** and many more

Flintcity.org.my
HARMONI TRAIL



World Environment Day 2013





[TOP] Standard and Chartered employees carried these two benches to their current location 2 km in on the Temuan Trail. [MIDDLE] The bridge along the UM sponsored Harmoni Trail and Salam Wakaf donated and installed by UM Land.



[LEFT] This foot-bridge at the start of the Petaling Trail is also used as a base for kayaking on Open Days.

Aside from the Community Days, KDCF Society has helped to host several CSR programmes with corporate supporters mainly contributing labour for trail maintenance, installation of amenities, and tree planting. Some financial support has also come from those organizations that have sponsored trails (details provided in Section 4). In addition, several other volunteer groups have come from students of secondary and tertiary education institutions. All volunteer days were supported by between 4 and 12 KDCF Society volunteers as well as paid Temuan trail guides.

Table 2.2 CSR and Volunteer events

Date	Participants	Description of activity
June 8 2013	46 employees from OYL Manufacturing Co. Sdn Bhd of Sungai Buloh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sweeping the entire trail network of three trails a day ahead of World Environment Day (Think.Eat.Save) • Collection and removal of rubbish
June 8 2013	13 employees from Standard & Chartered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistance with general set up for World Environment Day • Helping to set up the notices and trail map in the new notice board
July 6 2013	Taylor's College Sri Hartamas 12 students from the Trail Blazer Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trail maintenance of the Scouts' and Temuan Trails • In partial fulfilment of community service requirements of their course
July 12 2013	Taylor's College Sri Hartamas and Sunway campuses Forest Friends Programme 68 Students, teachers and advisors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jointly hosted with the Forestry Department • Involved the planting of 120 native saplings in the degraded northern section of the KDCF • Supervised by forestry officers and staff at the Kampung Cubbit Forestry Training Centre • Weeding of sandbags in tree nursery. •
July 27 2013	Taylor's College Sri Hartamas 3 students from the Trail Blazers programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trail maintenance along the Petaling Education Trail
24 Nov 2013	100 volunteers from GE Malaysia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree planting in the Section 9 area coordinated with the Forestry Department. • Forestry Department provided tree saplings and canopies. • KDC Society provided coordination support, tools funded with the GEF grant.
24 Nov 2013	10 volunteers from KDCF Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Section 7 field in conjunction with tournament organized by KD Football Club • Organized children's colouring contest and lucky draw. Sponsored prizes and t-shirts for officials and players at the football tournament. • Provided vouchers for people to kayak for free at upcoming Green Community Day. • This participation was organized to reach out to the poorer communities that do not actively use the forest for recreation.
30 Nov 2013	41 volunteers comprising students and teachers from International Medical University (IMU)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students provided assistance with trail maintenance and clean up on Temuan and Sahabat forest trails.
1 Dec 2013	30 Volunteers from Malaysian Nature Society 20 Volunteers from KDCF Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In conjunction with Green Community Day 2013 • Assistance with set up and coordination of community event • Guided nature walks, activities for children, kayaking

8 Dec 2013	120 employees from IJM Land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearing of rubbish along the lakeside and all trails • Deepening of a small stream to improve water flow • Release of fish species into the lake with the approval of the Forestry Department. •
8 Dec 2013	13 volunteers from Taylor's College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistance with set up and clearing up on Green Community Day
18 April 2014	32 students and teachers from Mont Kiara International School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance of forest trails (6 km) in fulfillment of their community service commitments for the year.
29 June 2014	110 staff of PPB Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean up and maintenance of trails in conjunction with the launch of the sponsorship of a new trail. • Staff also participated in 2 trail building days in the subsequent months. (23 August 2014; 7 Sept 2014)
9 Aug 2014	98 volunteers from Standard Chartered Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sweeping of forest trails (6 km) • Installation of two heavy wooden benches funded by the grant 2 km in on the Temuan Trail.
17 Aug 2014	20 volunteers from the Sec. 10, Secondary School 80 volunteers from Malaysian Nature Society 40 volunteers from KDCF Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In conjunction with KDCF Day held at Taman Rimba Riang. • Assistance with set up for community outreach event • Provision of guided walks on newly launched Harmoni Trail • Provision of information and awareness on KDCF and other green initiatives
14 Sept 2014	90 students from University Sultan Idris, Perak	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance of forest trails • Coordinated with assistance of Forestry Dept.
7 Dec 2014	125 staff of IJM Land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trail maintenance and stumping the new Harmoni and Unity Trails. • Installed of a wakaf (shelter) and two park benches donated by them about 2 km in on the Harmoni Trail.

Aside from these groups, we also receive regular inquiries from individuals that learned about the KDCF trail building programme from the Do Good Volunteers site and other media such as online coverage (e.g. <http://www.mesym.com/en/interviews/stw-sundays-4-justine-vaz-on-managing-a-community-forest-in-kota-damansara/>).

3 Honorary Forest Monitor and KDCF Forest Guide Training Programme

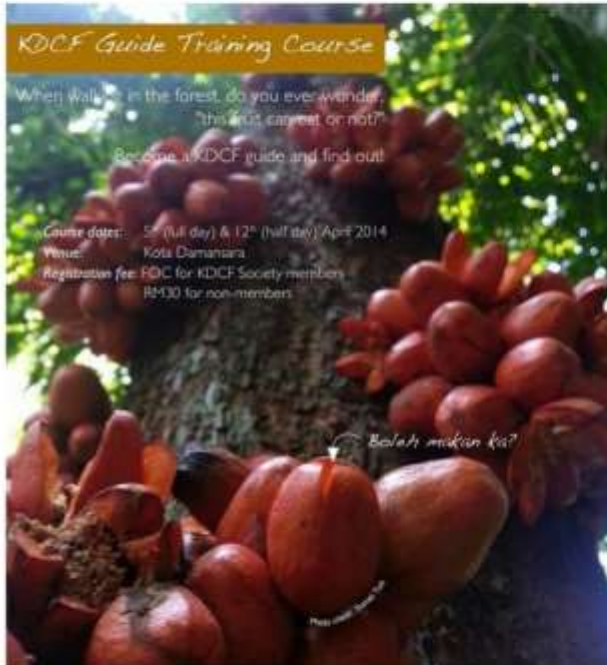
KDCF Society implemented a Forest Guide Training Course with the objective of training KDCF Forest Guides that could play a role in introducing people to the forest. This course was designed and coordinated by Dylan Ong who invited experts to provide training on relevant knowledge and skills for Forest Guides. Conducted over two days, the Course provided practical training in safety and basic first aid and emergency response, and guiding and interpretation skills for groups of all ages. Speakers provided specialized knowledge on the history of the Sungai Buloh forest, the background to the creation of Kota Damansara Community Forest Reserve, the establishment of KDCF Society and its philosophy of outreach. Other topics covered included botany, forest ecology, wildlife and herpetology. The District Forest Officer also attended and provided an overview of the Forest Management Plan for KDCF.

A total of 15 people completed the first Guide Training course and all received the official KDCF Forest Guide T-shirt. A list of names of participants from the training is included in the Annex. Many of these guides have already been actively involved in serving as guides for visiting groups as well as schools and institutions. This catchment of additional support has helped lighten the load on committee members and provided the opportunity for us to engage new people that actively contribute to the life of the forest. Some of the participants in the Forest Guide Training Course were elected as Committee members for the 2014/2015 term.

Based on our planning document, the opportunity to attend the nature guide training course offered by the Department of Wildlife and National Parks (DWNP) Peninsular Malaysia was offered to our Temuan Team as well as local members from Kota Damansara. However, there were no takers, as few are willing to commit to the two-week training period. As discussed in Section 4 below, it was a mutual decision of the Temuan Team and also KDCF Society to invest the funds for training into additional hands on mentoring in trail design and construction with the involvement of trail expert Pat Brundson who conducted these sessions when he returned to KL on family visits from Bangkok.

The other planned activity that did not go ahead was the proposed study visit to other Forest Reserves for our Orang Asli team. Funds were not used for this because of scheduling issues. KDCF Society plans to ensure that these exposure trips to the Temuan Team in 2015.

3 Honorary Forest Monitor and KDCF Forest Guide Training Programme



Closing date for registration is 28 March 2014. Places are limited and on a first come-first serve basis, so sign-up now! To register or for more information, contact Dyan Ong at 013-2532890 or dyan@kotadamansaraforest.org



[Clockwise]

Forest Guide Training Course event poster

Mariam Jutta conducting classroom and practical sessions for trainees;

A total of 14 Forest Guides were trained in the 2-Day Training Course (April 2014); a further seven KDCF founding have also received Forest Guide collared T's which are used when introducing newcomers and guests to the Forest Reserve.

The next course to be conducted will be for secondary and tertiary level participants.

4 Trail development, signage and visitor amenities

In the proposed project, expansion of the forest trail network was deemed an integral component of the overall strategy to engage the community and safeguard the future of the Reserve. This is because the trails have a number of visionary and practical functions; they:-

- provide a tangible initiative to involve in the community in voluntarism which has a role in nurturing appreciation and concern for the Forest Reserve;
- make KDCF more accessible and attractive to nature lovers, recreationists and tourists seeking to immerse themselves in a lowland forest setting;
- generate income earning opportunities for Temuan Orang Asli and other forest guides; hosted visits can also serve as a source of recurring income for KDCF Society;
- facilitate easier monitoring of the KDCF by Forestry Officers and members;
- provide an attractive, tangible, and measurable output that can provide an avenue for corporate sponsorship and CSR;
- pre-empt the pressure for a more damaging road networks and unsuitable trail systems that would disrupt the forest ecosystem.

Overall, this component of the project has been highly successful and all of the objectives listed above have been achieved. In addition, the activities and interaction facilitated by the building of trails provides the basis for continuing ongoing activities and programmes, as well as engaging private funding to sustain the reserve.

