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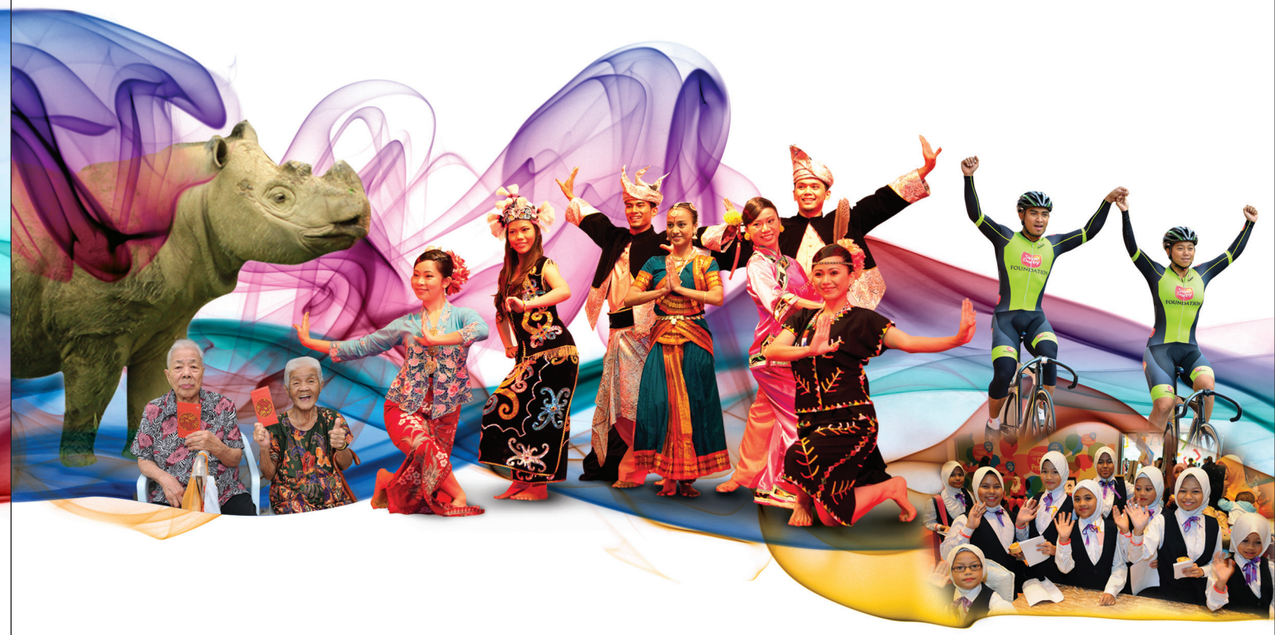
Yayasan Sime Darby (Company No. 85945-W)

