‘Sedikit-sedikit lama-lama jadi bukit’
Bit by bit, over time, it will accumulate into a mountain
Malaysian Proverb
This report highlights Raleigh International’s successful programmes in Sabah. It is the result of the tremendous work of our staff and thousands of volunteers who have committed their time, energy and passion taking part in our community development and poverty reduction, environmental conservation and adventure programmes.

In return, they have gained lifelong lessons, friendships and become more active global citizens.

I am very proud to share this summary of achievements with our partners, volunteers, donors, supporters and staff. Thank you all for your shared passion.

Stacey Adams
Chief Executive, Raleigh International 2007 – present
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Acknowledgements

Over the last three months, I have trawled Raleigh Borneo’s archives, driven the length and breadth of Sabah – and then driven it again – and questioned countless community members, volunteers and staff from our partner organisations. The result is this – Raleigh’s first country Summary of Achievements to celebrate 10 years of amazing work in Sabah, Borneo. It would be impossible to thank all the people who’ve been involved in this project but there are a few who I’d like to give a special mention to.

First and foremost, a huge thank you to all Raleigh’s partners in Borneo for the guided tour of Raleigh’s projects over the last 10 years. From kindergartens to community halls, bridges to biodiversity surveys, you’ve helped to update existing records and allowed me to see some of Raleigh Borneo’s considerable achievements for myself.

I’d also like to thank to the numerous volunteers, past and present, who have contributed in various ways to this piece of work, answering questionnaires and relentless emails, and even conducting interviews when time eventually got the better of me!

Finally, a massive thank you to Mac, Sarah and Brandon for dreaming up this project and giving me a fantastic opportunity to do what I love doing with an organisation I truly believe in.

Pip Crockett
‘My journey with Raleigh and my love affair with Sabah started in 1992 as a Venturer on expedition. I had no real idea of what to expect, and certainly could not have foreseen just how much an impact this combination of place and purpose would have on my life.

I could not stay away and returned on expedition in both 1996 and 1998; first as a project manager, and then as Deputy Expedition Leader. In 2002, the opportunity to plan and deliver the first expedition from a permanent base in Sabah was presented to me and it was an offer I could not refuse. This memorable expedition was delivered at the end of 2002 with a wonderful group of Scottish volunteers supported by the Millennium Award programme.

Since that time, Raleigh International has had a constant presence in Sabah and I am delighted to be celebrating the huge impact Raleigh International volunteers and the people of Sabah have had on each other and on the shared common vision of sustainable development with a community and conservation focus. It has been a partnership that has relied on the strength of relationships that have been enjoyed with project partners, the Sabah Ministry of Youth and Sport, sponsors, host communities and the support and encouragement of friends.

At the heart of Raleigh International is the expedition experience; groups of people coming together from around the world with a belief that hard work and willingness to support each other will enable them overcome whatever challenges are faced, to succeed. Raleigh International’s expedition programme has enabled thousands of people to have this opportunity, to learn from each other and to demonstrate that the power of the human spirit can enable us all to achieve great things. Long after my time there, I continue to be influenced by Sabah in how I view the world and my optimism for the future.

I am passionate about Raleigh International and believe its future is very bright given the continuing development of the organisation and the global impact it has. Here in Australia my work with Raleigh’s partner, Bridging the Gap, allows me to continue to provide the opportunity to young people and of course Sabah is the first word I utter.

Many congratulations to Raleigh International and the people of Sabah on this 10th anniversary. I believe there will be many more to come.’

Andy Wahid
Country Director, Raleigh Borneo  2002
Tengku Adlin

Tengku Adlin is the Honorary Vice President of Raleigh Borneo and has been Chairman of the Sabah Tourist Board since 2007. Tengku also holds positions as Vice President Emeritus of the WWF Malaysia. Previously he was a trustee of WWF International and Chairman of the Danum Valley and Maliau Basin Conservation Areas amongst other senior positions.

Tengku is an author of numerous books on nature and adventure and has undertaken countless expeditions to unexplored or lesser known areas of Sabah. A new species of the largest flower in the world, Rafflesia-tengku adlini is named after him. Tengku has received numerous awards in recognition of his contribution to conservation.

Tengku was one of the reasons Raleigh International first came to Borneo. Back in 1987, when we were known as Operation Drake and later Operation Raleigh, Tengku invited our teams to help with environmental conservation projects with the Royal Society in Danum Valley. With Tengku’s support, we have continued to work in Sabah on environmental protection and conservation projects since then.

Tengku believes Raleigh International’s work has been and continues to be important in Sabah. It promotes international understanding, provides essential assistance to scientists helping to conserve and protect the environment as well as supporting community development. With Raleigh’s help he says ‘things move faster, better and people see change’
Introduction Summary of Achievements

Raleigh International has been running expeditions from a permanent base in Borneo for the past decade. This report aims to assess the impact and celebrate the achievements of these ten years by telling the stories of the partners, programmes and participants Raleigh has worked with during this time.

Raleigh is a youth and sustainable development charity working through its volunteers in partnership with poor and marginalised communities. The organisation delivers individual development, sustainable community development and environmental protection in the pursuit of its vision of the creation of a global community delivering a sustainable future. They take practical action to enable access to the most basic services and to protect and sustain precious natural environments.

Since it was founded in 1984, Raleigh International has created a global community of more than 36,000 inspired and inspiring people, committed to making a difference to their world. The organisation currently operates in Borneo, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, India and Tanzania. Raleigh’s 2011-13 Strategic Framework outlines a renewed commitment to ‘building the evidence and recognition of the impact of Raleigh International’ (Raleigh International, 2012).

The researcher, Pip Crockett, spent three months as a volunteer with Raleigh Borneo compiling this Summary of Achievements between September and December 2012. The report results from a combination of consolidating existing records, undertaking primary field research and conducting interviews and surveys with project partners, community members and host country participants. Pip recently completed an MSc in Africa and International Development at the University of Edinburgh and has previously worked in Raleigh’s London office. In 2009, she participated in a ten-week expedition to India.

This report summarises the key programmatic areas of Raleigh Borneo’s work in Sabah and the activities the organisation undertakes. It outlines why Raleigh is based in Sabah and the partners they work alongside in the state. Under the themes of community development and poverty alleviation, environmental protection and conservation, and personal development and active global citizenship, the report overviews Raleigh Borneo’s work in more detail through case studies and interview extracts, outlining reported successes and challenges, and summarising key facts and figures.
Raleigh by numbers

Over the last 10 years, Raleigh Borneo has run 31 expeditions for 2,992 volunteers from around the world, including 319 host-country volunteers from Sabah and Peninsular Malaysia. Raleigh volunteers have completed over 200 projects, working alongside 15 partner organisations.

Community development

In 65 rural communities across Sabah, Raleigh volunteers have constructed:

- 20 community learning centres to support education for children and adults and sustain traditional language and customs
- 5 kindergartens to support children's access to formal primary education
- 5 community halls to provide a communal meeting area, promoting community empowerment
- 3 libraries to encourage literacy in rural areas
- 1 school hostel to improve access to education for children from rural areas
- 29 gravity-fed water systems to provide clean and reliable water supplies to remote communities
- 2 improved sanitation facilities

Environmental conservation

In 4 primary rainforest reserves, Raleigh volunteers have undertaken work on:

- 3 remote research camps, 2 water tanks and 1 gravity feed water system to support the crucial work of scientists and researchers
- 2 suspension bridges and trail-cutting to improve access to unexplored jungle
- 9 surveys to document biodiversity and aid conservation efforts
- 1 sunbear conservation centre to raise awareness of the species and the threats they face
Background Programmes

Community development and poverty reduction
Access to education Millennium Development Goal 2 aims to ensure access to primary education for children everywhere. In Borneo, the majority of Sabahans have access to primary school. However, pre-school education, an essential building block to educational attainment, is lagging behind in rural areas. Raleigh Borneo works to increase access to pre-school and adult education provision in marginalised rural communities. Raleigh works in partnership with local NGOs to build community infrastructure such as kindergartens, community learning centres and libraries. This work includes the provision and training of teaching staff.

Access to safe water and sanitation
Millennium Development Goal 7 aims to improve access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation. In rural areas of Sabah there remain considerable numbers of people without these amenities. Raleigh Borneo works with a number of partners to install gravity feed systems and toilet facilities in communities across the state.

Environmental protection and conservation
Millennium Development Goal 7 aims to reduce the loss of biodiversity. Borneo is home to some of the world’s remotest and most ecologically diverse habitats. The island’s world-renowned conservation zones need protection from further deforestation. Raleigh Borneo works with partners to develop infrastructure within the conservation zones that assists the work of rangers, scientists and other staff, as well as encouraging sustainable tourism.

Personal development and active global citizenship
Through engaging in worthwhile and challenging projects, Raleigh expeditions help participants become more aware of their own values, perceptions and respect the diversity of others. They recognise that we live in an interdependent world and through first-hand experience, develop understanding and passion for social justice, sustainable development and our environment. Participants develop their leadership, teamwork and cross-cultural knowledge, skills and abilities, while positively impacting on their personal aspirations.