Table 4.1 Achievements in forest trail development at KDCF in the grant period

	Specific activities	Actual results and achievements
4.1	Liaise with Forestry Department on improvements to KDCF	<p>During the project period, very good collaboration and communication was established with the District Forest Officer for the Selangor Tengah region. The Forestry Department were advised of our plans at each step of the way, and also attended and supported our activities where possible. The DFO was very cognizant of the special role of the KDCF as a model forest and very accommodating of the many education, awareness, volunteer and CSR activities held at the forest in the space of the project period.</p> <p>He was also one of the invited speakers for the KDCF Forest Guide Training Course. With his commitment and attention to our concerns about security and the need for a Forestry presence at KDCF, the Department installed a border post at the forest entrance which is staffed during the weekdays. A full time maintenance worker has also been hired and this has helped to ensure the tidy appearance of the area.</p> <p>While these developments are welcomed and KDCF Society has been supported in carrying out its activities and programmes, the progress with formalizing a co-management committee to implement the Forest Management Plan has been slow. Recently, there has been some positive development with the new Selangor Forestry Director calling a stakeholder meeting to discuss the management committee on 15 August 2015. KDCF Society is continuing to follow up with the Department to safeguard the role of the community in decision making and planning.</p>
4.2	Survey of new trail alignments by TRAKS	<p>During the project period, together with TRAKS, KDCF Society completed three new 2 km trails bringing the total number of volunteer built trails in KDCF to six (a total of 11 km).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sahabat Trail, completed in October 2013 • Harmoni Trail completed in June 2014 • Unity Trail completed in December 2014 <p>The completion of the Sahabat Trail with GEF SGP funding effectively demonstrated our capacity to deliver on the forest trails. This helped to</p>
4.3	Construction of forest trails with TRAKS, OA and volunteers	

		<p>secure interest in sponsorship from corporate supporters. The Harmoni Trail was sponsored by IJM Land and the Unity Trail was funded by PPB Group. The latter sponsor has undertaken to fund a 1.2 km hiking trail in 2015. While a further 1.2 km hiking trail is being funded by a family as a contribution to the community. The two hiking trails will form the Resam Loop which takes visitors to a scenic lookout point at one of the forest reserves highest points.</p> <p>An online system has been developed to help keep track of volunteer trail days logged. An award event for most dedicated trail builders will be held in 2015. Table 4.2 provides an overview of scheduled Orang Asli and volunteer trail building and maintenance days. A total of x volunteer trail building days and an average of x volunteers and x Temuan Team members were involved on each date.</p>
4.4	Install two more railway sleeper wood signs along Persiaran Mahogani	Two sleeper wood signs providing directional signage to the KDCF were installed along Persiaran Mahogani (close to the Sec 10 entrance). In addition, one additional sleeper wood sign was installed on Jln Rimba Riang 9/1 in conjunction with the launch of Harmoni Trail which provides access to the forest from Section 9. Another sign was installed at the entrance of the Harmoni Trail, which is the gateway to the forest from Section 9.
4.5	Install wildlife proof bins in Sec 10 area	A total of 12 bins covered bins were installed and chained into their current positions at the Sec 10 area. The bins have succeeded in improving the overall cleanliness of the area. Nevertheless, littering remains a problem in certain areas, and there is also a problem of public feeding monkeys with fruit and other waste food. There remains a concerted need for more visitor education in conjunction with the Forestry Department and the Section 10 school.
4.6	Directional signage along trails	All the KDCF trails have been fitted with hand carved signage made from recycled wood. The creation of these carved signs have provided another income stream to the Temuan Team. These signs are a unique feature of KDCF. In addition plastic discs that denote the different trails have been added. Ribbons are also added so that visitors are able to navigate the network effectively.
4.7	Installation of wakaf shelters and park benches	Funds from the SGP grant were used to install one new footbridge which crosses over a small stream on the Harmoni Trail. In addition, KDCF Society succeeded in getting support to install an 8t x 10 ft shelter (Salam Wakaf) along the Harmoni Trail. The shelter, along with two picnic benches were donated by IJM Land and physically carried and installed 2 km into the forest in conjunction with their annual CSR 'Give Day Out'. A second set of two picnic benches purchased by KDCF Society was installed about 2.5 km into the Temuan Trail with the assistance of staff of Standard and Chartered Bank.
4.8	Installation of new vacuum-treated wood bridge and jetty	A new footbridge was installed at the Petaling Trail. However the cost of installing a jetty was prohibitively high and we were not successful in raising co-funding to implement this.

2013 Excerpt from Temuan Team and Volunteer Work Records

DATE	TRAIL	WORK DESCRIPTION	SENIOR	JUNIOR	CHAINSAW
11-Oct	T5	Volunteer Trail Day	3	2	0
5-Oct	T5	Chainsaw fallen trees	3	0	1
27-Sep	T5	Volunteer Trail Day	3	0	0
22-Sep	Sahabat	Building alternate route	3	0	0
21-Sep	Sahabat	Chainsaw fallen trees	3	0	1
20-Sep	All trails	Installation of trail discs	2	0	0
18-Sep	Temuan	Chainsaw fallen trees	2	0	1
17-Sep	Temuan	Chainsaw fallen trees	2	0	1
14-Sep	T5	Trail building	3	2	0
10-Sep	Temuan	Chainsaw fallen trees	2	0	1
9-Sep	Temuan	Chainsaw fallen trees	2	0	1
6-Sep	T5	Volunteer Trail Day	2	0	0
3-Sep	T5	Chainsaw fallen trees	2	0	1
23-Aug	T5	Volunteer Trail Day	2	0	0
29-Aug	T5	OA Trail Day	3	2	0
30-Aug	T5	OA Trail Day	3	2	0
23-Aug	T5	Volunteer Trail Day	2	0	0
16-Aug	T4	Trail maintenance	2	1	0
14-Aug	TRR	Preparing venue	2	1	0
17-Jul	Scouts Sipew	Signage installation	2	0	0
19-Jul	Garden	Trail maintenance	2	3	0
14-Jul	Scouts	Fallen tree	2	0	1
12-Jul	T5	OA Trail building	2	3	0
11-Jul	T5	OA Trail building	2	3	0
2-Jul	T5	Fallen tree removal	2	0	1
29-Jun	T5	Volunteer Trail Day	2	0	0
17-Jun	T4	Installing signage	2	0	0
12-Jun	Petaling	Forestry gotong royong	2		
18-May	T4	Volunteer Trail Day	2		
10-May	T4	OA Trail Day with Pat Brundson	3	2	0
3-May	T4	OA Trail Day with Pat Brundson			
29-Apr	T4	OA Trail Day with Pat Brundson			
28-Apr	T4	OA Trail Day with Pat Brundson			
24-Apr	T4	OA Trail Day with Pat Brundson			
23-Apr	T4	OA Trail Day with Pat Brundson			
14-Apr	T4	Fallen tree removal			
6-Apr	T4	Volunteer Trail Day	2		
23-Mar	T4	OA Trail Day	3		
27-Feb	Scouts	Fallen tree removal	2		1

27-Feb		IMU gotong royong	2		
22-Feb	T4	Volunteer Trail Day	2		
2-Feb	T4	Volunteer Trail Day	2		
18-Jan	T4	Volunteer Trail Day	2	2	
1-Jan		Trail reccee Pat/Yong/Markus			
2012					
31-Dec		Trail reccee Pat/Yong/Markus			
23-Dec	Scouts	Fallen tree removal	3		
21-Dec	Scouts	Fallen tree removal	3		
13-Dec	Petaling	Dismantling old signage			
7-Dec		IJM - Trail launch gotong royong			
1-Dec		Green Community Day			
30-Nov		IMU gotong royong			
24-Nov		GE tree planting			
16-Nov		Visit from Hulu Kelang			
10-Nov		KD Football Club			

4 Trail development, signage and visitor amenities



Scenes from volunteer trail building at KDCF during the grant period.

4 Trail development, signage and visitor amenities



[Clockwise] Official launch of the Harmoni Trail adopted by IJM Land; handcarved wooden signs have been installed at intervals on all trails; in addition colour-coded acrylic trail discs are also placed at intersections. In the reporting period, 3 new multiple use trails have been added on.



4 Trail development, signage and visitor amenities



[L] Building of the Unity Trail which is the second trail sponsored by PPB Group.

[Middle] Pat Brundson, trail building expert briefing a group of volunteers. The Temuan Team has had the opportunity to undergo practical training with him.



[L] Tools of the trade—rakes and changkuls are the main tools used.

Harmoni Trail bridge along the Harmoni Trail.

5 Environmental Education component

The EE component of the project originally aimed to tackle the primary and secondary schools closest to the KDCF – these are the Sec 9 and Sec 10 schools closest to the forest. However, the initial attempt to meet with the school principal with the then MNS President was postponed. Although it was originally envisaged that Yayasan Anak Warisan Alam (YAWA) would take the lead on the EE activities, the YAWA member within the committee was not able to be as closely involved as she was burdened by family concerns. In lieu of support from the school for formalizing collaboration, KDCF Society worked with MNS to provide children’s education programmes during our Open Days. We also developed EE resources which can be used by educators and parents alike for activities tailored for children of all ages. Activities were organized for children’s sports clubs such as the KD football club and we also hosted visits from homeschooling networks.

Where KDCF Society has been most effective has been in providing a place for students to participate in volunteer activities and community service especially, but not exclusively, for students at tertiary level. We managed to enlist students and teachers from the Sec 10 Secondary school to volunteer during KDCF Day on 17 August 2014. In 2015, a new school principal has come on board and the school’s PIBG has responded positively to our invitation to hold a joint activity. Moving forward, we expect to achieve closer collaboration with the Sec 10 school in 2015, especially with a former KDCF committee member now on the PIBG Committee.

Table 5.1 Description of activities in the Environmental Education component

	Proposed activities	Actual activities
5.1	Engagement of school children/ guided walks by MNS Nature Guides	Guided Nature Walks and EE Green Living activities were incorporated into the programme for all our Community Days.
5.2 5.3	Student/ KDCF Volunteer programme Coordinating activities with other student groups	Student volunteer or community service programmes were carried out with Sek. Men Sek 10, Taylors’ College, International Medical University, students of University Pendidikan Sultan Idris (UPSI), Sri KDU, Mont Kiara International School, Edison Explorers, Homeschooling Network, Kota Damansara Football Club, and Rumah Aman, Sungai Buloh.
5.4	Production of EE materials for children	In order to provide some activity ideas and EE learning tools for families and teachers, an activity guidebook has been developed by Ms. Gonthong Lourdesamy. It is available upon request from visiting school groups, and we also use it to customize activities for specific age groups and on particular environmental themes that fall in with their school curriculum.

5 Environmental Education



[LEFT] Education Group from the Homeschooling Network on the Petaling Trail; [RIGHT] Children preparing to go to on an education walk on Green Community Day.



[L] Students from Taylors' College doing community service planting trees north of KDCF. [R] Students from Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris (UPSI) helping with trail maintenance. [BELOW] Students from International Medical University (IMU) doing trail maintenance.



6 Membership, marketing and sustainability component

KDCF Society's aim is to establish a large and fairly representative member base that can be called upon should the forest ever come under threat in the future. This component has focused on developing efficient systems to enlist new members, to communicate updates and news effectively, and to engage them in the life on the Society. The marketing and sustainability component has also to do with seeking greater private sector participation and securing recurring funds for enabling us to fund trail maintenance and ongoing activities.