Annual Report 2013

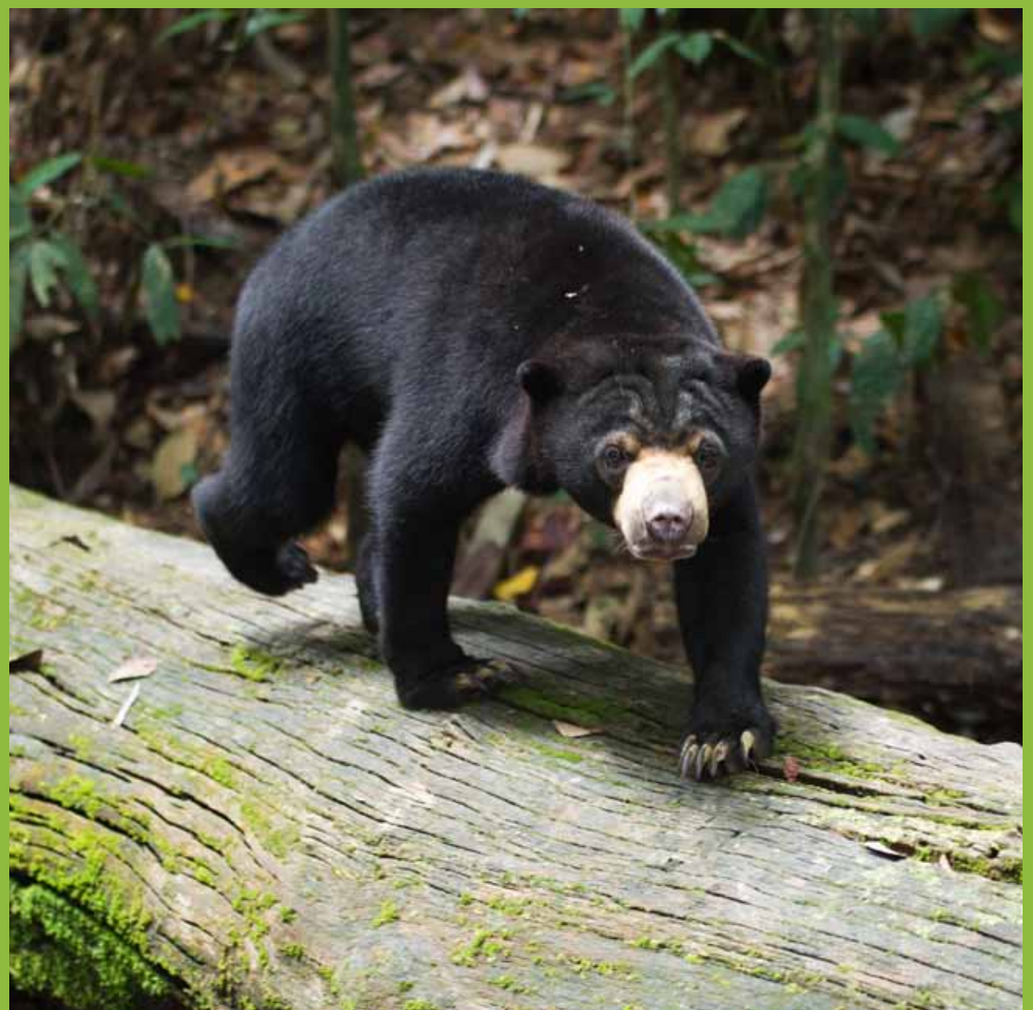
YAYASAN



Annual Report 2013

CONSERVATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND PROTECTION OF ECOSYSTEMS

In order to achieve its Mission and Objectives in the key area of "Conservation of the Environment and Protection of Ecosystems", YSD dedicates itself to the protection and preservation of the environment and the conservation of animals in their natural habitat. This includes support for, and the promotion of, initiatives to protect and restore waterways to their natural state; conserve forests; animals and their biodiversity; and ensure that ecosystems are protected. Priority is given to vulnerable and or endangered animals and the preservation of the forest reserves, particularly in and around Sime Darby's operations.



Five-year-old female sun bear, Kuamut, walks on a fallen tree trunk in the forest enclosure of the Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre in Sepilok, Sabah.

