

ASIA REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON SATOYAMA INITIATIVES IN SABAH

The “Tagal System” – A Community-Based Fisheries Management



Godfery Kissey
Fisheries Department Sabah, Malaysia
18 April 2017

The “Tagal” System

- * The “**Tagal**” System is a Community-Based Fisheries Management (CBFM) in rivers traditionally undertaken by the local community of Sabah from time immemorial.
- * “**Tagal**” is a local dialect meaning – “Not allowed” or “Prohibited”.
- * Base on customary practices and native customary law.

The “Tagal” System

- * Codes of conduct and Rules (e.g rotating open/close season, no illegal fishing gears, size of fish to be taken) are not usually written down but are passed down through verbal tradition and/or come about through the ruling of a village headmen or native chief.
- * By-laws vary between villages and communities.
- * Penalties for breaking by-laws will be fined in the form either of “animals” or the modern day cash equivalent.

SUPPORT FROM DEPT OF FISHERIES

- * The “Tagal” System is in line with the objectives of Fisheries Department.
- * Recognize that fish resource conflicts can be better managed when community are more involved in management.
- * Commitment to policies and programs of decentralization and community-based management and co-management.
- * Community-wide engagement and participation.

SUPPORT FROM DEPT OF FISHERIES









***536 Tagal system
221 Rivers/Streams
20 Districts***



Merangkap Pengerusi IGEM 2016

Saban



Green Business For SUSTAINABILITY

5-8 OCTOBER 2016

Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, Malaysia

KERAJAAN NEGERI SABAH

SIJIL PENGHARGAAN

Dengan ini merakamkan penghargaan dan ucapan terima kasih di atas kerjasama dan sumbangan

is awarded to

Jabatan Perikanan Sabah
Sabah State Government
(Sistem Tagal)

kerana menjayakan

International Greentech And Eco Products
Exhibition And Conference Malaysia
(IGEM) 2016

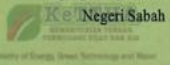
pada
05hb Oktober 2016 hingga 08hb Oktober 2016

di

Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC)

(DATUK POUNIS @ JOSEPH YUNTAID)
Timbalan Setiausaha Kerajaan Negeri
(Pembangunan)

Merangkap Pengerusi IGEM 2016



AHMAD HADRI HARIS

(YB. TAN SRI DATUK SERI PANGLIMA
HAJI SUKARTI BIN WAKIMAN)
Setiausaha Kerajaan Negeri
Sabah









... of Agriculture
Department Serwauk and
Kampung Semadang Tagang
Committee with the Ministry
of Public Health and Ministry of
Tourism, Arts and Culture as the
main sponsors.

The co-sponsors were Special
Affairs Department, Maggi,
Eastern Mail, Shasongel, Yaaght
Sdn Bhd and Persatuan Warisan
Bumi Kemuning. Dk Pahau said
the organisers of the festival
must make the event as an annual
festival in the tourism calendar as
it was the only festival of its kind
in the state and because of its high
potential as a tourism product.

"Besides the potential to attract
both local and foreign tourists to
this village, the Semadang River
Tagang Festival which is the only
one of its kind in the state can also
provide additional income to the

organisers of the festival to include
another two more categories in the
fishing competition, namely the
category of foreign citizens and
tourists.

"The ministry will sponsor the
prizes for both categories," he
said in his speech when closing
the second edition of the festival at
Kampung Semadang on Saturday
night.

The festival was managed by
Ma'asa Event Management and
jointly organised by Agriculture
Department Serwauk and
Kampung Semadang Tagang
Committee with the Ministry
of Public Health and Ministry of
Tourism, Arts and Culture as the
main sponsors.

The co-sponsors were Special
Affairs Department, Maggi,
Eastern Mail, Shasongel, Yaaght
Sdn Bhd and Persatuan Warisan
Bumi Kemuning. Dk Pahau said
the organisers of the festival
must make the event as an annual
festival in the tourism calendar as
it was the only festival of its kind
in the state and because of its high
potential as a tourism product.

"Besides the potential to attract
both local and foreign tourists to

villagers," he added.

He reminded those living along
the Semadang River, also known
as Sungai Serwauk Kiri, to always
maintain the cleanliness not
just for fish rearing but also for
watersports like kayaking.

Meanwhile, 21 year-old
university student Cinclim Voon
Tarah was crowned Miss Tagang
Semadang 2006 in the final of the
beauty pageant held concurrently
with the closing ceremony.

In second place was Felicia
Fife Seruanan, 22, from Padawan
and third was Fuma Wilson of
Kuching.

Cinclim from Kuching won
RM1,000 cash, a trophy and banner
while Felicia and Fuma received
RM500 and RM200 respectively,
besides trophies and banners.