Table 6.1 Description of activities in the membership, marketing and sustainability component

	Activities	Results and achievements
6.1	Participation in events, talks and meetings with local groups	Activities that fall under this component mainly include opportunities to meet with individuals, families, or groups to tell them more about the Society. Often these meetings have come about through weekly guided walks that are advertised through our Facebook group. Often they are initiated by people writing to us to organize walks for them. This approach has been a cost effective approach to introducing people to the forest. In addition, we have had the opportunity to host various groups that are keen to learn from our brand of community participation for the conservation of green areas in Bukit Gasing, Bukit Kiara, Kenny Hill, Sri Damansara, Setia Alam, Hulu Kelang, and others.
6.2	Design and coordination of producing KDCF merchandise	Since its establishment KDCF Society has been able to develop a recognizable identity featuring our signature tree logo. We have developed tshirts, car stickers, and flyers that help to promote the KDCF message and build solidarity among the Society's members and supporters.
6.3	Establishment of member database/communications programme	During the grant period, we have managed to collate our membership records, and establish an efficient mass-emailing system. We were able to operationalize this system to call our first Annual General Meeting and election of the new Committee on 1 Nov 2014. New members are now easily added to this database. In addition, we have a framework for informing members to renew their membership.
6.4	Develop presentations and marketing materials	<p>During the reporting period, we developed short videos to promote KDCF and our activities to the public, in addition to power point presentations, exhibition materials and flyers. The video that features aerial footage of the forest was proven to be very effective in giving people and impression of just how precious the forest reserve is. The funds have also been used to purchase exhibition boards for the display of materials in Open Day events, and a screen for LCD presentations which is very useful for presentations to schools and other groups as well as for our regular committee meetings.</p> <p>In liaising with potential sponsors, a standard template and agreement was developed for trail sponsorship. This makes it more efficient to prepare agreements for new partners and supporters.</p>

6 Membership, marketing and sustainability component



IJM LAND

Launch of Harmoni Trail sponsored by IJM Land and Kick-off of the Unity Trail sponsored by PPB Group.



UM Land has held a CSR gotong royong at KDCF for three consecutive years.



Tree planting activities supported by GE in 2013.

The project has been successful in establishing a relationship with several corporate sponsors that have a sustained interest in supporting the forest.



Standard Chartered

PPB GROUP BERHAD

Membership and sustainability— Governance of the Society



Meeting of the KDCF Committee 2014/2015.



Sub-committee meeting for community event, 5 Nov 2014



AGM of Persatuan Rimba Komuniti Kota Damansara on 1 Nov 2014. Dato' Dr Mikail Kavanagh, the Society's Honorary Adviser helped to chair the meeting.



Communicating expenditure with infographics



Close-up of KDCF Forest Guide t-shirt

7 Capacity building for Temuan partner organization

At the project's inception, KDCF Society established its commitment to working with the newly established Persatuan Kaum Temuan Berwawasan Selangor in order to enable it to become a viable organization with the confidence and capacity to undertake constructive programmes. Support funding for the activity identified by the Temuan organization – the building of a scenic waterfall trail from Kampung Orang Asli Sungai Buloh was coordinated very soon after the funds were received. We assisted the group in surveying the trail and mapping the alignment. Funds were also disbursed for trail construction under their own supervision. This was successfully completed and inspected during the last reporting period. Unfortunately, following this differences began to arise among key members of the Committee of the organization. Ultimately, these conflicts could not be reconciled and the Secretary decided to resign. As he was the most active member, and also the official representative of the organization with the Registrar of Societies, it was not possible to continue as a Persatuan. See longer explanation in **Section III - New development and unexpected difficulties/problems**.

Despite the lack of sustainability of the shortlived Temuan organization, the ongoing coordination with Temuan members in the building and maintenance of trails was showing excellent results. A Temuan Team was established and they demonstrated a keen interest to acquire new skills and also were committed to sustained involvement. In view of this, the Committee decided to invest in strengthening the Temuan Team by providing opportunities for the members to train with Pat Brundson who has pioneered sustainable forest trail building in Malaysia. Today, KDCF Society has a five-strong Temuan Team involved regularly in KDCF work.

7 Capacity building for Temuan Team

TEAM MEMBERS



[Clockwise]
Mor Ajani, 34
Kg Orang Asli Sungai Buloh

Dari Aib, 53
Desa Temuan,
Damansara Perdana

Manan Kepong, 34
Desa Temuan,
Damansara Perdana

Azlan Mahmod, 33
Kg Orang Asli Sungai Buloh



[L to R]
Azruwan Ayau, 19
Desa Temuan, Damansara Perdana

Harizan Hempit, 18
Desa Temuan, Damansara Perdana

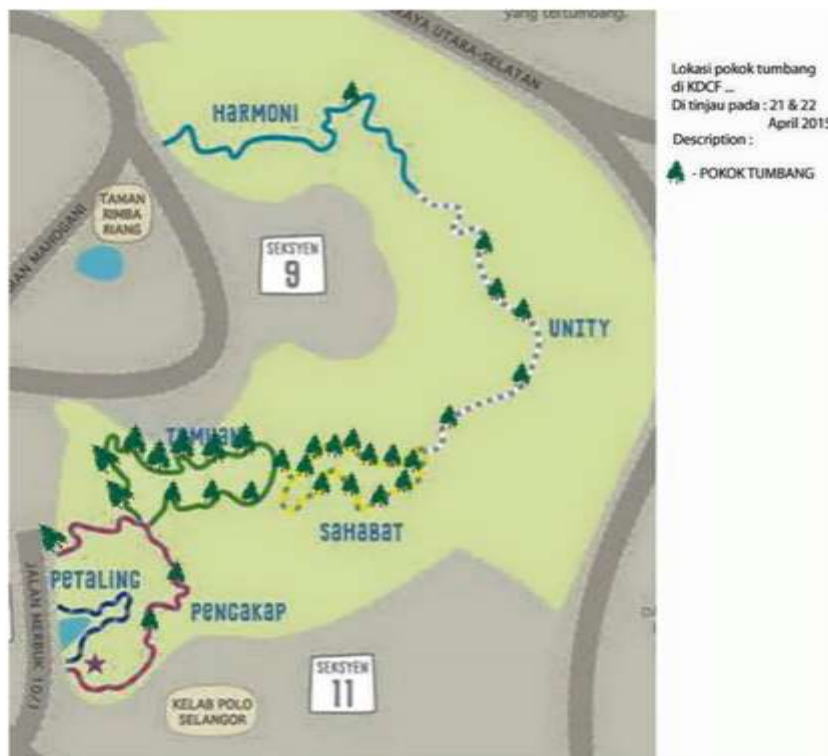


8 Equipment and materials

Grant funds have been used to purchase tools and equipment in sufficient numbers so that they can be used by large groups of volunteers. The items have included rakes, hoes (*cangkuls*), digging poles, foldable saws, gloves, and shears. The Society already has two chainsaws but funds from the grant were necessary to purchase fuel. Chainsaws are used primarily when trees have fallen onto the trails and need to be cleared.

Other equipment needs have included a Coleman's box for holding refreshments for volunteers, and also a cordless drill for helping to install directional signage on the trails. Coloured ribbon was also purchased for marking the different trails.

Trail maintenance report—report of treefall from August 2015



KDCF Society has developed an efficient system for reporting on maintenance needs to the Forestry Department and engaging volunteers and our Temuan Team to ensure that trails are kept safe and accessible for the public.

9 Monitoring and Evaluation

Pat Brundson made several visits to KDCF to assist with initial trail design alignment, to train the Temuan Team, and finally to evaluate the finished trails. His report is included in the Annex. For the evaluation of the community engagement and EE component, no special M&E was organized. However, a report by Dr. Agnes Lee Agama based on a short visit and assessment of the KDCF for the National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan is also included in the Annex.

II - Results:

Overall, while the project was somewhat ambitious, it has succeeded in achieving most of what it set out to do. Since the commencement of the project, KDCF Society has been able to establish itself as a responsible caretaker of the forest and a representative of the collective interest of local residents and user groups. We have been able to strengthen our working relationship with the Forestry Department, MBPJ, local government representatives, and other partners toward implementing the Forest Management Plan and providing information on the community forest to the general public.

Building a strong representative organization, expanding our reach

The Society has established a strong and supportive member base, and especially through social media and personal introductions, has been able to reach a much wider segment of the public. The forest presently serves the population by providing safe and accessible trails for recreation free of charge. It is now much more widely known and it is now common to meet users that come from much further away (Shah Alam, Ampang, Rawang, Puchong) to access the trails, as well as mountain bikers that come from as far away as Johor and Kelantan. Visitor use is steady, but at manageable levels, with no significant deterioration of the environment.

Working towards financial sustainability

An important focus of the project was to leverage off the GEF SGP grant in order to become more self-reliant. Some important steps forward were achieved by successfully enlisting the involvement of the private sector in enhancing access to the forest. We were able to raise funding from two trail sponsors, IJM Land and PPB Group totaling RM29,000. Additional cash contributions were also received from local government representatives to the value of RM12,000. Membership fees and the sale of KDCF merchandise has also helped to supplement our administrative costs and generate funds for outreach and community activities as well as providing a resource for recurring trail maintenance costs and general repairs.

Demonstrating good governance

The Society has held regular committee and sub-committee meetings and has also taken the additional step of having its accounts audited in order to demonstrate responsible and transparent use of funds. This is communicated to the public in order to engender confidence in joining the Society and contributing funds for trail development and maintenance needs. See infographic developed for this purpose.

Potential for upscaling

KDCF Society is on the right path to fulfilling its potential to communicate the value of successful civil society action and community participation in close collaboration with government agencies. In addition to serving as a model for public participation, we actively engage with other groups that are keen to replicate the success of KDCF in their areas.

KDCF Society is already involved in upscaling to some extent with the creation of a sister social enterprise **myChangkul** which aims to share the technology and approaches to community forest stewardship through trail-building. MyChangkul enables us to share what we have learned and provide practical training and support to groups beyond the KDCF boundaries. MyChangkul is now actively assisting some of the groups that we have been in contact with and is also handling new trail-building in KDCF Society.

Following the completion of the project, KDCF Society confirmed the funding of two new hiking trails with a total length of 2.4 km. The sponsorship amount of RM19,000 will enable us to conduct new volunteer trail building in 2015. The Temuan Team has been absorbed into MyChangkul and this ensures that they have regular work.

III - New development and unexpected difficulties/problems:

Formalization of KDCF Society in joint Management Committee

Despite the successes recorded, it is important to make note of specific areas where adjustment have had to be made to planned activities. One of the main areas of disappointment has been the lack of progress with the Forestry Department in formalizing the Management Plan for the KDCF which has been prepared with community input. In addition, the Forestry Department has not had the funding to demonstrate more active management of the area although the provision of a ranger post which is staffed on weekdays has been a positive development.