An expedition is intended to be a transformational journey for all who participate, encouraging a sense of global citizenship, purpose and self-belief by immersing participants in unfamiliar communities and cultures and extraordinary environments. As well as recruiting young volunteers from the local country to every expedition, Raleigh works alongside a variety of national and international youth agencies to ensure a diverse range of backgrounds on every expedition.

Personal development is a hugely important aspect of Raleigh’s work, and the adventure project in particular is designed to challenge volunteers physically and mentally, encourage teamwork and build leadership capabilities. In Borneo, all venturers are encouraged to use a Personal Development Journal (PDJ) to document their expedition journey, reflect on their experiences, strengths and weaknesses, and receive feedback from both peers and project managers.
Gender equality

Millennium Development Goal 3 aims to promote gender equality and empower women. This is a cross-cutting issue in Raleigh’s programmes. For instance, kindergartens and community learning centres are utilised for women’s groups and improved access to water saves time and improves health.

Alumni and societies

Crucially, Raleigh has always challenged people to put global citizenship into action once they have benefited from the transformational development of an expedition. The organisation actively supports an international network of alumni to carry on making a difference whether locally or internationally. Raleigh has an international community of over 36,000 alumni in 94 countries across the world. A great many of these individuals continue to make a difference and a contribution to their communities on their return. It may be that their spirit of adventure and the passion, inspiration and motivation they gained from Raleigh has led them to a career in a development organisation or even to have set up their own community organisations. It may be that their commitment to service means that they continue to volunteer in their own community or to tackle conservation and environment projects at home.

Other alumni have established their own Raleigh Societies – alumni-driven volunteering organisations. Raleigh has active Societies in Hong Kong, Uganda, Singapore, Malaysia, Bermuda, New Zealand, England, Ghana, China, India, Chile, Costa Rica and Nicaragua.

Expedition activities

On expedition, every venturer has the opportunity to participate in at least two of the following activities:

**Community Development Volunteers** work alongside the local community and project partners on sustainable development projects that enable access to basic services. Projects are often in remote, rural and marginalised communities. Living and working so closely with local people is a great opportunity to learn and share about each others’ culture, traditions, languages and lives.

**Environmental Conservation Volunteers** carry out conservation work, mostly in areas not accessible to tourists, that increases access to or protects the environment, supports research, or raises awareness.

**Adventure** These projects are designed as the most physically challenging phase of an expedition. It is often found to be the hardest and consequently most personally rewarding element of the expedition. The groups make wilderness campsites overnight and carry and cook their own food and water, taking all waste with them. We teach the volunteers to ‘leave only footprints and take only photographs’.
Background Raleigh in Borneo

Why Sabah?

In 2012, Sabah remains the poorest state in Malaysia. Although poverty rates have declined significantly over the last two decades, Sabah remains the only state which has so far failed to achieve the Millennium Development Goal to halve between 1990 and 2015 the number of people living on less than $1 per day. Currently, 19.7 percent of Sabah’s population lives below this poverty line. In 2007, almost half of children living in poverty in Malaysia were resident in Sabah.

Although, nationally, Malaysia is close to achieving universal primary education, non-attendance and dropout rates remain high throughout Sabah. In addition, literacy among 17 to 24 year olds had actually decreased over the last decade to 93.4 percent. With the exception of one other state, Malaysia has otherwise achieved literacy rates of over 98%.

Coverage of potable water supplies has exceeded 90 percent in all states except Sabah and neighbouring Sarawak. Here, provision of improved water supplies has struggled to keep up with an annual population growth rate of 2-3 percent, and in Sabah, only around 68 percent of households have access to an improved water source. It is also the state with the lowest rate of access to improved sanitation facilities, although the figure currently stands at over 90 percent of households.

Malaysia has been recognised by the United Nations as one of 12 mega biologically diverse countries, with 286 species of mammals, 150,000 species of invertebrates, over 1,000 species of butterflies, 12,000 species of moths, and over 4,000 species of marine fish in the country. The continued discovery of new species shows that the full extent of the country’s biodiversity is still not known.
Background Partners in Sabah

‘Raleigh Borneo has carried out many projects in the state of Sabah for the benefits of rural communities, particularly in the ‘hard to reach’ and impoverished areas that are populated by subsistence farmers and fishing communities. By constructing kindergartens in these areas, Raleigh Borneo’s initiatives have helped to create awareness of what might become possible when shared values are put into practice. It has to be said that the construction of the kindergartens within the self-imposed time frame by the volunteers could only have happened when there was co-operation and co-ordination as well as complete dedication by all concerned.’

Chin Tseng Kheong, Political Secretary to the Minister of Rural Development, Sabah, Borneo

In order to ensure worthwhile and sustainable projects for its volunteers, Raleigh Borneo works alongside the government and a range of project partners to identify and deliver community development and environmental conservation initiatives in the regions of Sabah where they are most needed.

Current Partners

The Asian Forestry Company

The Asian Forestry Company (AFC) is one of Raleigh’s newest partners in Sabah. The company’s vision is ‘to create world-class sustainable planted forest projects incorporating best practices of conservation, research and community development’ (AFC, 2012). Since 2009, Raleigh and AFC have been collaborating to deliver projects under AFC’s Community Development Master Plan. AFC currently rents 60,000 hectares of land from the Malaysian government for logging and replanting activities in the north of the state. Within this area, 54 villages are being supported to improve community infrastructure and livelihoods. AFC works alongside these communities to ascertain their priorities and implement their own community-level development plans. In a socio-economic survey conducted in collaboration with PACOS in 2008, communities identified their development priorities as access to water, healthcare, education and food production. Over the last three years, Raleigh and AFC have worked together on 25 individual projects to provide clean water and pre-school education across Pitas district, and monitor biodiversity to justify and extend protected forest areas.
The Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre (BSBCC) was established in 2008 in conjunction with the Sabah Wildlife Department, Sabah Forestry Department and Sabahan NGO Land Empowerment Animals People (LEAP). It is the only centre in Sabah dedicated to promoting sunbear conservation, rehabilitation, education and research. Currently, the centre is home to 27 orphaned or ex-captive sunbears, the majority of which will be reintroduced into the wild once their rehabilitation is complete. There are plans to open the centre to the public in early 2013, enhancing its capacity for education and raising awareness of the sunbear and threats facing the species. Raleigh has been working alongside BSBCC since 2009 to install infrastructure to support and house the sunbears and improve access for visitors and keepers.

PACOS Trust was established in 1987 and is one of Raleigh’s longest standing project partners. The organisation’s vision is ‘to empower indigenous communities through systematic building and strengthening of community organisations’ (PACOS, 2012). PACOS’ primary activities include training communities in natural resource management, indigenous land rights and land tenure issues, and providing facilities and teacher training to enhance community education. Since 2002, Raleigh and PACOS have collaborated to provide community learning centres for 15 villages across Sabah.

Since 2002, Raleigh Borneo’s environmental projects have been primarily sourced and supported by the state government organisation, Yayasan Sabah. The organisation’s stated aim is to ‘maximise the potential of the forests for all Sabahans’, and it provides facilities for research and development in conservation areas across the state, including Danum Valley, Imbak Canyon and Maliau Basin. Over the last decade, Raleigh and Yayasan Sabah have collaborated on numerous projects, particularly around infrastructure to support research within protected areas.
Previous Partners

**World Wildlife Fund (WWF)**

WWF is committed to environmental protection and nature conservation in Malaysia. The organisation also undertakes scientific field research to support its work, and is involved in awareness raising and environmental education. WWF Malaysia works alongside communities to improve livelihoods, whilst encouraging participation in conservation and reducing reliance on natural resources.

Raleigh has worked alongside WWF on a number of key projects throughout the last decade, including the construction of the eco-camp at Kg. Batu Puteh (2002-9) and workshop and eco-sanitation toilets on Pulau Maliangin in Kudat (2009).

**Malaysian Red Crescent**

The Malaysian Red Crescent is a national society of the Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. It works in areas of humanitarian relief and disaster management, and longer-term community development. Between 2004 and 2006, Raleigh worked alongside the Malaysian Red Crescent to construct community halls in three communities.

**Sabah State Libraries (SSL)**

Sabah State Libraries was established in 1957 to provide library and information services for communities in Sabah. The organisation’s mission is ‘to build a knowledgeable society and create a reading culture’, and to eliminate illiteracy, particularly in rural areas. Between 2003 and 2006, Raleigh worked in conjunction with SSL to identify and construct community libraries in 3 kampungs across Sabah.
Community Development & Poverty Reduction
An overview of Raleigh Borneo's work
Target 2.a:
Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling.

‘Children who cannot read and write have far fewer opportunities for self improvement… [Literate children] can learn and acquire more knowledge, attain life skills and gain more confidence in their own abilities. They can share their knowledge with others and may even be able to convince someone else of the value of an education for every child.’

UNICEF Malaysia (2012)

Over the past decade, the number of children out of school in Southern Asia has halved. However, despite making huge progress, it appears unlikely that universal primary education will be achieved in the next three years, and there remain 18 million unenrolled children in the region in 2012 (UNDP, 2012). Although, nationally, Malaysia is close to achieving universal primary education, non-attendance and dropout rates remain high throughout Sabah. In addition, literacy among 17 to 24 year olds has actually decreased over the last decade to 93.4 percent. With the exception of one other state, Malaysia has otherwise achieved literacy rates of over 98 percent.