Consolation prize winners were
Agnes Angie Martin of Miri,

Winna Natasha Berjos, Semaha
Andra, Radmila Romios Mora,
Merla Madalina Sujie, Ester
Jewel Paul and Solvia Lagon
James Pengo, all from Kuching.

The Semadang River Tagang
Festival was declared open by
Public Health Assistant Minister
and Mambong assemblyman
Datuk Dr Jerip Susli earlier on
Saturday.

Dr Jerip, who is also the patron
of the festival, when officiating at
the opening of the festival hoped
that the festival would continue
to receive support from various
parties.

He said the success of the festival
would be able to supplement the
income of local residents when
it becomes popular as it would
be visited by local and foreign
tourists adding service providers
including homestay operators,

kayak and transportation
providers, handicraft suppliers
as well as local traders would
benefit from the event.

A big crowd of people came to
Kampung Semadang to visit the
festival, while a total 320 people
registered to participate in the
fishing competition which offered
attractive cash prizes.

The fastest catch title went to
Debi Sapri Mus from Pontianak,
Indonesia, while the most number
of catches title was shared by Doso
Nooh and Chin Joon Ching. The
heaviest catch title was grabbed
by Archilles Callist.

Apart from fishing competition,
other activities held during the
festival were cooking competition
sponsored by Maggi, water sports,
exhibition, sales of food and
beverages and children's colouring
contest.



The fishing competition at the scenic part of the river

villagers," he added.

He reminded those living along
the Semadang River, also known
as Sungai Serwauk Kiri, to always
maintain the cleanliness not
just for fish rearing but also for
watersports like kayaking.

Meanwhile, 21 year-old
university student Cinclim Voon
Tarah was crowned Miss Tagang
Semadang 2006 in the final of the
beauty pageant held concurrently
with the closing ceremony.

In second place was Felicia
Fife Seruanan, 22, from Padawan
and third was Fuma Wilson of
Kuching.

Cinclim from Kuching won
RM1,000 cash, a trophy and banner
while Felicia and Fuma received

Winna Natasha Berjos, Semaha
Andra, Radmila Romios Mora,
Merla Madalina Sujie, Ester
Jewel Paul and Solvia Lagon
James Pengo, all from Kuching.

The Semadang River Tagang
Festival was declared open by
Public Health Assistant Minister
and Mambong assemblyman
Datuk Dr Jerip Susli earlier on
Saturday.

Dr Jerip, who is also the patron
of the festival, when officiating at
the opening of the festival hoped
that the festival would continue
to receive support from various
parties.

He said the success of the festival
would be able to supplement the
income of local residents when
it becomes popular as it would

kayak and transportation
providers, handicraft suppliers
as well as local traders would
benefit from the event.

A big crowd of people came to
Kampung Semadang to visit the
festival, while a total 320 people
registered to participate in the
fishing competition which offered
attractive cash prizes.

The fastest catch title went to
Debi Sapri Mus from Pontianak,
Indonesia, while the most number
of catches title was shared by Doso
Nooh and Chin Joon Ching. The
heaviest catch title was grabbed
by Archilles Callist.

Apart from fishing competition,
other activities held during the
festival were cooking competition
sponsored by Maggi, water sports,



Foreign tourists buy at the handicraft stalls



The newly crowned Miss Tagang Semadang 2006 Cinclim Voon Tarah.



...ing limited Tagal scheme in Kg Pagi

Text: CS Fong Photos: Oakinn

After several appeals in Rod & Line
and the extensive coverage on the
phenomenal success of the Sabah
Tagal river/fisheries restoration
campaigns in the past two years,
many anglers in the peninsula
had been hoping that the same
can be launched in this part of the
country, to bring life back to the many
'dead' or endangered rivers. The
miraculous reappearance of tens of
thousands of fishes within two years
in the former 'empty rivers' is just too good
to be ignored.

The launching of the first tagal site
in the remote village of Kampung Pagi,
which is about an hour up river from
Taman Negara Kuala Tahan, Pahang, is
thus one of the most welcome news in
2007.

The Tagal river which comprises 2
small streams approximately 1km long
is connected to the main river system.
Kampung Pagi is a community of 300
people whose village head and
Chairman of Jawatankuasa Kemajuan
Kampung (JKK) is Mi Hamid bin Nipah
(also known as Tok Empat Kg. Pagi).
JKKK will also be the enforcer of this
tagal system.

As a start, 3,000 lampau, baung,
sebarau and kerai fry, courtesy of the
Fisheries Department, had been released,
in the presence of state assemblyman for
the Tahan constituency (ADUN) YB Ustaz Ahmad
bin Jaafar, and Chief Executive Officer of
Perbadanan Kemajuan Negeri Pahang
(PKNP), Dato Hj Lias.