KDCF Society has been concerned that a Management Committee has not yet been formalized. This potentially puts our efforts in a precarious position. It is of the utmost concern that the Society be given its due recognition, and that the Society is installed as a co-chair of a Management Committee. Only recently has there been some positive movement in this area. A new Selangor Forestry Director was appointed in 2014 and KDCF Society was invited to attend a meeting on 15 August 2014 where updates were provided on the Management Plan and the composition of the Committee was discussed. It was decided that a follow up meeting will be held to follow up on some of developments. We are hopeful that this will eventually lead to greater security of our role as forest stewards.

Programme to support Orang Asli

One of the objectives of the project was to assist the Temuan Orang Asli with whom we have been working to improve their livelihoods and the opportunities available to them. Following initial discussions, it seemed that this might be served by establishing a Society under which their initiatives could be organized. Therefore assistance was provided for them to establish the Persatuan Temuan Berwawasan Selangor and a committee was constituted. Support was also extended for them to carry out their first project which was the construction of a waterfall trail in Bukit Lagung which is accessible from their village in Sungai Buloh. Guided walks to the waterfall were perceived as an opportunity to bring additional income to the community. Technical assistance was provided in terms of surveying the alignment and funds were provided for the purchase of tools and for labour costs for trail construction. The trail was successfully completed and is being used by the local community for this purpose.

However, in terms of moving the Persatuan forward, problems arose between the main officer bearers resulting in the resignation of the Secretary, who was adamant that it was not possible to work with the President, who is the wife of the Batin and could not be persuaded to stay. This presented a problem as the Secretary is critical for liaison with ROS and also he is one of the few literate people in the committee. With this unexpected turn of the events, we have had to look at another approach to our original objective of supporting the Temuan. The focus then shifted to building their experience and capabilities to become the dedicated trail building and management division of KDCF. By this time, the trail management needs at KDCF had already expanded with the longer trails. In addition to requiring assistance with volunteer days and CSR activities, the need to remove fallen trees and branches has also increased.

Because there was no interest in taking the training course offered by Perhilitan, we channeled the capacity building funds for the Orang Asli under this project to enable them to obtain specialized training in trail building from Pat Brundson, a Canadian based in Malaysia/Bangkok who pioneered the multiple-use trail building techniques and system of volunteer participation which is the basis of the trail network in Bukit Kiara. With this hands on training, the Temuan Team have been able to move onto being able to implement trail-building with very little supervision, which has also increased the number of days they are able to work as it is no longer necessary for this to be limited to days when supervision is possible. As they earn RM75 per half day worked, during active periods, they can earn between RM750 – RM900 a month which helps supplement their income. Currently the Temuan Team has three senior and three junior members. They are working to expand this number. The current KDCF Society committee also has a Temuan representative and they are able to participate actively in decision making and planning.

IV - Remarks/Lessons learned:

Value of adaptive management and flexibility

One of the specific lessons learned from the process of implementing the project has been the need for adaptive management and to adjust to the lack of progress in some areas, to redirect focus to areas with a stronger likelihood of success. The freedom and flexibility given the small grants programme to make these assessments and adjustments is one of the strengths of the programme.

Quality trumps quantity in community engagement although both have a role

Another lesson learned is the relative costs and benefits of holding large public events, versus smaller but more targeted interactions with specific groups. On balance, while we would say that the large community events were essential in the early days for introducing the Society to the public, we are now at a stage where it is both more cost-effective and energy efficient to engage with smaller groups. This ensures that we are able to offer a better quality of interaction to visitors. Importantly, this is an approach that helps prevent burnout among our committee members and the wastage of time and resources which can occur when organizing a large event. This is an important consideration for volunteer run societies.

Attracting funders and partners

In the experience of KDCF, the most effective way to attract supporters is to be professional and fulfill your promises and commitments. Investing the time needed to ensure that partners have a positive experience, is more valuable than investing time and resources into marketing and promotions. In the case of KDCF, our major corporate sponsors and supporters have maintained a relationship with us. IJM Land conducts its CSR events every year end for three years in a row, while PPB Group has opted to fund the building of a second trail. GE and Standard and Chartered have each held CSR volunteer work, two years in a row. And the same is true for EE partners; Mont Kiara International School has completed its second community service event with us this year.

- PART 2 -

DETAILED ANALYSIS OF PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS

A - Community Participation

A major focus of this project in the last 20 months has been to firmly establish the newly registered Persatuan Rimba Komuniti Kota Damansara (KDCF Society) as a responsible representative body to speak for the concerns of local residents, special interest groups and individuals in relation to the management of the Kota Damansara Community Forest Reserve which was gazetted in February 2010. Moving forward it has been important to establish an organization that would undertake to consult with the diverse interest groups and to speak for their interests while partnering the Forestry Department and local government to sustainably managing the community forest reserve. As one of the first urban community managed forests, KDCF Society offers an important model for local participation and sees itself as having the responsibility to upscale this approach by sharing our experience and resources with other like-minded community groups that may also be seeking to steward green areas within their vicinity.

During the project period, several community events were organized to introduce the work and objectives of the Society to the wider public. These events, held with the support of MBPJ and the Malaysian Nature Society (MNS) successfully attracted between 400 and 1000 people per event. The main focus was guided nature walks and other activities designed to introduce newcomers to the Forest Reserve. The number of registered members with KDCF Society now stands at 260, and this number is expected to grow in conjunction with new membership and voluntarism campaigns scheduled in 2015.

Engaging the community in caring for the forest has been achieved through the Society's commitment to build sustainable forest trails in partnership with the Trails Association of Kuala Lumpur and Selangor (TRAKS). During the 20-month project period, the Society built three 2 km forest trails which brings to 11 km the total length of forest trails available to forest users. These have been built with experienced paid trail builders from the Temuan community (five Temuan Team members from Sungai Buloh and Bukit Lanjan), and unpaid volunteers from among KDCF Society members, TRAKS and the general public. Some have learned of volunteer activities through various online channels such as *Do Good Volunteers*. Others have answered the call to participate in volunteer trail maintenance and building via our active Facebook Group which has over 2,650 members.

The KDCF forest trails have also provided an important means of engaging the private sector in supporting community-based forest management. This has been an important target to move our organization towards greater self-sufficiency in being able to generate funds for activities and outreach. During the project period, we succeeded in attracting two sponsor for two 2 km trails that were completed in 2014. IJM Land sponsored the Harmoni Trail, and generously contributed a wakaf and two picnic benches for their trail. They have also signed as a Trail Adopter which involves an annual contribution of RM3,000 for the maintenance and upkeep of their trail and its signage. PPB Group sponsored the Unity Trail which now links up the trail network from Sec 9 and Sec 10. The company has also agreed to sponsor a new hiking trail which will be built in 2015. The cost of sponsorship generally averages about RM8,000 – 10,000 per km.

Aside from the trail sponsors who have also involved their staff in volunteering at KDCF, we have been fortunate to receive volunteer groups from GE and Standard and Chartered. Several hundred employees of these companies have been involved in volunteer trail maintenance, tree planting and *gotong royong* activities in the past 2 years. Employees of Standard and Chartered volunteers carried two heavy picnic benches about 2.5 km to their current location on the Temuan Trail where it is greatly appreciated by forest users.

We have received significant interest from schools and institutions keen to be involved in the community forest. Among the groups that have volunteered at the forest or participated in community activities have been students of Sekolah Menengah Seksyen 10, Taylors' College, International Medical University (IMU), Mont Kiara International School, Sri KDU International School, and Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris (UPSI). The forest is also regularly visited by Homeschooling networks and homes for children such as Rumah Aman in Sungai Buloh.

KDCF Society has also made special efforts to reach out to resident communities and schoolchildren through activities for sporting clubs such as the Kota Damansara Football Club (KDFC) whose members come from neighborhoods in Kota Damansara. We have also partnered and extended support to the Sierra Damansara Residents' Association (SIDRA) which has adopted the Hutan Padang Kota forest along Persiaran Mahogani. Maps developed under the project have been shared with the adjacent Sec 10 Secondary School with the offer to organize activities with the school's PIBG in the coming year.

The Kota Damansara Community Forest and KDCF Society have also been featured in the print media, online media, on BFM radio, and has a strong social media presence. The Society's Facebook Group has been an effective means by which we are able to announce upcoming activities and programmes. With the project's support, the Society's website has also been improved to provide current information and resources for those interested in the forest.

On the whole, the outlook for continuing community engagement is strong, and the project has enabled us to provide communications tools in the form of slide presentations, an awareness video, map-brochures and exhibition material that are used to encourage people and families to be involved in the Society's activities.

B - Sustainable Livelihoods

Contributing to sustainable livelihoods is not a specific objective of the project, however, ensuring that the Kota Damansara Community Forest Reserve continues to be a well-protected green lung contributes indirectly to environmental services which benefit a community of over 22,000 residents within a 5 km radius of the Reserve. As Kota Damansara, Sungai Buloh, Subang and Ara Damansara are rapidly expanding housing areas, the population of these adjacent areas will increase the number of potential beneficiaries from the existence of the Forest Reserve.

Hundreds of people use the forest trails each week to engage in cost-free and healthful recreation. The activities supported by the GEF – Small Grant have been channeled to create opportunities for regular paid work for Temuan Orang Asli that are involved in trail building, maintenance and guiding (see below).

C - Participation of Indigenous Peoples

Temuan Orang Asli have traditionally used the forest in the Sungai Buloh area to obtain many of their subsistence needs. Over time they developed a rich knowledge of forest diversity and a relationship with nature that is woven into their culture. However, today the Temuan have been resettled into small townships in order to make way for urbanization, and many of the younger generation have lost this connection with the forest and their ethnic heritage. The community has suffered many unfortunate effects such as high unemployment, alcoholism and drug abuse, involvement in petty crime and a general feeling of being marginalized with a bleak outlook among affluent suburban housing areas that occupy the area surrounding their settlements.

In conceptualizing the project, KDCF Society has emphasized the need to creating and sustaining income earning opportunities for Temuan Orang Asli and to provide opportunities for them to become reacquainted with the forest. In the 20-month period, the project has nurtured a team of five trail builders that are now able to implement trail-building with minimal supervision. A junior team is being recruited, however they have not yet demonstrated the same commitment and readiness to learn as the senior team.