Raleigh Borneo works alongside community partners to provide essential educational facilities for both children and adults in communities across Sabah.
Projects Overview

Since 2002, Raleigh Borneo has worked alongside a variety of partner organisations to provide vital education infrastructure to communities across Sabah. Projects have focussed primarily on the provision of kindergartens and community learning centres (CLCs) to increase access to early-years education, although volunteers have also undertaken the construction of a number of libraries, community halls, and, in 2007, a school hostel.

### Education infrastructure 2002-2012

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Location</th>
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*see Appendix 2*
PACOS has been working with Raleigh since 2002 to establish community learning centres across the state. These centres provide a space for a variety of activities, including pre-school and adult education, agricultural associations, and women’s and craft groups. Between 2003 and 2006, Raleigh partnered with Sabah State Libraries to construct 3 community libraries, all of which remain functional and now offer additional services such as internet access. More recently, AFC (Asian Forestry Company) has worked in conjunction with Raleigh to establish community halls and kindergartens in communities in Sabah’s poorest region, Pitas.

General outcomes

The impacts of education are all-encompassing. At the national level, education plays an important role in Malaysia’s economic growth and poverty reduction efforts, encouraging individual upward mobility and capacity-building within the population. Education is a key step in reducing disparities in wealth and opportunities for crime. It is also crucial in encouraging and empowering people to improve standards of living and protect their own health and wellbeing. For example, research shows that each additional year of schooling for 1,000 women will prevent two maternal deaths (UNICEF Malaysia, 2012).

Provision of kindergarten facilities is particularly important under the Malaysian education system, where it is generally assumed that children will attend pre-school or kindergarten in order to achieve a basic level of literacy before entering mainstream education at the age of 6. Access to pre-primary education is generally reflected in a child’s future educational attainment, and children who attend pre-school are less likely to drop out in later years (UNDP, 2012). Currently, 71 percent of Malaysian children are enrolled in either pre-school or kindergarten. Although 88 percent of Sabahan children reach their final year of primary school, secondary enrollment is the lowest in Malaysia, with rural areas particularly lagging behind. The development of hostel accommodation at primary and secondary schools throughout the country has, however, contributed towards greater enrollment and attendance among children from rural areas.

There is also a well-documented link between high poverty rates and low literacy rates, and Sabah remains the poorest state in Malaysia. The construction of library facilities in remote villages across Sabah has increased interest in reading and improved access to resources, and is an important tool in eradicating illiteracy in remote and rural areas.
Case Study
Community Learning Centre and Micro-Hydro Electricity System, Kg. Terian

Background
Kg. Terian is a village of around 300 residents located in the Crocker Range, 15 kilometres from Kota Kinabalu. The kampung has hosted two groups of Raleigh volunteers over the last 7 years; the first, in 2005, assisted in the installation of the first micro-hydro system in Sabah to generate electricity for the community. On the most recent expedition in 2012, volunteers returned to Kg. Terian to construct a kindergarten to replace the existing pre-school building. Both projects were planned and proposed by the village.

Impact
Prior to the installation of the micro-hydro plant, villagers relied on candles and kerosene lamps for light in the evenings, which could only be purchased from the nearest town, 10 hours’ walk away. The arrival of electricity in Kg. Terian allows villagers to work later on homework, crafts and other activities, increasing the number of productive hours in the day.

In June 2012, the region experienced flash flooding which damaged the micro-hydro system. This forced the community to temporarily revert to gas for lighting and cooking and the dangers of their previous way of living were highlighted when two houses burned down in December 2012 when kerosene lamps were knocked over. This has provided the community with even more motivation to repair the system and the villagers are confident that they can fix it themselves. The villagers recently completed a number of other community infrastructure projects – including the community hall and kindergarten – and are now turning their attention to repairing the damaged pipes of the micro-hydro system.

Previously, around 20 children attended Kg. Terian’s dilapidated kindergarten; 15 from the village and 5 from neighbouring kampungs. The new kindergarten will enable and encourage more children from surrounding villages to attend kindergarten in coming years. There is already a primary school in the village that employs 2 teachers and is attended by over 20 children. At present, there are two children enrolled from Kg. Ponopongan approximately 4 hours’ trek away who will remain in Kg. Terian with relatives during term time.

Earlier in 2012, the village requested a new kindergarten to replace the run-down building used previously. The original structure was actually a storage area belonging to the primary school and can now be used in this capacity once again. The existing kindergarten was too small to accommodate the children currently in attendance. The larger structure offers more space and provides an opportunity for a more effective learning experience; rather than solely teacher-led learning, there will be more opportunity for a more interactive style of education and free play. It also allows teachers the option to teach different age groups separately.
According to project partner PACOS, community learning centres also have impacts beyond pre-school education. They are also utilised as community centres for meeting, resource and information exchange, and other community-related activities. They are important in sharing and preserving traditional knowledge and customs including indigenous languages, handicrafts and traditional medicine, and for youth and adult education. In Kg. Terian, the kindergarten will also be used for a women’s craft class, a study space for children during the school holidays, and a space for sharing Dusun culture and cooking with visitors and younger generations.

During both expeditions the community and partners observed that the volunteers worked hard, behaved well, and showed strong commitment to the projects. Volunteers also made significant efforts in terms of integrating with the wider community, organising and participating in activities including sports matches, English and Malay lessons, traditional crafts, and homestays with members of the community.

“We are excited about the new building and the space it provides. We are very proud of the new kindergarten and pleased that Raleigh has considered the needs of our community.”

Lasani Kindergarten Teacher
Case Study
Community Library, Kg. Pahu

Background

Kg. Pahu is a village of approximately 250 people located south-east of Kota Kinabalu. The village made a request in the 1990s for a library but the proposal was rejected. However, in 2004, Sabah State Libraries approached Raleigh to assist with the construction of a community library. Kg. Pahu was one of 45 villages involved in a programme by Sabah State Libraries to encourage reading among rural communities and to provide reading materials for both study and recreation. When the Raleigh group arrived in 2004, the kampung was lacking many basic amenities including electricity and telephone service, and the nearest education facility was 3 kilometres away.

Impact

The library’s most important function is to provide educational support to children and students who would otherwise have to travel almost 30 kilometres to the nearest town, Tambunan, to access materials for study. There is a small reference library in the nearest secondary school, approximately 3 kilometres away, although the available resources are limited. Reflecting this, the library’s busiest periods are during school holidays when village children return from hostel accommodation to spend time with their families. The library stocks over 8,000 resources, including a huge variety of both fiction and non-fiction books, study guides, children’s reading aids, dictionaries, magazines and newspapers. There are also three computers offering free internet access to members. The library currently has 575 members, some of whom are resident in neighbouring villages. Sabah State Libraries have encouraged a number of activities in its village libraries to enhance the general reading culture, including activity days and reading groups. Community members observed that the construction of the library made accessing and improving knowledge easier.

There are plans to extend the building in 2013 in order to provide more space for study and additional resources. Although internet access is sporadic, it has proved to be a popular addition, particularly for social networking and communications. The facility also provides a study space for younger children who finish school in the early afternoon.

Aside from working on the construction of the library, the group was also very involved with the local community, joining in with village life, harvesting paddy, tapping rubber trees, organising English lessons for the children, and teaching songs and dances from their home countries. Members of the community observed that the volunteers were ‘hardworking and diligent’.

‘Even if we cannot yet have access to electricity, we can have access to knowledge.’
Resident Kg. Pahu, 2004

‘We acted as though the volunteers were our family, and Kg. Pahu was their second home. We held discussions, played games, learned English and taught Malay.’
Resident Kg. Pahu, 2012
Case Study
Agas Dondongon, JKKK

Background
Agas Dondongon is the JKKK (Village Development Chairman) of Kg. Vunui Lokos, a village of approximately 200 people in Sabah’s Pitas district. The village is one of 54 currently being supported by the Asian Forestry Company’s social development programme. The village is very isolated, reached by a poorly maintained dirt road which is often impassable during the wet season. When Raleigh first visited Kg. Vunui Lokos in 2010, it lacked many basic amenities including a running water supply, electricity, medical and education facilities, and communal meeting area.

In 2010, two Raleigh expeditions visited Kg. Vunui Lokos. Between January and April, Raleigh volunteers installed a gravity feed water system to supply around half of the village’s 36 households with a clean and reliable water supply. Later in the year, another group of volunteers returned to construct a community hall. In the summer of 2012, a third group of volunteers were involved in the construction of a toilet block alongside the balai raya.

The projects were identified through a combination of community meetings and needs assessments. In 2008, PACOS and AFC undertook a joint survey of the villages within the land rented by AFC to identify and document the needs of each community. In Kg. Vunui Lokos, provision of clean water was designated as the community’s priority.