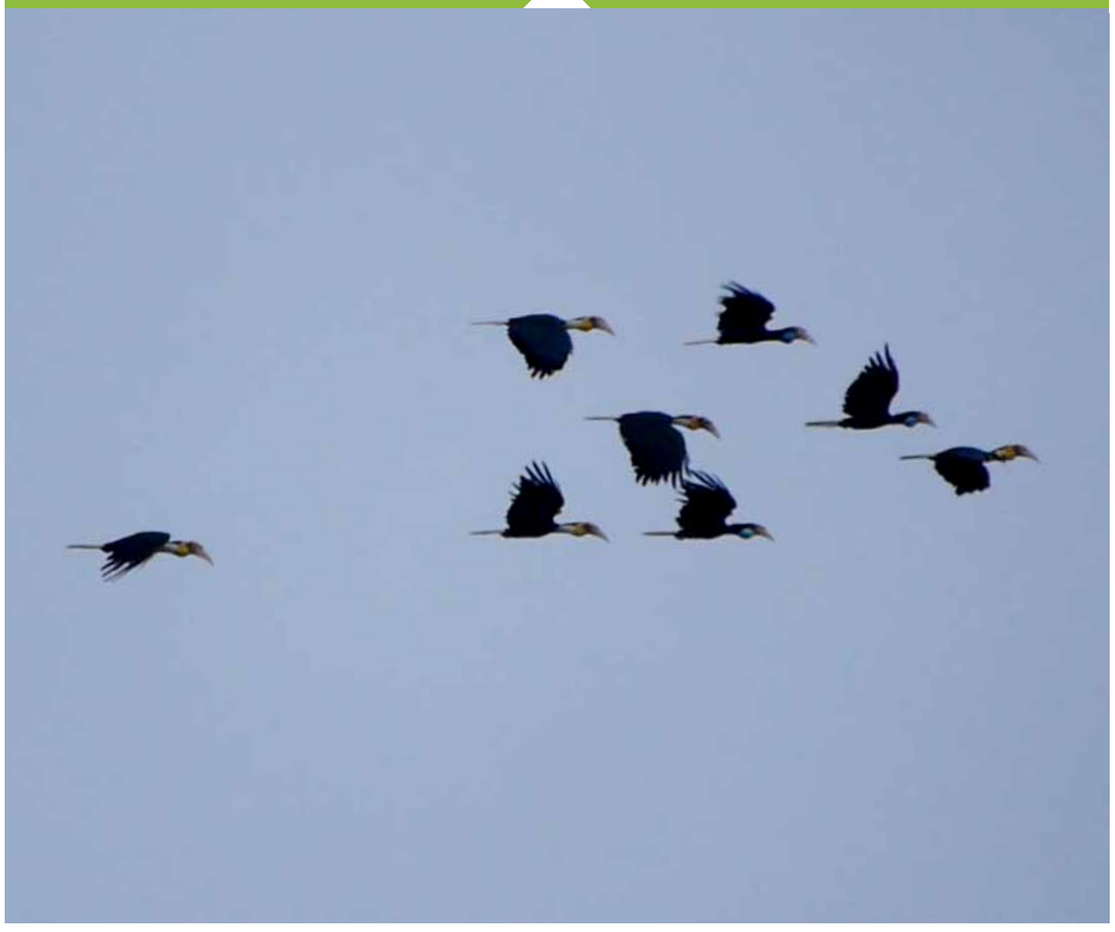
CONSERVATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND PROTECTION OF ECOSYSTEMS

RM11,194,097

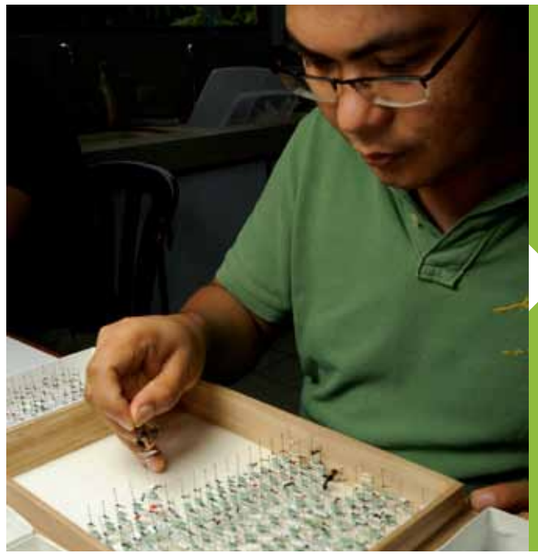
spent in Financial Year 2012/2013 on environment initiatives

RM1.22 million

committed to conserve 10 hornbill species in the Belum-Temengor Forest



CONSERVATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND PROTECTION OF ECOSYSTEMS



125

the number of scientists, PhD and MSc students involved in the Stability of Altered Forest Ecosystems Project conducting 81 experimental works