As the network of trails in KDCF has expanded, there is sufficient work to give our Temuan Team a certain amount of assured income every month. Temuan Team members receive RM75 for each half day of trail building or trail maintenance work, and RM50 for serving as forest guides. On average they work 2 – 3 days a week. In addition, we are seeking opportunities for them to share their skills by training other similar groups, including other Orang Asli communities to build multiple-use sustainable forest trails in other recreational forest.

D - Policy Impact

As a relatively successful model of a community-driven forest management initiative, the Kota Damansara Community Forest Reserve is often cited as an example of the potential of public participation in the management of community-conserved areas. KDCF Society has demonstrated the capacity to raise both financial and human capital to enhance the connection between urban society and nature. By demonstrating a commitment to working closely with the relevant government agencies, KDCF Society has also shown that it is a responsible partner in stewarding Protected Areas, enabling these agencies to performing its role in the face of limited funding and personnel. The potential of community-conserved areas to enhance the management of nature reserves and recreational spaces is meaningful at both state and national levels.

During the project period, several community-based groups are seeking to emulate the model of the Kota Damansara Community Forest and have visited the forest on several occasions to learn from our experience. Some examples include the communities of Bukit Melawati and AU3 (Hulu Kelang) that are involved in the Dept. of Irrigation and Drainage "River of Life" project. These communities are part of a government initiative to rehabilitate riverine areas and partner with local groups in developing a community-managed riverine park. Another group has already implemented a network of trails in the remaining green areas near Setia Alam in Shah Alam. They are now involved in petitioning the state government to ensure that the remnant forest on state land is not cleared and is retained as a green lung for nature conservation and recreation purposes. Other groups that have visited to learn from the KDCF model have been Friends of Bukit Kiara (FoBK), Friends of Bukit Gasing, and residents of Bukit Tunku (Kenny Hill). KDCF Society has hosted visits by academic institutions such as Nottingham University seeking to learn more about community participation. This is expected to lead to more research being conducted to gather information on forest usage and local organizations which will be very useful.

E - Capacity Building

The project has contributed towards preparing interested members in taking on the role as forest ambassadors. During the project period, through the KDCF Forest Guide Training Course, 15 people were certified as Forest Guides. This provides us with a larger pool of helpers in hosting visitors to the forest. The curriculum developed for the guide course can be used again to prepare the next intake of Forest Guides in 2015 which will target junior Forest Guides in the 12 – 18 age group.

Activity Plans and modules have also been developed for teachers and parents to use KDCF as a teaching platform for their students and children. Several train the trainer sessions are to be implemented in 2015 using the training materials designed for this purpose.

Aside from enhancing the capacity for environmental education and interpretation among members and supporters, experience in trail design, development and maintenance among our volunteers and Orang Asli team is now at a level where we are in a position to develop these skills among other interested groups.

F - Gender Focus

Overall, there is an excellent balance of participation of both genders in the activities of the Kota Damansara Community Forest. Women are prominently represented in the KDCF Committee (making up 50 per cent of the committee) and have been closely involved in leadership and decision-making since the establishment of the Society. Inevitably, there is a natural tendency for males to gravitate towards endurance sports (mountain biking) and physical activity, and more females to be interested in nature appreciation, sustainability, and environmental education in accordance with their personal interests and preferences. Nevertheless, it is fair to say that there are no barriers preventing either party from participating in any type of activity if they are inclined to do so.

G - Promoting Public Awareness of Global Environment

The project has used its community events (Green Community Day 2012, World Environment 2013, KDCF Day 2014) to highlight specific aspects of the GEF focal areas which link with sustainable forest management and public participation. For example, in keeping with the Think.Eat.Save WED campaign in 2013, KDCF Society provided a platform for other NGOs to highlight their initiatives

which include organic and urban farming, recycling and waste reduction, responsible consumption, and many more. The event was attended by the Member of Parliament for Kota Damansara and Subang and representatives from MBPJ and media coverage helped shine a spotlight on local environment initiatives and the people behind them.

In liaising with the state government, the project has continued to highlight the benefits of community-based conservation and to encourage them to lend more support to grassroots initiatives to protect additional green lungs. We continue to use media coverage, to highlight opportunities the importance of voluntarism and giving young people opportunities to be involved in nature-based activities.

H - Innovative Financial Mechanisms

Achieving an element of self-sufficiency - that is to generate funds for activities beyond the GEF Small Grant has been an important objective for the project. We have therefore been pleased with our success at engaging corporate sponsors through our initiative to find trail sponsors and adopters for the recently completed Harmoni Trail which has been adopted by IJM Land, and the Unity Trail which was sponsored by PPB Group. Corporate and private contributions helped KDCF Society to achieve more than RM45,000 in co-financing. This figure represents actual funds.

In addition to the funds given for building its trail, IJM Land has committed to paying RM3,000 towards the maintenance of its trail and signage every year from here on in. In 2014, they pleasantly surprised us by purchasing and delivering (through volunteer labour) a wakaf and 2 picnic benches worth RM7,180.00 in addition to this annual contribution.

One of the main lessons learned going ahead is to be selective in choosing partners and prioritize partnering those that are prepared to make a long-term commitment. This is to ensure sufficient recurring funds for the management of the trails. Two new hiking trails of 1.2 km each are planned to be built to the lookout point at the highest peak of the forest reserve. Both of them have now been sponsored.

The second area in which the Society has been relatively successful is in designing a brand which is both visually appealing and stands for a captivating ideal or cause. The KDCF Society tree logo has come to symbolize the power of grassroots action and thus far merchandise with this trademark design has been exceedingly well-received. Work is underway to develop premium items with the Society's logo to be given to those that renew their membership for five years. This is to minimise administrative work in tracking memberships, and to visibly acknowledge those who have registered as members and whose funds go into ongoing trail maintenance and outreach programmes.

I - Replication of project activities

The potential for the KDCF model to be replicated in other urban green lungs is reasonably high where there are voluntary group comprising local residents with interests in nature conservation and developing the recreational potential of forest spaces to attract more people to the cause. However, the success of these nascent initiatives depends on the responsiveness of local government and local representatives to the desire of the public for these green spaces and for their management to be shared with these community groups.

J - Planning to scale up to a medium-sized GEF grant or non-GEF grant, or linkages with large GEF projects

The project has moderate potential for scaling up if it is linked with outreach to additional areas. For the KDCF, ongoing progress will deal primarily with ensuring that funds are received from the 11th Malaysia Plan to implement the Forest Management Plan for KDCF which has been developed with input from KDCF Society with the support of two successive GEF SGP grants.

K - Project sustainability

There are strong elements of improved social sustainability since the beginning of the project. Socially, there continues to be strong and growing interest in the activities and programmes dealing with the Kota Damansara Community Forest. The organization held its last Annual General Meeting in

November 2014 and there is a highly motivated and experienced Committee now in place to continue to lead activities across the range of the Society's education and conservation roles.

Financially, the Society has applied responsible fiscal management. Our accounts have been audited and certified. We are now in a better position to attract further corporate sponsorship due to our track record of timely delivery as well as favourable portrayal of sponsors in media coverage. The Society also continues to enjoy a good relationship with the Forestry Department and MBPJ and it is anticipated that this will continue.

ANNEX A: Examples of indicators

Biodiversity:

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hectares of indigenous and community conserved areas (ICCAs) influenced 	320 ha
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hectares of significant ecosystems with improved conservation status 	350 ha (including adjacent tree planting areas)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total monetary value (US\$) of ecosystem goods sustainably produced and providing benefit to project participants and/or community as a whole 	Not known

Climate change:

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of renewable energy measures; capacity installed 	Not applicable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tones of CO₂ avoided through low carbon technologies 	Not applicable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total monetary value (US\$) of clean energy services provided to project participants and/or community as a whole (in the climate change focal area) (calculate this using extrapolation of expenses saved from the use of fuel for generator, per household and per person) 	Not applicable

Land degradation:

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hectares of land rehabilitated through sustainable practices 	Not applicable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type of measures introduced or practiced 	Not applicable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total monetary value (US\$) of ecosystem goods sustainably produced and providing benefit to project participants and/or community as a whole 	Not known

International waters:

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hectares of marine/coastal areas or fishing grounds managed sustainably 	Not applicable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tones of land based pollution avoided 	Not applicable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total monetary value (US\$) of ecosystem goods sustainably produced and providing benefit to project participants and/or community as a whole 	Not applicable

Capacity development, policy and innovation (all focal areas):

Indicator	Amount
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of consultative sessions held with relevant stakeholders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 Committee and Sub-Committee meetings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of people trained on project development, monitoring, evaluation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 Committee members 5 Temuan Team members
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number and type trainings provided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 trained and KDCF Forest Guides 5 Temuan Team members trained in trail building 40 Volunteers trained in trail-building and maintenance

Livelihood indicators

Indicator	Amount
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of households with improved standard of living (quality of living environment) 	Estimated 100,000 households
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of households who have benefited from SGP project 	Estimated 100,000 households
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of individuals (gender disaggregated) who have benefited from SGP project 	Estimated 500,000 (population of Kota Damansara)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Income generating opportunities created 	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in household income by increased income or reduced costs due to SGP project (will the electricity allow community to generate more income? I would say so if they can spend more time at night for weaving – and the weaved products is being sold, or any other similar cases) 	Not applicable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type/number of products developed 	Not applicable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type/Value of infrastructure developed 	Not known

Empowerment indicators

Indicator	Amount
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of CBOs/ NGOs participated/ involved in SGP project 	20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of NGOs/CSOs trained 	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of CBOs/ NGOs formed or registered through the SGP project 	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of women participated/ involved in SGP project 	80
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of women-led projects supported 	5

• No. of indigenous people participated/ involved in SGP project	8
• Number of indigenous people supported	20
• No. of value added labels/ certifications/ quality standards received or achieved	0
• Innovative financial mechanisms put in place through SGP project	2
• No. and type of support linkages established with local governments/ authorities	1
• No. and type of support linkages established with national government institutions	1
• Total additional in cash or in kind support obtained for new initiatives and opportunities through SGP project	
• Total additional in cash or in kind support obtained for sustaining, up-scaling, and replicating SGP supported project	RM195,549 (of which cash was RM39,696)

ANNEX

Kota Damansara Community Forest: A landmark for collaborative forest management in Malaysia.

Dr Agnes Lee Agama

Report for the National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan

Forest values in an urban setting

The Kota Damansara Forest Reserve (321.748 ha.) was gazetted in 2010 as a Permanent Forest Reserve under Section 7 of the National Forestry Act 1984, and subsequently classified as an amenity, education and research forest under the authority of the Selangor Forest Department. Situated at the southern fringe of the Sungai Buloh valley, it is what remains of the once extensive Sungai Buloh Forest Reserve (6,590 ha). Selectively logged since 1931, in recent decades, the forest was subjected to several boundary adjustments and excisions to make way for housing and infrastructure development. By 2003, the growing sense of forest loss felt by local residents, nature enthusiasts, recreational and other user groups spurred a movement to preserve the remaining forest as a green enclave and wildlife refuge amidst one of the most built-up areas in Selangor.