Impacts
Prior to the installation of the gravity feed water system, families used two primary water sources; rainwater harvesting and the local river approximately 1.5 kilometres away. Both sources are highly dependent on the time of year; during the dry season, rain is an unreliable source of water, and the river tends to be too muddy for drinking during the wet season due to topsoil run-off. Agas credits the system with reducing the amount of time spent collecting water as well as the incidence of water-borne diseases among the community.
‘Needless to say, the gravity feed water system is a boon to many of the villagers, especially the women who are the backbone of the community. It is the women who spend most of their time getting water to their families. Having easy access to water saves time and energy. However, having clean water also brings many more benefits. The simple act of washing in running water as opposed to stagnant water or re-used water brings about far greater sanitation and hygiene levels. For the children, illnesses resulting from lack of clean water can affect attendance at school.’

Asian Forestry Company Community Development Programme Report, 2012

The original community building in Kg. Vunui Lokos collapsed in 1999. Since then, the village relied upon community members holding both meetings and the weekly church service in their own homes. The construction of the new balai raya in Kg. Vunui Lokos has provided a communal area in which community members can gather for group activities, social support, public information and special events and celebrations. Providing a formal meeting place contributes to village cohesion and organisation, as well as empowering the community to form committees and associations to make decisions about the future of the village and further infrastructure development. The community hall is also used weekly for church, and provides a base for the mobile clinic which visits the village approximately once a month. The clinic is hugely important as it offers basic medicine, infant weighing facilities and malaria testing. In addition, the community hall is currently being utilised as living quarters for government contractors installing electricity in the village. Agas observes that there is no other communal building which could otherwise have housed the workers, and as such it has played a central role in bringing electricity to the village.

In terms of involvement with the community of Kg. Vunui Lokos, Agas describes a good relationship between the Raleigh volunteers and community members. The project was successfully completed through teamwork, and a number of joint activities – particularly sports and karaoke! – were organised by the volunteers.
Target 7.c:
Halve, by 2015, the proportion of the population without access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation

The world is on track to meet - or even exceed - the drinking water target if trends continue. By 2015, it is estimated that 86 percent of the population in developing countries will have access to an improved water source. South Asia is among those areas which have already succeeded in meeting the target. However, there are still huge numbers of people, particularly in rural areas, who remain without access to a safe and reliable water source.

There are a myriad of benefits associated with the provision of a safe and reliable water supply. Since 2002, Raleigh volunteers have worked alongside a variety of partners to bring clean water and sanitation facilities to communities in Sabah.

Community:
Providing clean water through gravity feed water systems

Projects Overview
Raleigh works alongside a number of project partners to install gravity feed water systems in rural communities across Sabah. Since 2002, Raleigh volunteers have installed a total of 29 gravity feed water systems, the vast majority of which remain functional and in good repair.

General Outcomes
One of the key benefits of access to safe water is improved community health. Water-related illnesses are the most common cause of death among the poor of developing countries (World Water Council, 2012). The World Health Organisation (2012) identifies the main outcome of clean water provision as a reduction in the number of incidences of infectious diarrhoea and a proportionate reduction in the number of deaths, particularly among children. According to the United Nations (2012), increased access to improve water sources across rural Malaysia has dramatically reduced the spread of infectious diseases among rural communities, particularly cholera, typhoid and dysentery.

Another important benefit relating to clean water access is the economic gains associated with reduced illness. These benefits accrue to both individual community members and the health sector in general. Individuals in good health spend less time seeking medical care and accrue less non-productive days, whether in formal or informal employment, household activities or school attendance. In addition, locating water access points closer to the community also results in time savings for community members, improving school attendance among school-aged children and productivity among working adults. Raleigh aims to install taps within 20 metres of houses wherever possible in order to maximise these time benefits.
Gravity Feed Water Systems 2002-12

2002 Kg. Balat PACOS
2002 Kg. Gana PACOS, Sabah Forestry Dept
2002 Danum Valley The Royal society, Yayasan Sabah
2004 Kg. Maliau PACOS
2004 Kg Nomukon PACOS
2004 Kg Minusoh PACOS
2004 Kg Liu Pampang PACOS
2005 Kg Saguna PACOS
2006 Kg Paus PACOS
2006 Kg Linapasan and Mohimboyan PACOS
2006 Kg Linapasan and Mohimboyan Sabah forestry dept
2007 Kg Saguna PACOS
2007 Kg Sosondoton and Miruru PACOS
2007 Kg Ambong Luyang Rotary Club of Kota Kinabalu
2008 Kg Tungou PACOS
2008 Kg Tudan PACOS
2008 Kg Mananam PACOS
2009 Kg Rugading PACOS
2009 Kg Tampasak Sabah forestry dept
2009 Kg Pinapak PACOS, AFC
2009 Kg Ratau PACOS
2009 Kg Kemboronogoh PACOS
2009 Kg Nibang AFC
2010 Kg Kopuron PACOS
2010 Kg Lingka Bugan 2 AFC, PACOS
2010 Kg Vunui Lokos AFC, PACOS
2010 Kg Bombong Tiga AFC
2010 Kg Monguwou AFC
2010 Kg Maliau Pusat AFC
2010 Mallau Basin Yayasan Sabah
2011 Kg Solungkapit AFC
2011 Maliangin Island WWF
2011 Kg Toboh Pahu PACOS
2011 Talawas Yayasan Sabah
2011 Pulau Maliangin WWF
2011 Kg Bambangan Sook AFC
2011 Kg Mandurian Laut AFC
2012 Kg Nibang AFC
2012 Kg Pantai & Kg Lihang AFC
2012 Kg Imusan PACOS
2012 Kg Mandurian Laut AFC
2012 Kg Lalapakon & Mansiat PACOS
2012 Kg Boribi N/A
2012 Kg Bambangan Ulu AFC
2012 Kg Nungguh AFC

29 rural communities
15 community learning centres
5 kindergartens
5 community halls
3 libraries
1 school hostel
Case Study
Rosumad Gandul, Headman

Background
Rosumad is headman of Kg. Mandurian Laut, a village of around 200 residents located in Pitas, the poorest region of Sabah and one of the least developed in the whole of Malaysia. The kampung is one of 54 covered under the community development agenda of Raleigh’s project partner AFC. The majority of community members sustain livelihoods based on subsistence farming and the sale of crops.

Project History
To date, Kg. Mandurian Laut has hosted three separate Raleigh groups; two core expeditions and a bespoke expedition in conjunction with the Junior Lawyer’s Division (JLD). In August 2011, Raleigh volunteers undertook a three-week project to install gravity feed water systems serving approximately 27 houses. In early 2012, the JLD group installed a second system to supply a further 10 houses, and the Spring expedition constructed a kindergarten in the village over 10 weeks. The Asian Forestry Company provided logistical support and guidance for the gravity feed water projects, while the technical expertise for the kindergarten was sourced by Raleigh.

Impacts
The community is still working towards the projects reaching their full potential. Discussions between AFC, Raleigh, government officials and community leaders are working towards securing a full-time teacher. Rosumad’s daughter recently applied to undergo teacher training with another of Raleigh’s project partners, PACOS, and is a potential candidate to fill the role or the government body KEMAS will provide a teacher. The village currently has 25 children of kindergarten age, five of whom attend kindergarten in the neighbouring villages of Dandun (3.9 kilometres walk) and Solan Kapit (2.9 kilometres walk). The remaining 20 children do not currently attend kindergarten.
The kindergartens are an integral part of the early childhood education for children of the rural villages where government schools are located far away. Due to the distance, young children rarely attend preschool education. Having a kindergarten in close proximity changes this and brings immeasurable benefits to these children. Easy access to school means fewer resources necessary to attend one. Where cost can be an issue, the price of a litre of fuel is the difference between learning and not having the opportunity.

When the monsoon season arrives, the rivers swell and the roads sometimes become impassable as so it is essential to have the school in close proximity of the home. Rural children often encounter a learning gap between children from towns and cities that are usually exposed to formalised learning at an earlier age. By having being exposed to the education system early, the children tend to get into the routine of going to school easier; the kindergarten provides a prelude to the next level of school environment, thus preparing the child and increasing drastically his chances of success. Entering into a primary school knowing and understanding at least the alphabet makes a world of difference, both in terms of knowledge and the self esteem of that child. This puts the child in a far better position to cope with the first year of school and is more likely to enjoy and therefore excel at school.

For the adults, knowing that they have played a part in making sure that the children have early education helps in setting their minds to the importance of education, especially where they have played a part in the identification of the land and the building of the structure in the village. Furthermore, as it is often the case that key adults from the village are assigned to bring a group of children to attend kindergarten in the neighboring village (which can be miles away, and requires considerable time and effort) accompanying the children to school on a daily basis. The construction of a kindergarten in the village allows adults to carry on with their daily chores and economic activities.

Asian Forestry Company Community Development Programme Report, 2012

Community members no longer fetch water from the nearby river, saving them time and ensuring a cleaner supply. Rosumad has expressed his happiness about the convenience of having taps near the house, particularly for the children to use before school in the mornings.

In addition, Raleigh’s volunteers have brought a number of unexpected benefits aside from the projects themselves. This includes an opportunity for cultural exchange, including games and attending church services with the community. Raleigh volunteers taught English to both children and adults on a number of occasions. The groups lived in the community hall immediately adjacent to Rosumad’s house, and regularly joined him and his family for meals and karaoke! Rosumad holds Raleigh in high regard, praising the effort of the groups in finishing on time, and has suggested a number of projects for consideration in the future. Other villages have requested that Raleigh groups carry out similar projects following the positive experience in Mandurian Laut.
Environmental Conservation & Protection
An overview of Raleigh Borneo’s work
Target 7.B: Reduce biodiversity loss, achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate of loss.