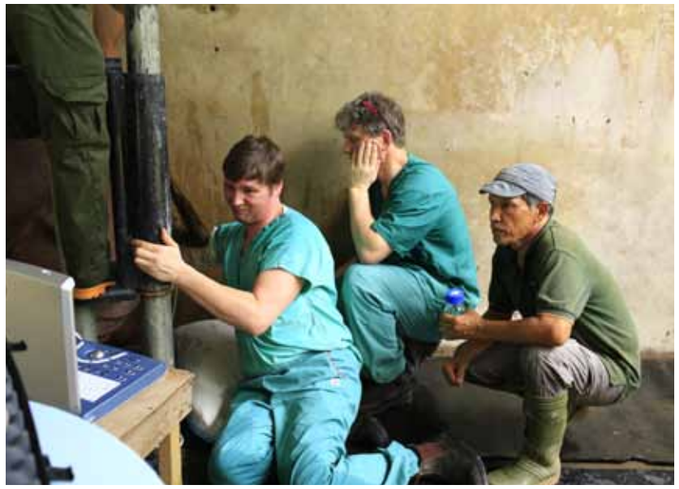
1,755.8 hectares

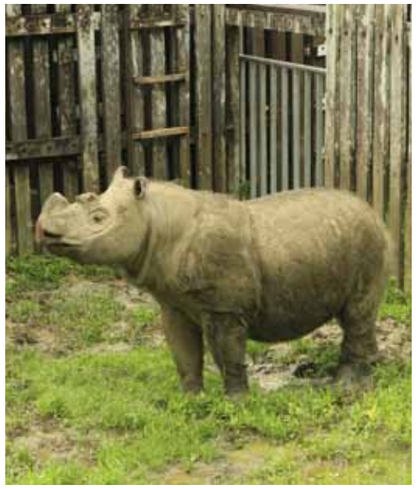
of degraded forest in the Northern Ulu Segama have been planted with dipterocarpacae and non-dipterocarpacae trees for orangutan habitat restoration.

26 elephants have been collared for the Management and Ecology of Malaysian Elephants project

CONSERVATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND PROTECTION OF ECOSYSTEMS

Sumatran Rhino Crisis Summit (SRCS) 2013





Reality finally hit home. The realisation that the population of the Sumatran rhinos (dicerorhinus sumatrensis) has been reduced to less than 100 worldwide, instead of the 200 to 300 rhinos estimated before, prompted a flurry of action plans being mooted at the five-day SRCS 2013 held in Singapore from March 31 to April 4.

The Summit ended on an emotional note, as some participants who have worked closely with rhinos all their lives, shed tears as they individually expressed their commitment to save the rhinos from going extinct.

YSD, which has a six-year commitment of RM11.4 million to save the Sumatran rhinos under a collaboration with the Sabah Wildlife Department (SWD) and Borneo Rhino Alliance (BORA), was one of the main sponsors of the Summit hosted by the Wildlife Reserves Singapore at the Singapore Zoo. The Summit was attended by 130 experts from international and national organisations.

During the course of the Summit, a landmark collaboration to save the critically endangered species was reached between representatives of the Indonesian and Malaysian governments who worked on several recommendations to be forwarded to their respective governments.

Representing Malaysia during the meeting were officials from relevant government agencies including the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Deputy Secretary-General Datuk Dr. Abdul Rahim Nik, Department of Wildlife and Nationals Parks Director-General Dato' Abdul Rashid Samsudin and senior officers of the SWD.

Indonesia was represented by the head of the Directorate of Biodiversity Conservation Novianto Bambang and Ministry of Forestry Indonesia Adi Susmianto.

This is the first time the two countries have come together to address the situation and to save the species. The last wild population of the species is believed to survive in Sumatra, western Indonesia and Sabah, Malaysia. There are 10 rhinos in managed breeding facilities in Indonesia, Malaysia and the United States of America.

The action plans, among others, include preparing Cabinet papers to both governments to ensure no further loss of rhinos and boosting their births.

Two rhino experts, John Payne from BORA and Tony Sumampau have been appointed to be the coordinators with the Malaysian and Indonesian governments respectively.

Besides the landmark developments made by officials from both countries, experts shared their experiences on previous conservation efforts of other rhinos and species such as the Californian condor, the black-footed ferret and Hawaiian forest birds.

The Sumatran rhino is the smallest and last form of the two-horned rhino in Asia that lived on the planet for 20 million years. It is one of the world's rarest rhino species. Two rhino subspecies, the Western black rhino (diceros bicornis longipes) and rhinoceros sondaicus annamiticus - a subspecies of the Javan rhino - have officially been declared extinct since 2010.

CONSERVATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND PROTECTION OF ECOSYSTEMS

Sime Darby Rhino Walk 2013

More than 4,000 people thronged the Perlis State Legislative Complex from as early as 6am on 14 April 2013 to take part in the annual Sime Darby Rhino Walk. This is the second time the Rhino Walk was held to create awareness and lend support to Sumatran rhino conservation efforts at home.

The event, organised by Permodalan Nasional Bhd with the collaboration of the State Youth and Sports Department, marked the beginning of the 14th edition of the Minggu Saham Amanah Malaysia.

The 4.4km walk saw the local folks of all ages from all walks of life clad in bright red, yellow and blue tee shirts walking in solidarity for the Sumatran rhino. There were trivia boards located along the route, which some participants eagerly took snapshots of with their smart phones for answers to help them to win prizes during the quiz held after the walk.

Many attractive prizes were also up for grabs for the lucky draw, which saw some 50 participants walking away with mountain bikes, hampers, home appliances and the latest gadgets.

Nature Interpretative Centre in Collaboration with the Pulau Banding Foundation

RM806,520

Six Months (2013)

YSD's sponsorship of RM806,520 to build the Nature Interpretative Centre (NIC) in collaboration with the Pulau Banding Foundation is an example of the good partnerships made between foundations with private, non-government and government sectors promoting the conservation of Malaysia's oldest rainforest - the Belum-Temengor Forest Complex (BTFC) in Northern Perak.

The BTFC is a 130 million-year-old forest home to 14 of the world's most threatened animals including the Malayan sun bears, the white handed gibbons, Malayan tigers, Malaysian elephants, and Malayan tapirs. In addition, 10 species of hornbills can also be found in this forest which also boasts of about 3,000 species of flowering plants, various species of lower plants, and also three species of Rafflesia.

The NIC, built as an annexe to the existing Pulau Banding Research Centre, aims to create awareness about BTFC, educate the public and visiting tourists to give them a more meaningful and fulfilling experience of what they will be seeing or expect to see in BTFC and bridge the gap between research, policy and practice through effective communications.

CONSERVATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND PROTECTION OF ECOSYSTEMS

Restoration and Protection of Orangutan Habitat in Northern Ulu Segama Project

RM25 mill

9 Years
(2010 - 2019)

The Northern Ulu Segama project involves reforestation and rehabilitation of an area covering 5,400 hectares of deforested land with efforts being stepped up to achieve the objective in 2019. In the last financial year, 1,755.8 ha of land has been planted with dipterocarpacae and non-dipterocarpacae trees.

Suggestions have been made to improve the implementation of reforestation through experiments to ascertain effectiveness and efficiency of cultivating strangling fig plants from cuttings to maximise their survival and growth rate in field conditions and combining exotic legumes and hardy native species to assist in faster restoration of degraded sites.

The Northern Ulu Segama project is a partnership between YSD, Sime Darby Plantation Sustainability Department and the Sabah Forestry Department. The three parties work hand in hand to oversee the project with silviculture, planting and maintenance being carried out to ensure a higher survival rate of trees planted, which are important food sources for the orangutans and other wildlife living in the area such as the bearded pig, sambar deer, mouse door, moon rat and others.

The agreement for the project was signed between the Sabah State Government and Sime Darby Plantation in 2008 with the objective of restoring degraded forests within Ulu Segama for the protection of orangutan habitats.

The Management and Ecology of Malaysian Elephants (MEME)

RM 3.36 mill

5 Years
(2011 - 2015)

The MEME project was launched on May 20, 2012, at the Belum Rainforest Resort, one year after YSD approved the sponsorship of the project. The project is under the supervision of Associate Professor Dr Ahimsa Campos-Arceiz, an Associate Professor at the Lab of Tropical Conservation Ecology, School of Geography, University of Nottingham Malaysia Campus (UNMC).