Guided by the Malaysian Nature Society, a loose grouping made up of residents' associations and user groups mounted a sustained campaign to protect the forest. What was initially a nascent concern became an expanding groundswell that united people around a number of values associated with standing forests - recreational groups' wanting access to forest, environmentalists' seeking to preserve ecological connectivity, and residents determined to protect the value of their properties.

Driving forest conservation from the ground-up

When the Persatuan Rimba Komuniti Kota Damansara, also known as the Kota Damansara Community Forest (KDCF) Society, registered with the Registrar of Societies in 2011 it amalgamated the voices of this diverse community to a singular mission of protecting this important remnant lowland forest as a green lung in the Klang Valley.

Spearheading stakeholder workshops and community meetings to develop their strategy and contribute to the revision of the Forest Reserve's management plan, the KDCF Society produced sound recommendations for strengthening boundary enforcement and boosting management capacity of forest rangers, in addition to forward-thinking proposals for achieving ecological connectivity with neighbouring green pockets. As co-managers, the Society effectively works hand-in-hand with Selangor Forest Department and local authorities to implement the Forest Reserve's management plan. Additionally, the KDCF Society takes on the responsibility of building trail networks, training forest guides, engaging with schools and institutions, and endeavouring to ensure that Temuan Orang Asli are gainfully employed in the forest conservation activities at the KDCF. Although increasingly supported by grants and corporate financing, activities continue to be supplemented by the community's own contributions whether through volunteerism or donations.

Getting to the roots of successful synergy

The KDCF Society's track record embodies a community mobilisation formula demonstrated to success, where shared value systems embedded within a local community are leveraged to drive and sustain collective action in partnership with forest managers and local authorities. Critically, the success of the KDCF model is equally attributable to the openness and responsiveness of the Selangor Forest Department to partner with local organisations in the protection and management of Forest Reserves. Making these types of partnerships work is, however, new territory for government agencies, local communities and potential donors alike, and is a challenge of national significance.

Successfully planning and operationalizing a joint forest management system together with local communities and their partners may well be central to the establishment of a dynamic conservation model with potential for replication throughout the country. In this regard, the KDCF model offers a rare example - of combined institutional willingness, mutual goodwill and shared value systems - that demonstrates the unmistakable advantage in empowering a local community as a partner of equal standing and stake in biodiversity conservation; this case being the preservation of the last remnant of Lowland Mixed Dipterocarp Forest in the Petaling District of Selangor.

Kota Damansara Community Forest Reserve: an exciting model for community-based conservation of green spaces

The Kota Damansara Community Forest Reserve (KDCF), a remnant mixed lowland dipterocarp forest of 321.75 ha in Petaling Jaya, was once part of the extensive and biodiversity-rich Sungai Buloh Forest Reserve (6,590 ha; gazetted in 1898). Over the last 30 years, boundary adjustments and excisions for housing and infrastructure development diminished its extent, and by 2003, mounting concern about forest loss spurred a movement to safeguard the remaining forest as a green enclave and wildlife refuge. The sustained civil society campaign driven by local residents, nature enthusiasts and other community groups eventually led to it being regazetted as a Permanent Forest Reserve in 2010. Today, the KDCF is classified as a forest for amenity, education and research under the authority of the Selangor Forestry Department.

Persatuan Rimba Komuniti Kota Damansara or KDCF Society was registered in 2011 to form a representative and well-governed community organization to partner the Selangor Forestry Department in managing the forest reserve. As co-managers, the Society works closely with the Department to implement the jointly developed Forest Management Plan. KDCF Society sees its role as complementing the Department by connecting people with the forest through nature appreciation and recreational activities while ensuring that its core values are preserved. To this end, a network of 11 km of sustainable forest trails has been built by community volunteers over 8 years. A further 3 will be added in 2015. An active environmental education and volunteer programme is implemented, and Temuan Orang Asli from adjacent areas have been given a role in forest trail management. Although the Society has been successful in obtaining grants and corporate sponsorship, its main core of support continues to be the community's own contributions in the form of volunteerism, fees and donations.

As a model of public participation in the management of green spaces, Kota Damansara Forest Reserve offers a glimpse of the kind of synergy that might be realized through effective collaboration between government agencies and community groups, one that has the potential to be replicated with positive impact in many more locations given the right policy environment.

Excerpt from Draft National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan 2015

Name: Justine Vaz
Organisation: Persatuan Rimba Komuniti Kota Damansara (KDCF Society)
SGP Project Title:
Email: justine@kotadamansaraforest.org
Contact No. 012-3215025, 012-3520215

No.	Partners/ Organisation/ Agency/ Company Name	Category	Name of Contact Person	Position
1	Jabatan Perhutanan Selangor	StateAgency	Awang Shaffie	District Forest Officer
2	Majlis Bandaraya Petaling Jaya	StateAgency	Tang Fuie Koh	Caretaker councillor
3	Pejabat Penyelaras DUN	StateAgency	Mohd Radzlan Jalaludin	Penyelaras DUN Kota Dsara
4	Member of Parliament for KD	FederalAgency	YB Sivarasa Rasiah	MP for Kota Dsara
5	IJM Land	PrivateSector	Lim Chee How	Representative
6	PPB Group	PrivateSector	Susan Chia	Marketing Exec
7	GE	PrivateSector	Aaron Wong	Liaison
8	Malaysian Nature Society		Henry Goh	Selangor Branch chairman
9	Trails Association of KL and Selangor		Yong Foo Chuen	Vice-President
10	Ecoknights		Yasmin Rasyid	Founder
11	Kota Damansara Football Club		Coach Norizan	Director
12	ERE Consulting Bhd	PrivateSector	Dr Balamurugan	Managing director
13	Sierra Damansara RA		Leong Wai Yuan	Committee member
14	Taylor's College Sri Hartamas	Academia	Dachaini Karuppiyah	Student Affairs mgr
15	International Medical University	Academia	Dr. Kavitha Mohandas	Lecturer
16	Nottingham University	Academia	Tapan Kumar Nath	Assoc. Prof.

KDCF Guide Training Course Report

Background

A basic need that had been identified in order to strengthen the capacity of KDCF Society in building public awareness and appreciation of KDCF and Malaysia's biodiversity in general was to develop a pool of competent guides who are able to lead visitors on the KDCF trails while providing some form of interpretation. As such, the idea to organize a training course for guides was mooted.

The KDCF Guide Training Course was successfully held over two consecutive Saturdays (5th and 12th March) in 2014. The course was provided free of charge for members (non members were required to sign up as KDCF members) on a first come, first serve basis. The course was promoted one month in advance on the KDCF facebook page as well as through email blasts to registered KDCF members. A total of 14 participants attended the course (See **Appendix 1**).

Course Content and Structure

The course was developed with the layman in mind, i.e. to provide non-specialists the basic skills and knowledge to safely and competently lead groups along the KDCF trails while providing some interpretation of various aspects of the forest. To make it interesting, the course included a mix of classroom and field sessions. The content was developed to cover five key components that were deemed to be important "basic knowledge" for KDCF guides (also see course programme in **Appendix 2**):

- Ecology and biodiversity
- Forest Management
- Indigenous cultural aspects
- Nature guiding
- Safety and emergency response

Acknowledgements

The course would not have been possible without the cooperation of various subject experts who kindly obliged to serve as lecturers and resource persons. These were:

- Mariam Jutta (Ecologist)
- Dato' Shahrudin Mohamad Ismail (UPM Lestari)
- Awang Shafie (Selangor Forestry Department)
- Pasupathy Jayaraj (MNS Nature Guides)
- Nor Azmir (MNS Nature Guides)
- Brandon Chee (Explorer)
- Foo C. Yong (TRAKS)
- Daicus Belabut (Universiti Malaya)
- Mor Ajani (Temuan Orang Asli community)
- Gonthong Lourdesamy (Wild Asia)

In addition, Foo C. Yong kindly provided the use of the living room of his house in Rimba Riang, Kota Damansara as the venue for the classroom session.

Appendix 1: Participants

1. Denise Lai
2. Mukhlis Mohd Sapiyan
3. Rajeshwari Parekh
4. Anuar bin Ab Majid
5. Zainal Zikri
6. Siew Boh Mun
7. Daniel Chin
8. Mohd Fairuz Mohd Fathil
9. Chin Pik Wun
10. Mor Ajani
11. Rohit b. Jassani
12. Justine Vaz
13. Foo C. Yong
14. Dylan Jefri Ong

Appendix 2: Programme

Part 1 (Saturday, 5 April 2014)

0830	Registration		
0845	Welcome remarks		Justine
	Vaz		
0850	Introduction to the course		Dylan Ong
0900	Session 1: Ecology and flora of KDCF (classroom)		Mariam Jutta
0950	Session 2: History of forests in Selangor and KDCF (classroom)	Dato' Shaharuddin	
1040	Session 3: KDCF Management Plan (classroom)		Awang Shafie
1115	<i>Move to field site</i>		
1130	Session 4: Ecology and flora of KDCF (field)		Mariam Jutta
1300	<i>Lunch</i>		
1400	Session 5: Trail familiarisation (field)		MNS Nature
	Guides		
1545	<i>Afternoon tea</i>		
1600	Session 6: Safety and emergency response (field)		Brandon Chee
1745	Wrap up of Day 1		Dylan Ong
1800	<i>End</i>		

Part 2 (Saturday, 12 April 2014)

0900	Introduction and recap of Part 1		Dylan Ong
0920	Session 1: KDCF in the SGP-GEF (classroom)		Justine Vaz
0940	Session 2: Reptiles and amphibians of KDCF (classroom)		Daicus Belabut
1030	Session 3: Temuan indigenous knowledge (classroom)		Mor Ajani
1115	<i>Move to field site</i>		
1130	Session 4: Nature guiding (field)		Gonthong
1330	<i>Lunch</i>		
1400	Wrap up		Dylan Ong
1415	<i>End</i>		



Persatuan Rimba Komuniti Kota Damansara

KDCF SOCIETY (PPM-009-10-13092012)

www.kotadamansaraforest.org

**Contract of Agreement
in support of
BUILDING A NEW FOREST TRAIL
KOTA DAMANSARA COMMUNITY FOREST**

This Contract of Agreement is undertaken between the **staff of IJM Land** (the “sponsor”) based at the Ground Floor, Wisma IJM, Jalan Yong Shook Lin (Jalan Sultan), 46760 Petaling Jaya and the Kota Damansara Community Forest Society (“KDCF”) a registered society at the address 99, Residency, Jln Rimba Riang 9/15, 47810 Petaling Jaya on **20/01/2014** for the sponsorship of a new forest trail. The value of the sponsorship is **RM17,000** which will cover the cost of building the trail and installing directional signage. Thereafter the sponsor will undertake to fund an amount of **RM3,000** annually for the maintenance and upkeep of the said trail.