‘The loss of biodiversity and the degradation of natural resources impact first and foremost the poor and the women and the vulnerable and we should not forget that three quarters of the world’s population depend on natural resources for their daily living and their daily survival, from the food, the shelter, the recreation, everything; three quarters of the world population is directly related to biodiversity on this planet.’

Vande Veerleweed Director, UNDP Environment and Energy Group (2010)

The world has failed to achieve the 2010 target for biodiversity conservation. Although rates have slowed, deforestation remains alarmingly high, particularly in some of the world’s most biologically diverse regions, and threatened habitats are not being adequately protected. Nearly 17,000 species are at risk of extinction, and the number continues to grow. In addition, preserving biodiversity is a crucial factor in reducing poverty and encouraging economic development. Degradation of natural resources and loss of biodiversity impacts most heavily on the world’s poorest people who are directly dependent on natural resources for daily survival and livelihoods (UN, 2010).

In Malaysia, the proliferation of logging and palm oil plantations have contributed to the loss of huge areas of rainforest, crucial habitats for some of the world’s most vulnerable flora and fauna. Raleigh Borneo’s environmental projects allow volunteers a unique opportunity to live and work in some of the remotest and most ecologically diverse habitats in the world, and alongside rare and endangered species. Since 2002, volunteers have been involved in a multitude of projects aimed at protecting Sabah’s outstanding biodiversity for generations to come, including infrastructure development in world-renowned conservation zones, and research to support proposals for further designated reserves.
Projects Overview

Since 2002, Raleigh has worked alongside Yayasan Sabah (The Sabah Foundation) in three of Sabah’s principal conservation areas - Danum Valley, Imbak Canyon and Maliau Basin. Projects have revolved primarily around infrastructure development in order to support rangers, scientists and other permanent staff and visitors in their work. A number of projects, including trail-cutting and bridge construction, have improved access to remote areas, while others allow the long-term accommodation of personnel within the conservation areas.

Volunteers have also been involved in providing infrastructure for the protection of endangered species. In 2003, Raleigh groups worked on a project to improve access in Tabin Wildlife Park, home to significant populations of Sumatran rhinoceros, Asian elephant and orangutan. More recently, volunteers have undertaken work to improve infrastructure at the Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre in Sepilok, including the construction of boardwalks, fencing and bridges. This year, Raleigh groups have worked on the construction of an enrichment area to improve the habitat for sunbears during their rehabilitation.

Case Study

Danum Valley

Background

Danum Valley is the principal expanse of protected lowland forest in Sabah, and one of the largest in South East Asia; a remnant of the pristine rainforest that used to cover most of Borneo. The conservation area, totaling 43,800 hectares, is home to a huge variety of flora and fauna, including 120 mammal species, 344 species of bird and 40 species of fish, including several unique and recently discovered species. Danum Valley is recognised as one of the world’s most complex ecosystems, unique in its freedom from human inhabitation and interference prior to its designation as a conservation zone, and the Danum Valley Field Centre has been described as ‘probably the leading rainforest research centre in the Old World tropics’ (SEARRP, 2012). In 1995, the area was designated as a Class I, fully protected forest reserve in recognition of its outstanding biodiversity value. It is also significant as a wildlife corridor linking Imbak Canyon to the north and Maliau Basin in the west. A number of smaller protected areas linked by corridors are likely to conserve a wider variety of species than a single, large conservation area as they provide greater foraging range and prevent inbreeding among remnant wildlife populations.
The valley is home to all 10 species of primate found in Sabah, including orangutans and proboscis monkeys, as well as Bornean pygmy elephants, Malayan sunbears and clouded leopards. It also one of the last refuges of the critically endangered Sumatran rhinoceros, and home to 6 of Sabah’s 10 Totally Protected species. Since 2002, Danum Valley has been involved in the Royal Society’s Sabah Biodiversity Experiment, aimed at understanding and documenting the impacts of the loss of tree biodiversity in tropical ecosystems.

**Conservation infrastructure 2002-12**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Danum Valley</td>
<td>Construction of building</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Maliau Basin</td>
<td>Trail-cutting</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
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<td>Construction of building</td>
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<td>Maliau Basin</td>
<td>Construction of research centre</td>
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<td>Tabin</td>
<td>Trail-cutting</td>
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<td>2004</td>
<td>Danum Valley</td>
<td>Gravity feed water system</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Maliau Basin</td>
<td>Construction of research centre</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tabin</td>
<td>Construction of campsite</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
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<td>Trail-cutting</td>
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<td>Imbak Canyon</td>
<td>Construction of research station</td>
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<td>Tabin</td>
<td>Suspension bridge</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Construction of research station</td>
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<td>2006</td>
<td>Danum Valley</td>
<td>Trail-cutting</td>
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<td>Imbak Canyon</td>
<td>Construction of research station</td>
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<td>2007</td>
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<td>Taliwas</td>
<td>Gravity feed water system</td>
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<td>2012</td>
<td>Danum Valley</td>
<td>Construction of research camp</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Construction of water tanks</td>
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Project History

Raleigh first visited in Danum Valley during a one-off expedition in 1987. During this time, volunteers worked on the construction of Raleigh Cabin, a remote outpost in the area of Kuala Sabran. Subsequently, Raleigh has been involved with Yayasan Sabah and The Royal Society in Danum Valley since the establishment of its permanent base in Sabah in 2002. In late 2002, volunteers began construction of Mengaris Camp, a semi-permanent camp primarily designed to accommodate scientists conducting research within Danum Valley, but which has also been utilised by subsequent Raleigh groups as living quarters. More recently, in 2011, volunteers were also involved in the expansion of a second patrolling station and satellite camp at the remote site of Ulu Purut. The volunteers trekked materials 7.8 kilometres into dense jungle in order to establish a permanent base in the heart of Sabah’s rainforest. High demand on the previously existing research station from both tourists and scientists necessitated the creation of additional sleeping accommodation, kitchen, toilets and walkways.

Between 2003 and 2007, volunteers worked on a secondary suspension bridge across the Segama River improving access between the Danum Valley Field Study Centre and the numerous trails leading deeper into the interior. Raleigh volunteers have also contributed to general upkeep and maintenance of Danum Valley Field Centre, allowing the centre’s staff and rangers time to complete more important tasks. In 2003, volunteers also constructed a pagoda structure alongside the DVFC Education Centre and Gallery.
Raleigh’s current work on a number of water tanks around Danum Valley Field Centre and hostel has been described by DVCA Manager Jikos Gidiman as ‘a very important contribution’. Although the centre already has several tanks, these are old, broken in a number of places, and unfiltered. They are also too small to serve the needs of the DVFC and particularly the hostel. The new tanks will increase supply and filter the water ready for drinking for the 41 staff and rangers who are permanent residents of DVFC as well as the centre’s numerous visitors.

Rhino-Ridge suspension bridge has been crucial in improving access to the popular visitor spot of Tembaling Waterfalls. It links the only circular route between the waterfalls and DVFC and is predominantly for visitor use, allowing the major suspension bridge by the research plots to be used by scientists. There are also plans to designate a number of additional research plots in the near future which will be easily accessible via this bridge. The pagoda is currently used primarily for wildlife viewing and briefing school groups but there are plans to utilise it further as a base for biodiversity surveys in the area.

In 2012, Mengaris Camp remains in good repair and is used regularly to accommodate both Raleigh groups and other visitors including school and educational groups and, occasionally, scientists and naturalists. However, it is not as widely used in this capacity as the resthouse or hostel. The camp at Ulu Purut is used by scientists working in the interior of Danum Valley who use it as a satellite camp during extended research. Raleigh Cabin has been described as Raleigh’s most important and prominent project in Danum Valley, serving as a ‘very useful’ jungle outpost, again for scientists conducting research in the interior of the conservation area. However, the infrastructure has deteriorated over time and will require renovation in the near future to remain functional.

Aside from Raleigh’s contribution in terms of infrastructure development, the volunteers themselves have also had a number of significant positive impacts in Danum Valley. One of the principal impacts is the opportunity for cultural and, particularly, language exchange, between the rangers working on the projects and leading jungle treks.

‘The connection between the rangers and Raleigh volunteers is even more important than some of the projects Raleigh has completed. There is an expectation by the rangers that the Raleigh groups will be there, and they look forward to working alongside them. The opportunities for learning English are particularly important as they give rangers greater confidence when interacting with foreign visitors. The volunteers’ efforts at cultural integration and building relationships with rangers have made a very positive impact on the community at Danum Valley Field Centre.’

Jikos Gidiman Manager, Danum Valley Conservation Area
Case Study
Imbak Canyon

Background

Imbak Canyon comprises one of the largest expanses of lowland dipterocarp forest in Sabah; 30,000 hectares of untouched and largely unexplored primary rainforest. The area encompasses two ridge-top virgin jungle reserves and the canyon itself which is 23 kilometres in length and 5 kilometres wide.

