



LOJING HIGHLAND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES AND ITS IMPACT TO THE ENVIRONMENT

NATIONAL AUDIT DEPARTMENT MALAYSIA

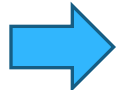
PRESENTATION OUTLINE



- * Introduction
- * Objective of the study
- * Audit scope & methodology
- * Findings and Recommendations
- * Impact and Results
- * Challenges and Barriers
- * Lesson Learned



INTRODUCTION

- * Lojing Highland (TTL) covering an area of 25,435 hectares (ha) is a part of Small Colonies Lojing (JKL) which is located in the West Province of Kelantan, bordering Cameron Highlands, Pahang and Simpang Pulai, Perak. Lojing Highland measuring from 300 meters till 2,181 meters above sea level (mp) with temperature ranging from 18°C to 25°C and connected to main rivers such as Belatop River, Isos River, Jelai River, Pelau'ur River, Kenrew River, Penangau River and Brooke River 
- * Small Colonies Lojing had been gazetted as a colony on 24th June 2010. The development vision of Lojing Highland is to maintain the identity of the colony as an agro-tourism center and also as an eco-tourism highland towards maintaining environmental sustainability. In order for a smooth development of Lojing Highland, the government through the Land and Mines Department has given land ownership covering an area of 11,967.472 hectares (ha) to 3 government departments, 8 subsidiary companies of the state government and 19 private companies for development purposes.



INTRODUCTION

- * Auditing carried out under Section 6(d). Audit Act 1957;
- * Environmental Audit guidelines based on INTOSAI Document;
- * Environmental Quality Act (EQA), 1974;
- * National Land Code 1965
- * Town and Country Planning Act 1976
- * Drainage Works Act 1954
- * National Park Act 1980

AUDIT OBJECTIVE



- * To assess whether the Highland development activities in Lojing Highland are managed efficiently and effectively, taking into account the impact of those activities towards the quality of the environment.



SCOPE

- * The Audit scope specifically recognized to Agricultural activities carried out by 5 companies which had been awarded a lease.
- * These companies are Multi System Sdn. Bhd. (480.60 ha), Liquid Gold Sdn. Bhd. (180.31 ha), All Green Sdn. Bhd. (208.80 ha), Acomax Sdn. Bhd. (400.40 ha) and CSN Enterprise Sdn. Bhd. which entirely covers an area of 1,673.29 ha.



METHODOLOGY

- * Reviews of records, files and documents at the Kelantan State Land and Mines Department (KSLMD), Economic Planning Unit (EPU), Gua Musang District Council (GMDC), Kelantan State Forestry Department (KSFD) and Land and Small Colony Office of Lojing (SCOL) and other related agencies towards the development of Lojing Highland.
- * Consults technical expertise from government agencies such as Malaysia Remote Sensing Agency (MRSA), Department of Environment (DOE), Minerals and Geoscience Department (MGD), Department of Agriculture (DOA), Department of Irrigation and Drainage (DID), Department of Wildlife and National Parks (DWNP), Department of Survey and Mapping (DSM) and Department of Town and Country Planning (DTCP).



METHODOLOGY

- * Remote Sensing and Geographical Information System technology is being used for the physical verification during a visit to the project site. Global Positioning System (GPS) and Clinometer is also being used to determine the location and slope of the Highland. Interviews were also carried out with the respective officers and staffs of the relevant agencies.

AUDIT FINDINGS

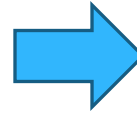


- * Agricultural activities carried out in areas above 1,000 meters from sea level (mpl) and gradient exceeding 25°. →
- * Agricultural development done without a Development Order which grants the planning permission. →
- * Intruding the River Reserve. →
- * Conditions of EIA approval not complied.

AUDIT FINDINGS



- * Forest intervention.



- * Non-compliance of the usage of pest control.

- * Less effectiveness of monitoring and enforcement.



RECOMMENDATIONS

- * Kelantan State Land and Mines Department (KSLMD) should take stern action by seizing the land which is given an ownership if it is proven that Farm Operators has breached the specified terms. In accordance with the decision made in the Highland Development Committee Meeting No.2/2014, KSLMD should not grant an ownership of land above 1,000 m² and slope exceeding 25°.
- * Gua Musang District Council should take a legal action against Farm Operators whom doesn't have a Development Order before any land is being operated for agricultural activities to take place.
- * Department of Irrigation and Drainage needs to identify all the tributary surrounding Lojing areas, gazzeting it and take action towards developers whom invades the river reserve or polluting them.