1 BACKGROUND TO THE KDCF TRAIL PROGRAMME

The Kota Damansara Community Forest (KDCF) is the first urban forest reserve managed by local residents in collaboration with the Selangor Forestry Department. It was gazetted in 2010. The Kota Damansara Community Forest Society was established in 2011 to provide a strong community organisation to engage the wider community to support and safeguard the Forest Reserve. The building of forest trails is a key component of the Society’s programmes to engage the corporate community in supporting volunteer-based activities.

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED IJM LAND TRAIL

The IJM Land Trail will measure approximately 2 km in length. It will be an IMBA (International Mountain Biking Association) standard trail which is suitable for multiple-user groups. It is also the first KDCF Trail beginning from Jalan Rimba Riang 9/1 and will facilitate easy access by people frequenting Taman Rimba Riang which is a popular public park.

The building of the trail will be supervised by our close partners, the Trails Association of Kuala Lumpur and Selangor (TRAKS). The trail alignment has already been determined in consultation with experienced trail design experts who will continue to oversee the design and construction of the trail. The recce for T4 was completed on **30 December 2013**. The approximate alignment is shown in the Map in Appendix 1.

Labour for trail building will be supplied by KDCF Society’s members, volunteers, staff of IJM Land and supplemented by paid Orang Asli from the Temuan communities in neighbouring Bukit Lanjan and Sungai Buloh. The first Volunteer Trail Day will commence on 18 January 2014, and 1-2 volunteer trail days will be held each month until the trail is completed. In between these days, Temuan Orang Asli and additional labour (as needed) will be engaged to help ensure that the trail makes timely progress.

3 NAME AND SIGNAGE

While in construction, the trail is codenamed T4. As the sponsor and adopter of the trail you will have the opportunity to put your branding on the trail signage at the main entrance of the Forest Reserve and on the trails itself – in the following format: [NAME] TRAIL sponsored by IJM Land.

Credit for this support will also be included on the main public notice board, our website and other communications materials. You will have the opportunity to suggest a name for the trail however final approval for the trail name must be confirmed by the Forestry Department. Names with a commercial link will not be permitted.

The sponsorship amount will cover the creation of wooden trail signage and signage posts and major entrances and intersections. The design of the signs and the inclusion of logos and other motifs will be determined in consultation with the sponsor. If the sponsor wishes to install more elaborate entry gates or signage, wakafs and rest stops, this additional contribution is welcomed, but will be separate to the sponsorship amount.

Any IJM logos or use of any signages to represent IJM or IJM Land or their respective brands may only be used with the prior written consent of IJM Land.

4 FINANCIAL COMMITMENT AND USE OF FUNDS

The cost for the first year is **RM17,000** and thereafter, **RM3,000** on an annual basis (commencing 12-months from the actual launch of the trail).

The breakdown for expenditure generally follows the table below:

	Description	Estimate	Time frame
2.1	Trail reccee, design and supervision by International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA) certified experts	RM2,500.00	Dec 2013-Jan 2014
2.2	Training of new volunteers by TRAKS – trails are built with rakes and cangkuls (and some parang work by experienced workers)	RM1,500.00	Jan – Feb 2014
2.3	Volunteer Days – drinks and refreshments (unpaid volunteers may come from your company and our members)	RM1,500.00	Jan – April 2014 (2x a month)
2.4	Orang Asli workers – usually 3-4 workers at RM75 per day	RM3,000.00	Jan – April 2014 (6x a month)
2.5	Additional tools, chainsaw hire and fuel	RM1,200.00	Jan – April 2014
2.6	Administration and publicity; liaison with Forestry Dept	RM1,800.00	Ongoing
2.7	Cost and Installation of directional signage	RM1,500.00	May 2014
2.8	Naming and branding rights	RM4,000.00	
		RM17,000.00	

The annual contribution of RM3,000 is payable to help fund the upkeep of the trail and to ensure that it is maintained in good condition. It will also be used to replace signs that are damaged by wear and tear and vandalism.

5 PAYMENT TERMS

Payment may be made to KDCF Society which will undertake the management, monitoring, reporting, and delivery of the project. An official receipt will provided for your records. The Trail is expected to be delivered according to the following table, and financial contributions will only be payable upon completion of the respective milestones.

Milestone	Amount	Estimated date
Upon confirmation	RM7,000.00	Jan 2014
Upon completion of 1 km	RM5,000.00	April 2014
Upon delivery of full 2 km	RM5,000.00	June 2014
12 months from date of launch	RM3,000.00	June 2015

Please note that all cheques will need to be made out as follows:-

Name: Persatuan Rimba Komuniti Kota Damansara

CIMB Account No: 1293-0002664-05-0

Progress reports will be supplied to the sponsor on a bi-monthly basis by KDCF Society. In addition, we will provide a schedule of Volunteer Trail Days so that staff of IJM Land will have the opportunity to participate in trailwork if they are available.

While we will endeavour to ensure that T4 is delivered ahead of schedule, it is necessary to bear in mind that bad weather, construction challenges, and labour shortages may delay meeting the forecasted milestones. We will, however, take corrective action wherever feasible to ensure that delays can be overcome.

6 Termination

KDCF or the sponsor may, for any reason whatsoever and at any time and by giving written notice to the other, terminate this Contract of Agreement whereupon neither KDCF nor the sponsor will have any liability to the other as a result of such termination.

Signed on behalf of IJM Land staff

.....
 (Signature) (Lim Chee How) (Date)
 (Manager, Business Development)

Signed on behalf of Persatuan Rimba Komuniti Kota Damansara (KDCF Society)

.....
 (Signature) (Name and designation) (Date)

Witnessed by representative of Trails Association of Kuala Lumpur and Selangor (TRAKS)

.....
 (Signature) (Name and designation) (Date)



Persatuan Rimba Komuniti Kota Damansara

KDCF SOCIETY (PPM-009-10-13092012)

www.kotadamansaraforest.org

PRESS RELEASE

THURSDAY, 19 JUNE 2014

Corporate partners enable KDCF Society to build two new sustainable forest trails at Kota Damansara forest

In 2014, two new trails are being added to the Kota Damansara forest network – for the first time providing access to the Section 9 forest gateway close to Taman Rimba Riang, a public park which is popular with local residents. The first of these trails – the Harmoni Trail which is has been adopted by IJM Land was launched at a simple launch event held on 19 June 2014 to commemorate the completion of the Harmoni Trail and also ‘kick off’ the building of the fifth and final forest trail in the network which is being sponsored by PPB Group Berhad (PPB Group). The event was attended by representatives from the two companies who gamely participated in a ‘handing over of tools’ ceremony symbolizing the passing of the baton to the supporter of the new trail!

IJM Land - longstanding corporate supporters

The forest trails in Kota Damansara Forest Reserve are built by KDCF Society and TRAKS (Trails Association of Kuala Lumpur and Selangor). These are the first trails to be established with support from our corporate partners. Work began on the Harmoni Trail in December 2013. Almost 100 volunteers were involved in the construction of the trail. Temuan Orang Asli from Bukit Lanjan and Sungai Buloh have provided supplementary labour throughout to help keep the trail progress according to schedule.

“The staff and management of IJM Land have been enthusiastic supporters of KDCF since 2011 – planting trees, restoring the lake, adding in fish fry, and helping us to maintain the forest trails. We are pleased that they are the first to sponsor a trail,” said Leonard Leong who is KDCF Society’s Treasurer.

With the completion of the Harmoni Trail, the Kota Damansara Community Forest now has four forest trails and one education trail measuring approximately nine km in total.

PPB Group sponsors the final trail to link KDCF’s sustainable trail network

The fifth forest trail will add another two km bringing the total length of volunteer built trails in KDCF to 11 km. This trail, codenamed T5, is being adopted by PPB Group as part of PPB’s corporate social responsibility initiative for the environment. It will at last link the network of trails from the Section 9 and Section 10 forest gateways.

Ms Koh Mei Lee, Senior Manager (Corporate Affairs) of PPB commented, “Every year, PPB ensures that its CSR activities cover environmental projects as PPB strongly believes in environmental protection for a sustainable future. For the first time PPB is excited to sponsor a forest trail measuring approximately 2 km to strategically link the existing forest trails together.”

“The new trail will benefit nature lovers and multiple user groups. We hope that it will also encourage the youth of today to participate in outdoor activities like trekking and mountain biking for a healthier lifestyle amidst the lush green lung of Kota Damansara”.

She further commented, “PPB staff and family members are supportive and enthusiastic about this initiative and will be participating in the first Volunteer Day to be held at the end of June. Besides benefitting the environment, this initiative will also be an opportunity for PPB staff and their family members to team up for a healthy and active work out in the midst of a beautiful forest”.

Speaking on behalf of KDCF Society, Justine Vaz, the organization’s President thanked both IJM land and PPB for their keen support of the community-based forest activities. “Local residents actively campaigned to save the beautiful forest of Kota Damansara. However, ensuring that this forest endures to delight future generations depends on Malaysians making a personal connection with this forest. Our sustainable trail network has become the conduit to nurture this connection. Looking around at the dedicated team of

volunteers and supporters gathered here on this beautiful new trail, I can see that the hard work and sacrificed weekends has been well worth it!”

“We are grateful for the trust and support extended to us by the Selangor Forestry Department, as well as MBPJ and the state government to serve as guardians and custodians of this forest in conjunction with the Forest Management Plan which has been developed for the community forest reserve. In addition, we acknowledge the Global Environment Facility – Small Grant Programme which has generously supported our community engagement and environmental education programmes since the beginning,” she added. Volunteer Trail-building Days organized will be held once or twice a month until the completion of the T5 trail. Members of the public that are interested in getting involved may contact KDCF Society to find out more. Volunteers will receive on-the-job training; they should be reasonably fit and in good health although no previous experience or special skills are needed.

“Get your Green On” at Kota Damansara Forest Day

Kota Damansara Forest Day will be held at Taman Rimba Riang on Sunday, 17 August 2014. The theme of this year’s Open Day will be “Get your Green On!” and will target local Kota Damansara residents and the wider PJ Community. The event will focus on getting back to nature to enjoy healthful activities and also being pro-active in taking steps to reduce our environmental footprint and supporting green causes. The event is co-organized with the Malaysian Nature Society (MNS) and Trails Association of Kuala Lumpur and Selangor (TRAKS).