In 2008, Imbak Canyon Conservation Area (ICCA) was granted Class I status which prevents any further deforestation or logging within the protected area. The area is ecologically significant for a number of reasons; first, Imbak Canyon has a crucial role as a seed source and gene bank to aid future reforestation, both within Sabah and further afield. Second, it acts as a wildlife corridor between Danum Valley to the east and Maliau Basin in the south, extending the habitat of a number of endangered species including the Bornean pygmy elephant, Sumatran rhinoceros, orangutan and proboscis monkey. In addition, a survey in Imbak Canyon in 2004 highlighted the area as a potential site for biotechnological research, uncovering 55 species of medicinal plants. Finally, Imbak River, originating in Imbak Canyon, forms one of the headwaters of the Kinabatangan River, Sabah’s most important waterway and habitat for a number of rare and endangered species.

The ICCA has two permanent research stations, Tampoi Research Station and Mount Kuli Research Station, as well as a number of satellite camps. In 2006, Imbak Canyon played host to a film crew from the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) and was featured in a series of documentaries titled ‘Expedition Borneo’. During filming, a semi-permanent camp was established adjacent to Imbak Falls – ‘BBC Camp’ – which has since formed the living quarters for a number of succeeding Raleigh groups.

Project History

In 1992, Raleigh (then Operation Raleigh) supported a scientific expedition in Imbak Canyon to formally document the area’s rich biodiversity, during which a new species of tree – dipterocarpus megacarpa – was discovered. Twelve years later, Raleigh returned to Imbak Canyon to embark on a series of infrastructure projects aimed at establishing a permanent ranger station and research base in the area. The first project, in early 2004, involved a biological survey of the canyon’s flora and fauna, mapping of the terrain, and identification of a suitable location for a proposed field study centre. Over six subsequent expeditions (2004-7), Raleigh International volunteers completed three permanent buildings – a hostel, an accommodation block, and a communal kitchen and dining area – which formed the original base for the now well-established Tampoi Research Centre in the heart of the valley.

In 2006, Raleigh embarked on a new project to construct a 300-foot suspension bridge across Imbak River, improving access between BBC Camp and the Bukit-Beruang trail. Raleigh volunteers worked on the construction of the bridge over 8 expeditions (2007-9), and Kangkawat Suspension Bridge was finally completed during in 2009.
Raleigh volunteers have also been engaged in a number of trail-cutting projects within Imbak Canyon including the clearing of a trail loop linking, and improving access between, five existing research stations (2006). During the most recent project in Imbak Canyon, Raleigh groups undertook work on a second suspension bridge across Imbak River and a second research station in the north-west of the conservation zone.

Impact

Undoubtedly, Raleigh’s major impact in Imbak Canyon relates the development of a base of permanent infrastructure. In order for the canyon’s rainforests to secure Class I protection in 2008, the area required a suitable level of infrastructure to house and support the work of various personnel. Tampoi Research Station currently accommodates approximately 40 rangers who accompany visiting groups and scientists, maintain existing camps and trails and construct new ones, and conduct ongoing biodiversity surveys and other research within the conservation area. Data from surveys such as these is currently being used to support Yayasan Sabah’s proposal for a buffer zone around the existing Imbak Canyon Conservation Area and a wildlife corridor linking ICCA with both Maliau Basin and Danum Valley.

As well as housing rangers, Tampoi Research Station is the ICCA’s administrative and managerial centre. A number of programmes have been organised and based there, including scientific expeditions in 2004 and 2010, the BBC’s Expedition Borneo, and a wildlife survey in 2012. The camp also houses visiting national and international tourists, government officials (primarily from Sabah Forestry Department and Sabah Wildlife Department), NGO representatives, and student groups, particularly from the University of Malaysia. The total number of visitors and research groups staying at Tampoi continues to increase annually.

The construction of the suspension bridge has significantly improved all-season access to the canyon and particularly a satellite camp known as Big Belian Camp. Previously, rangers and researchers crossed the river and were often stranded for days at a time on the opposite bank. The loop trail is crucial to rangers carrying out monitoring and maintenance work at the various research stations, as well as for sustainable tourism.

‘The Raleigh groups that have come to Imbak Canyon have had very significant implications, not just in terms of development but also in terms of social relations. The Raleigh groups have shown the rangers how to plan and execute work within a safe environment, as well as the importance of punctuality and teamwork. In terms of social relations, our rangers have had the opportunity to learn the Raleigh groups’ culture and language, and especially English. The volunteers were also keen to learn Malay language and culture. These experiences not only provide rangers with knowledge but also increase their confidence level when dealing with visitors or groups of researchers, particularly from abroad. Most of Imbak’s rangers who have worked together with the Raleigh groups are able to understand and speak English better.’

Pius Pansang Conservation and Research Officer, Imbak Canyon Conservation Area
Case Study
Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre (BSBCC), Sepilok

Background
The sunbear is the world’s smallest species of bear and one of Borneo’s ten Totally Protected Species. Estimates suggest that over the last 30 years, Borneo’s sunbear population has declined by 30 percent. According to BSBCC (2012), the Bornean sunbear faces three primary threats; commercial hunting, the illegal trade in sunbear cubs, and loss of habitat through deforestation. Despite the implementation of significant anti-poaching measures, the illegal trade in sunbear body parts for traditional medicine continues throughout Borneo. In addition, sunbear cubs are in high demand as pets, and are regularly removed from forests following the death of their mother. Sunbears are arboreal and, as such, highly dependent on the forest. Large-scale unsustainable logging and deforestation for plantation development have severely depleted the suitable habitat available for sunbears.

The Bornean Sunbear Conservation Centre (BSBCC) was founded in 2008 and is the only centre in the world dedicated to the protection and rehabilitation of sunbears. Currently, the centre is home to 28 bears. The overarching aim of the centre is to provide education to the general public about the sunbear and raise awareness of conservation efforts, although currently the centre is run on a private basis. There are plans to open to the public in 2013.
Project History

Raleigh has been working alongside the BSBCC since 2008 and has been heavily involved in the initial construction stages of the centre. Volunteers have undertaken a variety of infrastructure projects aimed at improving accessibility to the site for both keepers and expected tourists. The earliest Raleigh groups constructed a semi-permanent jungle camp on the site for subsequent Raleigh groups to utilise as living quarters. Between 2008 and 2011, groups worked primarily on the construction of a bridge to facilitate disabled access to the main viewing platform, as well as fencing around the bears’ forest enclosures, and a service trail and boardwalk around the enclosure to ensure ease of access for keepers. In 2012, volunteers worked on a bear enrichment area – a number of wooden structures within a particularly sparsely vegetated area of the site designed to create a more stimulating environment for the bears.

BSBCC’s partnership with Raleigh has been hugely important in reaching this stage. The centre is a small organisation with only 4 permanent staff, which competes for funding against larger-scale conservation efforts of more renowned species such as the orangutan and Sumatran rhinoceros. Currently, the BSBCC receives no statutory funding and is run entirely on fundraising and donations. Over 800 volunteers, including Raleigh, have worked on the project, providing high-impact, zero-cost labour for construction work which would otherwise need to be completed by paid contractors, and making funds available for other key activities.

Impacts

The importance of the Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre lies both in its capacity for direct conservation of the species, and, crucially, in its power to educate about sunbears and strengthen efforts to protect them. Although currently the centre remains private and visited only by appointment, the development of infrastructure over the last four years has made opening to the public in 2013 a reality. The centre is already engaged in educational outreach, and the addition of a visitor centre and trained guides will only enhance its capacity for educating the general public.

It is envisaged that the centre will also continue to provide a platform for further research into the sunbear, its behaviour, and the state of the population. Such information is required to formulate conservation and management strategies to help protect the species in the long-term.

‘The development stage of BSBCC is all about volunteerism. Raleigh volunteers have contributed a big part toward our success in establishing the centre. We would not come this far without all the help from Raleigh volunteers. They are the heroes and heroines of our centre!’

Siew Te Wong CEO and Founder, Bornean Sunbear Conservation Centre
Case Study
Tungog Rainforest Eco-Camp, Batu Puteh

Background
Batu Puteh is located in the eastern region of Sabah along the Kinabatangan River, the state’s longest and most ecologically important waterway. Raleigh has worked alongside KOPEL since 2002 on the construction of an eco-camp and various other projects around Batu Puteh. The community operates a cooperative which provides a sustainable source of income and employment for several community members. Construction of the eco-lodge at Batu Puteh has been one of Raleigh’s longest running projects.

Impacts
The eco-camp currently hosts over 1,500 visitors per year, predominantly tourists from the United Kingdom and Australia, and generates considerable revenue. As one of eleven activities in the Batu Puteh cooperative – others include homestays, jungle guiding and river cruises - all profits from the project are shared among the 216 investors in the scheme and the wider community. The additional income is distributed both communally – for example, for maintenance of community buildings - and individually, to cover everyday household expenses such as transport or school fees. By providing an alternate income source, employment and promoting ecotourism, illegal logging and hunting activities in this ecologically important area have also been dramatically reduced.