With the assistance of UNMC researchers and six Orang Asli field assistants, the team has been working towards understanding the ecology and behaviour of Malaysian elephants with the aid of ecology research tools like GPS-satellite tracking devices, camera traps, molecular techniques and conservation drones.

To date, a total of 26 GPS-satellite collars have been deployed on elephants since the project started, inclusive of the six which were deployed at the end of April 2013.

Nine months of data were also collected from 60 camera traps deployed in the Kenyir wildlife corridor to investigate differences in species richness and relative abundance of mammals at access points leading to viaducts and highways while as at March 2013, 23 elephants have been spotted visiting the salt licks at Sira Gajah, Belum-Temengor Forest Complex.

The MEME programme, which started in 2011, collars certain translocated elephants and assists the Department of Wildlife and National Parks in evaluating the effectiveness of the elephant management and conservation strategy. Apart from monitoring to improve current management techniques, the project also intends to capitalise on existing data and analyse the immediate and mid-term behavioural response of elephants to translocation.

CONSERVATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND PROTECTION OF ECOSYSTEMS

Hornbill Conservation Project in Belum-Temengor Forest Complex (BTFC)

RM1.22 mill

2 Years
(2012 - 2014)

Who understands hornbills better than the people who live in the same environment with them? The Orang Asli community in Kampung Chuweh in Gerik, Perak, are among the first indigenous communities living in the Belum-Temengor area that have been approached by the Malaysian Nature Society (MNS) to help them conduct field work and understand more about the birds and how they survive in the wild.

During field activities conducted from December 2012 to February 2013, seven feeding sites for the rhinoceros hornbill were discovered in addition to one feeding site for the great hornbill and three more feeding sites for the oriental pied hornbill.

MNS also held the first Hornbill Conservation Education Camp from February 22 to 24, 2013, in Gerik and the Temengor forest. A total of 15 state school nature club coordinators and 10 state co-curriculum officers under the Education Department from various states participated in this camp.

Conservation of Sunda Clouded Leopards in a Fragmented Landscape in Sabah

RM 1.46 mill

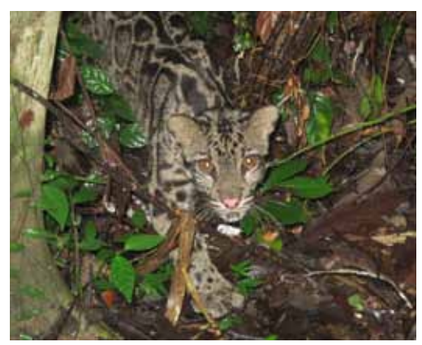
3 Years
(2012 - 2015)

The Conservation of Sunda Clouded Leopards in a Fragmented Landscape Project was initiated in 2012 by the Sabah Wildlife Department (SWD), in collaboration with the Danau Girang Field Centre, a training and research facility managed by SWD and Cardiff University. This project aims to increase the conservation prospects for the Sunda clouded leopard, specifically focusing on populations in Sabah.

Through various activities, this project hopes to increase the awareness of clouded leopards in Sabah, build local capacity for carnivore field research in Malaysia, and gather essential ecological data that will enable the development of effective conservation measures to ensure the survival of this species in the fragmented landscape of contemporary Borneo.

In April 2013, two Masters students registered at Universiti Malaysia Sabah under YSD's scholarships provided through this programme, which is the capacity building component for local wildlife experts. Their scope of research will cover the identification of clouded leopard density in the Lower Kinabatangan Wildlife Sanctuary (LKWS) using camera trap survey and determining the prey species' use of plantations and surrounding forests in the LKWS using camera trap survey.

The Bornean clouded leopard is considered separate from the sub-species of the clouded leopard found in China and the Himalayas. It is estimated that there are less than 10,000 clouded leopards in the wild, only a fraction of which belong to the Bornean sub-category.



CONSERVATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND PROTECTION OF ECOSYSTEMS

Bornean Banteng Programme

RM1 mill

3 Years
(2012 - 2015)

Banteng (bos javanicus), locally known as Tembadau, is a wild cattle species. Although it has been categorised as one of the most charismatic large mammal species in Borneo, the species remains widely unknown. Banteng has been listed globally as endangered and threatened by the International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List of Threatened Species since 1994.