This year’s event will also feature the introduction of the newly launched Harmoni Trail and many of the activities will be on the new forest trails from Sec 9 – such as nature interpretation walks, bird watching, frogging, photography excursions and so on. The area around the lake will feature recreation activities, activities for children, booths and exhibitions, and food and drinks stalls.



For more information on how you can get involved
Visit www.kotadamansaraforest.org
www.traks.org.my
or call 012-3520215



Persatuan Rimba Komuniti Kota Damansara

KDCF SOCIETY (PPM-009-10-13092012)

www.kotadamansaraforest.org

6 NOVEMBER 2014

MINUTES OF 1ST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF PERSATUAN RIMBA KOMUNITI KOTA HELD ON SATURDAY, 1 NOV 2014 AT KAFE MAKAN TIME, BISTARI D’KOTA

The meeting was called to order by Justine Vaz, the Society’s President at 1.35 pm when the minimum quorum of 20 was achieved. A total of 36 people attended including 23 registered members, the remainder being new members and observers. The names of members that attended may be found in Annexe 1.

The meeting proceeded according to the following Agenda.

Agenda:

1. Welcome Address by President
2. Election of Chairperson for the AGM
3. Presentation of the Annual Report by the President
4. Presentation of Financial Report by the Honorary Secretary
5. Election of Office Bearers 2014/2015
6. Directions and priorities for 2015
7. Any other matters

1. Welcome Address

Justine thanked all present for attending KDCF Society’s 1st AGM. She explained that the AGM coincides with the completion of the project activities related to the Global Environment Facility Small Grant which commenced in October 2012 and concluded in September 2014. At this AGM, the Committee would provide the narrative and financial overview for two years.

2. Election of Chairperson for the AGM

Justine proposed Dato’ Dr Mikail Kavanagh who is the immediate past Protem President and the Society’s Honorary Adviser to serve as Chairperson for the meeting. Denise Lai seconded the proposal. Dato’ Mike remarked that for a young organisation, KDCF Society had made impressive progress. He acknowledged the outgoing KDCF Committee for their hard work over the past two years and invited Justine to present the Annual Report

3. Presentation of the Annual Report by the President

Justine highlighted the following with regard KDCF Society membership and activities:-

> **Introducing the new Society and public outreach** – the immediate focus of the Society since its establishment in October 2012 was in promoting awareness of the Society and why it was set up. This was achieved through several community events at Sec 10 - Green Community Day in Dec 2012, World Environment Day in June 2013, Green Community Day in Dec 2013, and finally KDCF Day which was held at Taman Rimba Riang in August 2014. In addition to connecting people with the forest we have also built strong links with the Selangor Forestry Department, MBPJ, MNS, TRAKS and other residents' groups.

> **Membership** – the above public events and regular weekend walks have been useful in recruiting members. Currently we have 230 registered members. In the next term more needs to be done to recruit members to the Society including enabling online registration to make it more convenient to join.

> **Branding, communications and membership** – with the finalisation of the Society's logo, we have produced KDCF merchandise (t-shirts, car stickers, membership cards and flyers) to promote recognition of the Society. Our Facebook group which has active participation has 1,870 members and this number continue to grow.

> **Liaison with Forestry Department** – the Committee has maintained ongoing communications with the Selangor Forestry Department and has continued to press on the finalization of the Forest Management Plan and the establishment of the co-management committee. A new Director has been appointed and this process seems to be receiving its due attention now.

> **Building of forest trails** (FC Yong was invited to present this segment) – Our sustainably built forest trails have made KDCF well known and have helped increase the number of forest users and supporters. In the last two years, we have built three new trails, extending the network of trails to a total of 10.5 km, from the initial network of 5 km. The latest trail (T5) which links the Section 9 and Section 10 trails will be completed before December 2014. A Trail Map and flyer has been widely distributed to familiarise people with the Trails.

Aside from strengthening the Temuan Team that provides the backbone of support for trail-building and maintenance, we have also engaged corporate supporters – IJM Land is the trail adopter for Harmoni Trail and PPB Group has sponsored the building of T5. New signage has been installed along the Trails. New benches on Temuan Trail were installed 2 km into Temuan Trail carried by volunteers from Standard & Chartered in August 2014. A wakaf and benches will be added to the Harmoni Trail in December sponsored by IJM Land. The next trail day has been fixed for 9 Nov 2014. All members were asked to volunteer their services if possible.

In the coming year, there are two new trails proposed: a hiking trail to the granite ridge top overlooking the NKVE, and another trail connecting KDCF to the Forestry Training Centre in the north. These will move forward if there is funding to commence implementation in conjunction with KDCF Forest Management Plan.

> **Training of forest guides** – a specialized training course was organised for KDCF Forest Guides encompassing a range of topics including history, forest ecology, species diversity, safety and emergency response, and EE Interpretative skills, including practical sessions. A first batch of 15

have been trained and this syllabus will be used for training subsequent batches in 2015, including older children that can be trained to lead younger groups.

> **Environmental Education** – activity plans for different age groups have been developed as a resource for school groups and members.

> **Media and public awareness** – KDCF Society has received coverage in *NST*, *The Star*, *The Sun*, and we have also been featured on *BFM – The Bigger Picture*. In government circles, KDCF Society is being referenced as a model for public participation in sustaining green areas and implementing environmental programmes.

> **Sharing the model** – KDCF Society has shared its experiences with like-minded groups from Setia Alam, AU3 and Hulu Kelang (JPS River of Life Project), Bukit Tunku, and Bukit Kiara, among others. We expect to play a continued role in encouraging others that seek to develop similar grassroots initiatives.

> **Outreach to local schools and clubs** – groups that have been involved in the forest include the Sec 10 Sec School, Taylors' College, International Medical University, Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris, Mont Kiara International School, KD Football Club, in addition to several homeschooling networks, homes for children, and other societies. In December – Trail Maps in BM will be distributed to schools in KD area with an invitation to participate in children's activities on Dec 6 2014.

> **Financial Sustainability** – the concentration of activities over the past years has been made possible with the grant from GEF worth USD50,000 which has been fully-utilised. In addition KDCF Society was successful in raising RM51,700 additional funding for trails and community activities (RM28,000 from IJM Land, RM12,000 from PPB Group, RM1,700 from our local MP (YB Sivarasa) and RM10,000 from Mohd Radzlan Jalaludin (the Penyelaras ADUN for KD). In addition we have received a great deal of in-kind support from MBPJ. MNS Selangor Branch has provided RM6,860 for co-funding Open Days at KDCF in 2013 and 2014.

The Chair congratulated the KDCF Society Committee for its efforts the forest accessible to the community and for its focus on inclusivity. He then called upon Dylan Ong, the Honorary Secretary to present the financial report on behalf of Leonard Leong who has emigrated.

4. Presentation of Financial Report by the Honorary Secretary

In view of the need for good financial governance the Committee has engaged Chartered Accountants Chong Han Keong & Co. (AF001966) to audit our accounts as they are experienced in handling audits for non-profit organisations and reporting to ROS. Dylan referred the members to the Auditor's summary which details the income and expenditure of the Society up till September 2014.

As of 30 September 2014, KDCF Society received grants and sponsorships to the value of RM177,410.00. Expenditure over this period was RM165,114.16 associated with fulfilling the

activities and outputs specified in the GEF Small Grant. Current cash assets were listed as RM12,295.84.

Funds incoming after Sept 2014 were valued at RM25,260 inclusive of contributions from trail sponsors and the remaining funds to be disbursed from GEF. The auditor is still in the process of checking all the documentation and records are in order. A final signed summary report will be provided for submission to ROS. The cost of the audit for the two years is estimated at RM2,000. This fee will be paid upon completion of the audit and will be captured in the next fiscal year (Oct 2014 – Sept 2015).

The Honorary Secretary proposed that the financial report be accepted. This was seconded by FC Yong.

5. Elections of Office Bearers 2015

The chairperson that proceeded with the election of office bearers by asking for nomination for the Office-bearer and general committee positions. Several nominees were not present – Pasupathy Jeyaraj (MNS Selangor Branch), Leong Wai Yuan (Sierra Damansara RA) and Mohd Fairuz (D’Roselle) were not able to attend due to other commitments, however they had earlier expressed their willingness to be nominated as General Committee members.

The election’s outcome was summarised as follows:-

<i>Position</i>	<i>Outgoing committee</i>	<i>Nominated committee</i>	<i>Proposer</i>	<i>Secunder</i>
President	Justine Vaz	Justine Vaz	Dylan Ong	Shah Redza
Vice-President	Choon Bow Bow	Foo Chuen Yong	Justine Vaz	Denise Lai
Hon. Secretary	Dylan J. Ong	Lim Teck Wyn	Dorothy Woon	Dylan Ong
Asst. Secretary	Foo Chuen Ng	Shah Redza	Justine Vaz	Dorothy Woon
Treasurer	Leonard Leong	Denise Lai	Gonthong Lourdesamy	Dorothy Woon
General Committee	Azura Sharrif	Mor Ajani	Sau Kuen Ng	Dylan Ong
	Aloyah Hashim	Pasupathy Jeyaraj		
	Ilyas Sapiyan	Leong Wai Yuan		
	Zil-Kamal Mokhtar	Dorothy Woon		
	Sau Kuen Ng	Zainal Zikri		
		Mohd Fairuz		

All nominees were voted in with a show of hands and were supported by the majority. The members decided to accept all six General Committee nominees.

6. Directions and priorities for 2015

Justine thanked the outgoing committee for their contributions and welcomed the new Committee which would have the role of deciding on directions and priorities for 2015. She also welcomed the input and ideas of members to make the Society more effective and impactful and called for people to register themselves as focal people to help disseminate news and events to their fellow residents from time to time.

She highlighted some remaining activities for 2014, including:-

- The completion and naming of T5 (all of November 2014)
- Workshop for postgrad students from University of Nottingham (late Nov 2014).
- IJM Land CSR Day – including installation of new wakaf and benches on Harmoni Trail; and kayaking at KDCF Lake on same day for local schoolchildren – Dec 6 2014.

7. Any Other Matters

Denise Lai sought the members' feedback on whether we should be more pro-active in seeking our partners to offer privileges to KDCF Members in order to make membership more attractive. This would also be a way to make inroads to linking local businesses and communities to the KDCF. The members were supportive of this proposal.

There being no further business, Kuen proposed the close of the meeting with a vote of thanks to the chairperson. The AGM was adjourned at 2.20pm

Meeting Minutes were prepared by Yoga Oszwald and Dylan J. Ong and checked by Justine Vaz