Raleigh volunteers provided essential manpower for moving construction materials to the eco-camp. The site is not accessible by road so materials could not be transported by vehicle - all necessary supplies were either trekked in or taken by boat from Batu Puteh. During 2009, volunteers shifted 17 tonnes of belian wood along the river. The eco-camp provides a base for tourist activities including trekking, birdwatching and river cruises. As well as tourists, the eco-camp also plays host – on occasion - to scientists and researchers undertaking a project to remove an invasive weed (salvima) from the oxbow lake.

‘The Raleigh groups were hardworking and committed to the project and the village, undertaking physically demanding work and integrating with members of the cooperative and wider community. All volunteers participated in homestays, providing opportunities for cultural exchange, and the group spent time with community members, dining together, chatting and singing. Evenings provided the perfect opportunity for Raleigh and MESCOT volunteers and wider community to get to know one another and practice English. This has given our volunteers more confidence when dealing with tourists.’

Rosli Jukrana Manager, KOPEL
Projects Overview
Over the last 10 years, Raleigh volunteers have been involved in a number of projects aimed at identifying and recording Sabah's vast flora and fauna in order to aid conservation efforts.

General outcomes
The huge expansion of both commercial and illegal logging and oil palm plantations over recent years has led to the loss of vast areas of rainforest across Sabah. Oil palm and logging plantations support far fewer species and result in habitat fragmentation, reducing breeding populations of numerous endangered species.

The biodiversity surveys conducted by Raleigh volunteers are used to inform proposals for the designation of protected forest reserves, as well as justifying those already in existence. For communities living within the rainforest, surveys help them to understand what flora and fauna exists in the area, the importance of such biodiversity, and how they can manage it. Within the land rented from the government by AFC, surveys are used in selected areas to protect them from logging, making conservation reserves which provide a retreat for remnant wildlife populations.
Personal Development & Active Global Citizenship
An overview of Raleigh Borneo's work
Background Participants

Volunteer learning and development

The Raleigh expedition programme is based on an experiential and reflective learning methodology. This is a powerful way of developing the skills, knowledge, awareness and capabilities of its volunteers. Volunteer teams work in remote locations in basic living conditions. The teams are equipped to be self-sufficient for three week phases. They have to take responsibility for their own personal equipment as well as all the tools, food, and communication equipment. While on project the teams are expected to carry out regular site risk assessments and maintain daily high-frequency radio communications with Fieldbase.

In addition, the volunteers take on the role of group leader on a rotational basis during each phase. The ‘Day Leaders’ are responsible for motivating, organising and leading the group during that day’s activities. This often involves liaising with project partners or community leaders about what had to be achieved on a particular day and then ensuring that the team meets those targets.

While on project the volunteers are asked about their personal goals and are coached and supported by the Project Manager on how best to achieve them. Progress is regularly reviewed throughout the phase, including a one to one interview discussion at the end of the project on their performance. In addition, open and constructive feedback during group review sessions is also facilitated amongst team members. Therefore, numerous personal and team reviews take place and all are encouraged to record feedback given and lessons learnt in a personal learning journal.

The groups learn that they are capable of exceeding their own expectations of both mental and physical stamina. The scope for personal development, discovery, environmental awareness and cultural experience can be very powerful. The Raleigh trek is a challenge for the whole team to work and support one another through some incredible landscapes. Its focus is the team’s journey rather than the destination.

In summary, each volunteer has the opportunity for learning and development in the areas of leadership, team working, cultural awareness, problem solving, innovation and adaptability, interpersonal communication, confidence and self-awareness; mental resilience and a ‘can do’ approach, personal aspiration and active citizenship.
Volunteer outcomes

Raleigh measures the volunteer learning outcomes outlined above through a systematic and robust evaluation process. An end of expedition evaluation survey is undertaken by every volunteer with the aim to give the organisation a greater understanding of volunteers’ perceptions regarding their volunteer journey, including their learning outcomes; the recruitment process; the support and training they receive; the in-country experience; and their overall Raleigh experience.

This level of evaluation is one of the initiatives aimed at meeting the Raleigh’s 2011-2013 Strategic Aim of building the evidence and recognition of the impact of its work. The research, its methods and its questions build on previous research undertaken on Raleigh International including the PhD research on experiential learning on expedition (Dr. Simon Beames, 2004); the pilot study of volunteering outcomes (Dr. Simon Beames and Dr. Tim Stott, 2007); the study on disadvantaged young people (ippr, 2009); Employability Enhancement (Dr. Andrew Rothwell); and the experiential, informal learning and accreditation (report author, KTP, 2011).
Background Venturers in Borneo

The results of the surveys undertaken over the course of a full year of Raleigh Borneo’s expedition activity (Autumn 2011 - Summer 2012) are summarised in the following section.

265 venturers from the UK, Malaysia and worldwide took part in the survey. This represents an excellent 93% response rate.

Projects

Respondents were given a 5-point scale between ‘very poor’ to ‘very good’ and asked to rate their perceptions of the sustainability, value to the community and the contribution they were able to make to the projects they undertook.

100% of respondents stated they perceived the sustainability of community projects to be ‘satisfactory - very good’. 92% ‘good or very good’.

100% of respondents stated they perceived the value of community projects to be ‘satisfactory - very good’. 95% ‘good or very good’.

98% of respondents stated they perceived their contribution to of community projects to be ‘satisfactory - very good’. 89% ‘good or very good’.

98% of respondents stated they perceived the sustainability of environmental projects to be ‘satisfactory - very good’. 80% ‘good or very good’.

87% of respondents stated they perceived the value of environmental projects to be ‘satisfactory - very good’. 65% ‘good or very good’.

93% of respondents stated they perceived their contribution to of environmental projects to be ‘satisfactory - very good’. 71% ‘good or very good’.

99% of respondents stated the adventure projects were ‘satisfactory - very good’. 92% ‘good or very good’.

General Learning Outcomes

90% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that Raleigh had a positive impact on Leadership and Team Working skills. 45% strongly agreed.

86% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that Raleigh had a positive impact on Intercultural Awareness skills. 42% strongly agreed.

88% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that Raleigh had a positive impact on Global Awareness. 48% strongly agreed.

87% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that Raleigh had a positive impact on the Personal Aspirations. 45% strongly agreed.

71% of respondents stated they kept a personal journal or log regularly to reflect on their experiences.
Global Learning Outcomes

From July 2009 to 2012, Raleigh’s Global Ambassador programme aimed to develop a network of passionate and dedicated Global Ambassadors to inspire their peers and communities to support development efforts. It was funded by the UK government’s Department for International Development (DFID) and had several specific reporting requirements for volunteer learning that were blended with the standard reporting mechanisms.

For this, volunteers were asked to estimate the distance travelled on 7 areas of global awareness learning both before they went on expedition (retrospectively) and at the end. Ratings were on a 5-point scale between ‘strongly disagree’ to ‘strongly agree’.

58% of respondents stated an increase in 1 to 2 places of awareness of global poverty; 3% increased by 3 to 4 places.

54% of respondents stated an increase in 1 to 2 places of awareness of global inequality; 7% increased by 3 to 4 places.

60% of respondents stated an increase in 1 to 2 places of awareness of sustainable development; 11% increased by 3 to 4 places.

34% of respondents stated an increase in 1 to 2 places of awareness of fair trade; 5% increased by 3 to 4 places.

67% of respondents stated an increase in 1 to 2 places of awareness of other people’s cultures and the problems they face; 15% increased by 3 to 4 places.

61% of respondents stated an increase in 1 to 2 places of awareness of how their local actions can impact on people in different countries; 17% increased by 3 to 4 places.

45% of respondents stated an increase in 1 to 2 places of awareness of global citizenship; 9% increased by 3 to 4 places.

Interestingly, further analysis of these results shows that of the 33% who reported ‘0’ distance travelled at the end of the expedition, 84% started out with a ‘good’ to ‘excellent’ awareness. DFID gave excellent feedback about these results and the methodology used.
Case Study
Host-Country Venturer

‘I was 15 or 16 when Raleigh International set up a field base in Penampang about 5 minutes away from where I lived. I asked my father whether I could enlist myself after graduation from secondary school, but his answer was not particularly encouraging. He said to me, “Why don’t you Operation Raleigh the rice field before you ask me anything else!” That was my father’s way of saying “my dear daughter, we need to work in the rice field because we need to put rice on the table.”

Later, a friend who had participated in an expedition with Raleigh Borneo introduced me to Patricia Mobilik, who ran the Raleigh society in Sabah and was responsible for recruiting local volunteers. I signed up for the Adventure Weekend which was organized by former Host-Country Venturers. It was tough, trekking for hours over jagged terrain, under the hot sun and – of course – in torrential rain. Waking up in the small hours to play football was probably the most ridiculous thing I will ever do. But it was the most fun I have ever had, and also the time I met my husband.

Patricia contacted me at about 2 weeks before the September 1998 expedition to see if I was interested. I told her immediately that I was. During this expedition, we built a kindergarten and a gravity feed water system. I had the opportunity to work with the local community in Kg. Kiau Nulu in Ranau.

The expedition taught me to be self motivated and to motivate others. It also showed me the value of perseverance. I have learned to trust my teammates, but to also be independent when times are tough. I have learnt to make good judgments, face challenges with confidence, and respect others equally regardless of age, status and culture.