The project has been given the blessing
by the Pahang Menteri Besar. In due course,
the Fisheries Department, Drainage and
Irrigation Department and other related
authorities will be invited to officially
participate in this noble project.

This pilot project is still open to changes
and fine-tuning to suit the local conditions.
However, initial proposal is to have the tagal
river closed for 2 years with regular feeding
done to keep the fish there.

The final objective is to improve the
economic status of the local community, by
providing agriculture, river aquaculture and
tourism opportunities in the coming years.

Thus far, the general response of the
villagers have been very good, according to
Mohd Asri (Oakinn), the governor of the April
2007 issue of Rod & Line, and the person
instrumental in 'selling' the Sabah tagal idea
to the Pahang authorities.

'The Fisheries Department has
already released fry in the previous
month. They have already enforced the
no fishing zone. I can already see the
fry coming up to feed when the
villagers throw in food,' he told Rod &
Line.

Besides Kampung Pagi, it is
learned that another Tagal scheme will
soon be launched at Sungai Jin, a
tributary of Sungai Lembing, also in
Pahang.

Well done, Pahang! **RL**

1. Releasing the seeds of our future.
2. Dato' Hj. Lias, CEO of PKNP introducing TAGAL to kampung folks at Kg. Pagi.
3. YB Ustaz Ahmad bin Jaafar (2nd from right), Village Head En. Mi Hamid (next to YB) and kampung folks being briefed on the TAGAL concept.
4. Beneficiaries of TAGAL, our children.
5. Adoring fans of Kg. Pagi folks at the first TAGAL project.
6. Children playing with fish fry.
7. Oakinn elaborating on the bounty of a successful TAGAL project in Sabah.

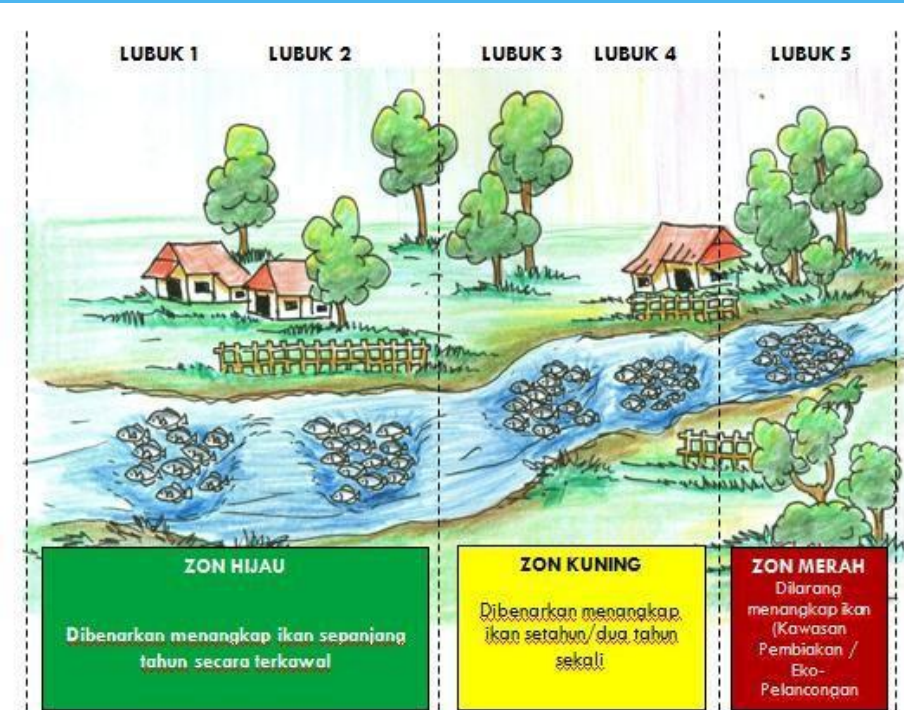


Issues & Challenges – Tagal System

- *Conflicting river use (e.g taking river sand/stones)
- *The power to impose fines .
- *Overlap private land .
- *Conflict construction of other structures .
- *Rivers being “tagal” too long .
- *Fights between leaders / people in the village .
- *Tagal system to a halt/not active.
- *Gaining Recognition.

Fisheries Plan On “Tagal” System

- * Sign MOU DOFS-JKJK.
- * Considering other users.
- * Through some process.



- * Limit length of the river , sharing tagal system , composition committee, facilities and assistance, Research, zoning, enforcement and penalties .



Fisheries General Policies & Jurisdiction On River Management

- * River Management and Development .
- * River Fisheries Resource Management .
- * Community management zone .
- * Establishment of the park / Sanctuary DOFS.

THANK YOU