RECOMMENDATIONS



- * Department of Agriculture should monitor the usage of pest control on food based plants. Their actions includes sampling schedule, the correct sampling procedures and also taking severe actions against Farm Operators whom violates and misused the usage of pest control on their plants.
- * Forestry Department needs to use remote sensing facility in order to identify those reserve forest areas from being trespassed and engaging in legal action against those trespassers that had been identified.



CHALLENGES/BARRIER

- Knowledge and Experience in Environment Audit;
- Coordination and Communication;
- Documentation and Records;



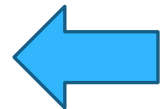
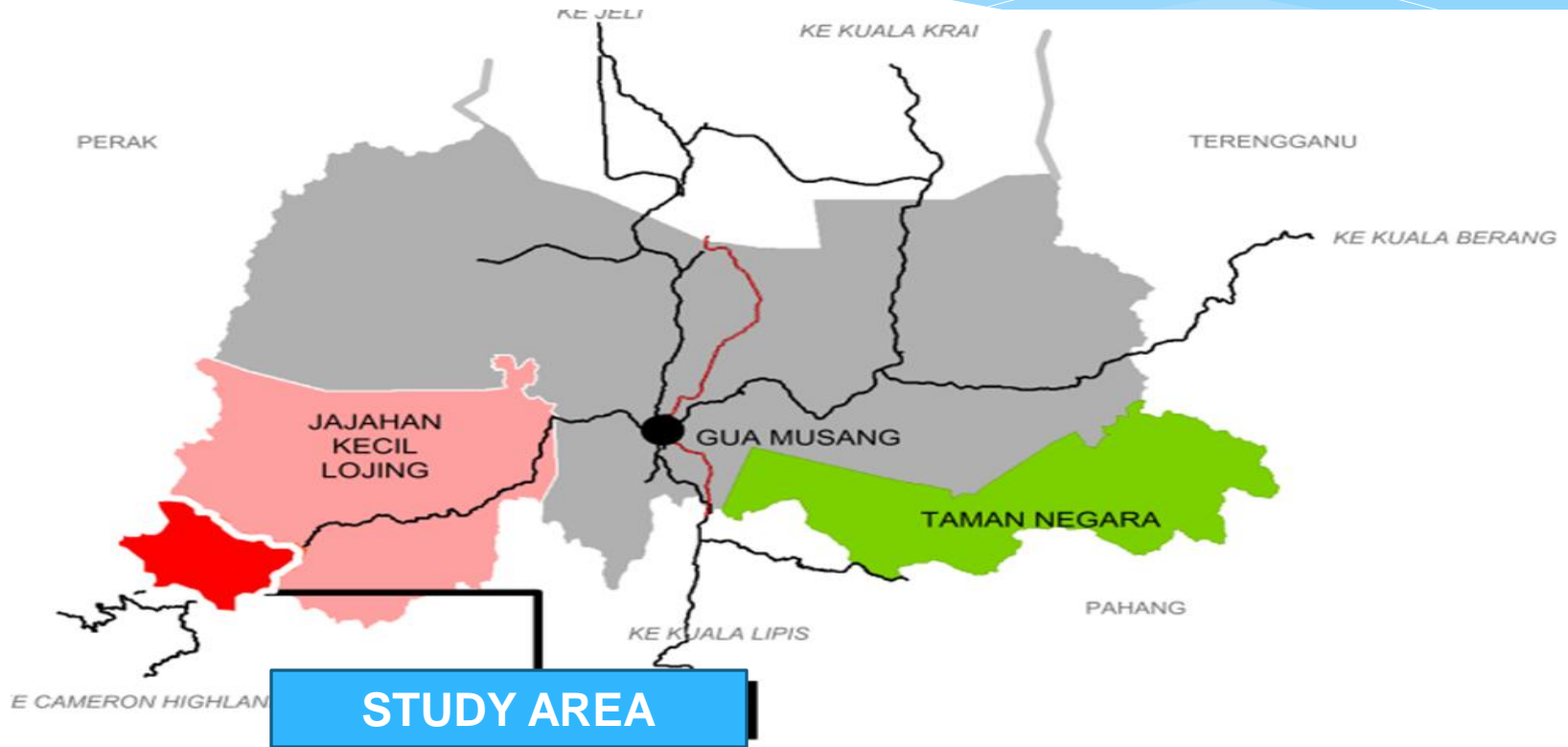
LESSONS LEARNED

- Potential impact to the environment, economic and social effects when the highland development was not properly managed;
- Provides opportunity to explore and experience a new challenges in audit environmental



THANK YOU

LOJING HIGHLAND



AGRICULTURE ACTIVITIES IN AREAS ABOVE 1000 METERS FROM SEA LEVEL



AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT DONE WITHOUT A DEVELOPMENT ORDER



INTRUDING THE RIVER RESERVED



Forest Intervention

Forest Intervention



Forest Intervention