I used to think that my capabilities were limited to the confines of an office cubicle. But with the knowledge, experiences and confidence gained throughout the expedition, I was able to chart my own course. A year after Raleigh, I successfully became a PADI Diving Instructor at Borneo Divers and am now the Assistant Manager of Borneo Divers Training Institute. This is a career I never thought would embark on before Raleigh. I would be selfish to say that I was able to achieve all this by myself; I had plenty of guidance and advice from my colleagues and peers.

Raleigh is so much more than a charitable organization. It reaches out and develops the minds of young people.’
Jinnifer Missi Borneo Divers, 2012
Alumni Activities

Alumni Societies

The alumni societies in Kuala Lumpur and Kota Kinabalu are very active and support Raleigh Borneo by helping to recruit, prepare and support Malaysian youth onto expeditions. They also undertake fundraising activities to support the host country volunteer programme. In addition, they also provide a platform for volunteers to run local projects that contribute back to society. The Kuala Lumpur group plan to run a mini-expedition to support conservation work in Danum in the next 18 months.

Global Ambassadors

This programme, funded by the Department for International Development (DfID) between 2009 and 2012, invited alumni to post-expedition training events with the aim of continuing their global education and inspiring action regarding global issues. 45 Borneo alumni attended a Global Ambassadors weekend. Volunteers who also undertook post-expedition action include: Suraj Vadgama (2007), who became a trustee of the Forward Foundation, an organisation that provides support and funding to find new ways to transform young lives.

Zoe Lederman (2009), who set up an International Development Society at York University that now has over 400 members. She chaired the society for the first year, organising a calendar of talks, panel debates and film screenings. She also volunteered in the office for 3 weeks to help with the Global Ambassador programme.

Simon Munk (2011), who met with his MP, Glenda Jackson to discuss the UK’s position on palm oil, requesting that she raises the question in Parliament.

Caroline Banks, Helen Denny and Amy Mills (2011), who planned and delivered a quiz night for International Women’s Day to raise awareness of women in developing countries.
Conclusions

In 2012, Raleigh Borneo celebrates ten years of running expeditions from its permanent base in Sabah. During this time, volunteers have worked on over 200 projects and alongside over 15 partner organisations, providing basic infrastructure for communities across Sabah and helping to protect some of the world’s most important conservation areas. In addition, over 200 host-country volunteers from both Sabah and Peninsular Malaysia have participated in a Raleigh expedition, creating opportunities for cultural exchange among volunteers, and gaining valuable leadership and teamwork skills.

Through the construction of gravity feed water systems, Raleigh volunteers have provided a clean, reliable water supply to 29 rural communities across the state. They have constructed 20 kindergartens to ensure hundreds more Sabahan children can enter mainstream education, and 3 libraries to support this education. They have undertaken infrastructure development to aid the conservation of some of the world’s most complex ecosystems and endangered species, including biodiversity monitoring to ensure the maintenance and expansion of conservation zones. They have constructed an eco-lodge on the Kinabatangan River to support sustainable tourism and provide income generation opportunities for the local community, and they have pushed their physical limits trekking through dense jungle and diving in the South China Sea.

This report has aimed to summarise these considerable achievements. It has made good progress in the enormous task of reporting the innumerable expected and unexpected impacts of Raleigh’s programmes on the communities and environments in which they work. It has also outlined the impact of the expedition experience on the individuals who participate. It has highlighted Raleigh Borneo’s significant contribution to improving access to education and water in some of Sabah’s most remote communities, and it has documented the work of Raleigh volunteers in conserving Borneo’s unique rainforests.

One key feature of the report has been to reaffirm the value and lasting benefits of Raleigh’s programmes in Borneo. Although some projects have experienced technical difficulties, these are now easily resolvable and will inform the future design of projects. Importantly, the huge majority of projects remain fully functional and the response to Raleigh’s work by project partners and community members throughout Sabah has been overwhelmingly positive.
Thank you

We would like to thank our generous sponsors for their support funding numerous projects in Borneo.

Fondation Les Paquerettes
Coca-Cola
Nestlé

Alumni Fundraising

Raleigh Borneo has benefitted from the efforts of numerous expedition alumni who remain passionate about Sabah and Raleigh’s work long after they return to their lives at home.

Graeme Beaven (2010) organised a team of 14 alumni to complete the ‘Three Peaks Challenge’ in the UK. They raised over £7,000 towards future kindergarten projects.

In 2012, a core group of past and more recent alumni organised a Raleigh volunteering weekend aimed at broadening the alumni network and the work it can do.

GOING DUTCH FOR DINNER

Total: €6,000

Giulia Hetzenauer (Borneo 12A) and her friends at The New School, Amsterdam have planned six fundraising dinners to raise money for projects in Borneo.
Afterword

‘Reflecting on this ten-year summary, one thing is clear. All the blood, sweat, tears and the sheer hard work by everyone involved allows us to stand here with deserved pride in what we and our partners have achieved.

Looking to the future, our strategy must continue to adapt and meet the needs of the volunteers, communities and environments we work with. We will look to a more overarching programmatic approach. We will continue to build on the work in communities in education, water security, health and sanitation. We will continue our commitment to the environment by helping to build infrastructure that supports research and the protection of one of the most bio diverse places on earth.

We will continue to work with project partners and corporate bodies who share our vision and values. We will foster our close relationship with the Ministry of Youth and Sport being one of many vital partnerships that is essential to our operations here.

We must continue to be able to use this amazing environment to measure ourselves both physically and mentally, achieving what we once thought impossible and beyond our capabilities. With team work, and positive reinforcement we will continue to see people grow in confidence and belief in themselves and each other. All of the project types are designed to challenge, but the demanding adventure projects in Long Pasia, the Crocker range and diving on Mamutik particularly do so.

In Sabah and Peninsular Malaysia we will encourage more volunteers onto our expeditions. We will continue to support and grow our alumni base and ensure that all Malaysian volunteers on expedition continue to make a difference to their environments and communities long after completion of expedition.

Raleigh Borneo is proud to work in this most amazing of places. People around the world know of its biodiversity and the stunning scenery. I wish they knew more about Sabahans; they are the kindest, friendliest and most generous people I know. In Raleigh’s ten years here, the people of Sabah have inspired almost 3,000 volunteers to learn more about themselves, to work with others and to become passionate advocates for communities and environments in Sabah and around the world.

My last words must be to thank Philippa Crockett. Thank you ‘my dearest friend Pip’ for putting your life on hold to complete this research project. You have contributed so much in your three months here and I believe you have left a lasting template that we will build on to continue telling our story.’

Mac McCarthy Country Director, Raleigh Borneo 2010-present
Appendices

Appendix 1 Map of Sabah

Key
a – Kg. Pahu; b – Kg. Buayan; c – Danum; d – Imbak Canyon; e – Sepilok; f – Batu Puteh; g – Kg. Mandurian Laut; h – Pitas

Appendix 2 Limitations

The primary limitation to this work has been logistical; relying on out-of-date directions to visit past project sites proved hugely time-consuming and was not always successful. On a number of occasion, projects were difficult – or even impossible – to locate. As a result, the status of a number of projects is unknown although further collaboration with partners might be able to corroborate existing records. In addition, a considerable number of meetings with key respondents took several attempts before they were successful, or were never able to take place.

While the research aims to be impartial and objective, it is acknowledged that the researcher has prior experience with Raleigh International. Information was gathered through an ad-hoc combination of existing records, interviews with community members, partners and volunteers, and project and participant questionnaires. Although such ‘convenience sampling’ was appropriate given the time restraints and available contacts, a full academic study would require a more robust methodology.
Appendix 3 About Raleigh International

Raleigh International has a long and rich heritage of undertaking worthwhile projects and developing and inspiring individuals to help make the world a better place. Back in 1978, when His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and Colonel John Blashford-Snell started Operation Drake, and then in 1984 with Operation Raleigh, they had a vision. They wanted to give young people the chance to explore the world and discover their potential as leaders and members of a team working together to make a difference. These aims hold true for Raleigh International today.

Raleigh was founded on a Four Challenge model; at every step of the Raleigh journey the individual is challenged to commit to the life experience and learning that will come from selecting Raleigh. Raising the funds themselves through working or fundraising takes hard work and creativity. On expedition, the Rites of Passage model is the basis for the personal journey. Participants must step out of their comfort zone to deal with challenges, conflict and change. They are physically and mentally pushed and learn the advantages of working as a team. At all times Raleigh is there to support, mentor and coach. Crucially, Raleigh has always challenged people to put global citizenship into action once they have benefited from the transformational development of an expedition. They actively support an international network of alumni to carry on making a difference whether locally or internationally.

Over time the organisation has evolved to include more focus on the sustainability of its projects, working closely with communities and partners to ensure that the impact felt is long-lasting and able to be continued by those living and working in project areas.

**Our Vision** - is of a global community working to build a sustainable future.

**Our Mission** - is to deliver sustainable development in rural areas with young people as agents of change.

**Our Values** - courage, integrity, drive and discovery. These have never been more relevant to the international world in which we live and work.

**Our Charitable Objectives** - advancement of education and global citizenship; relief of those in need by reason of disadvantage; advancement of environmental protection and sustainable community development.
### Appendix 4 Expeditions 2002 - 2012

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