Apart from Malaysia, this species can also be found in countries such as Indonesia, Australia, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos. To date, only Australia and Indonesia have been active in banteng conservation efforts by holding workshops and conferences, publications and conservation action plans.

The banteng is extinct in Brunei.

Bantengs survive in dipterocarp, swamp and beach forests. They move in small groups of eight to 10 individuals.

Prior to the 1940s, bantengs were reported to be common along the banks of most major rivers in eastern Sabah and in many areas of shifting cultivation in the west and north, even in interior hill ranges. However, the widespread use of guns for hunting subsequently led to their rapid extermination in most areas.

The primary aim of the Bornean Banteng Programme is to increase the knowledge and awareness of the rare and endangered species in Sabah.

The key objectives of the programme are to educate one international PhD student and one local MSc student in addition to building the capacity of local field staff; to collect the first baseline data of the banteng by researching their demography, activity patterns, home-range size and population genetic structure in two forest reserves in Sabah, which are Tabin Wildlife Reserve and Malua Forest Reserve.

The project also seeks to locate the remaining populations of banteng across Sabah and assess their conservation status and longevity in their current locations. There are plans to organise an international workshop on the conservation status of banteng in Borneo.

Stability of Altered Forest Ecosystems (SAFE)

RM30 mill

10 Years
(2009 - 2019)

In the last financial year, the SAFE project has involved more than 125 scientists, PhD and MSc students, conducting 81 experimental works focusing on eight main topics of biodiversity; ecosystem processes; microclimate; earth-atmosphere linkages; hydrology, aquatic systems and their riparian margins; soil and below-ground processes; agricultural ecology; people and disease.

Three local students from Universiti Malaysia Sabah have also started MSc fieldwork on insect communities.

SAFE is currently in the midst of constructing its permanent field centre located in the logged forest site of Tawau. The new centre offers extensive wet and dry laboratories, library and office space.

SAFE is the world's largest ecological experiment both in terms of size and breadth of ecological processes. The fully integrated research programme focuses on several key areas which include animal and plant diversity, water and soils, carbon cycling, nutrient cycling and microclimate. The project will make major contributions to sustainable palm oil management and the conservation of biodiversity, while providing a major contribution to sustainable plantation management, the implementation of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil guidelines and the conservation of biodiversity in agricultural landscapes.

CONSERVATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND PROTECTION OF ECOSYSTEMS

Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre (BSBCC) in Sabah

RM2.1 mill

1 Year
(2012 - 2013)

Construction of the second bear house began on April 1, 2013, and is expected to be fully completed by January 2014. A major chunk of YSD's RM2.1 million funding was used to renovate the current bear house, which will be opened to the public in November as a visitor information centre, which is hoped to enable the centre to be self-sustaining with income from entrance ticket sales.

Located in Sepilok, Sabah, the BSBCC, a non-profit organisation initiated by the Sabah Forestry Department, Sabah Wildlife Department, and Land Empowerment Animals People aims to improve the lives of the captive and orphaned sun bear population in Sabah and promote conservation efforts for the species.

The BSBCC is currently home to 28 rescued sun bears.

Coffee Table Book on "Wildlife And Indigenous People of Peninsular Malaysia And Borneo"

RM176,546

One-off
(2013)

YSD's sponsorship of RM176,546 was for the production of a coffee table book entitled "Wildlife and Indigenous People of Peninsular Malaysia and Borneo". It was edited by Tan Sri Dr Salleh Mohd Nor, the former Director-General of the Forest Research Institute of Malaysia and past President of the largest NGO in Malaysia, the Malaysian Nature Society. He is also a Senior Fellow of the Academy of Sciences Malaysia. The coffee table book is a pictorial showcase on the wonders of Malaysia's forests with special emphasis on its world-renowned flora and fauna. It also features some of the indigenous people in Peninsular Malaysia and Borneo. It is the first of its kind to incorporate the scientific names of the animals and plants photographed and documented in a coffee table book format.