

Date: 7th March 2025

FACT SHEET:

Marudi Peat Swamp Forest Conservation and Restoration Project

1. Project Overview

Marudi Peat Swamp Forest Conservation and Restoration Project is a sustainable initiative to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through forest conservation and restoration. It aligns with Sarawak's state climate goals and international standards, such as VERRA. The project is designed for both environment and local communities by creating extra economic opportunities and promoting sustainable livelihoods

2. Key Clarifications

A. No Encroachment on Native Customary Rights (NCR) Land

The project does not encroach on Native Customary Rights (NCR) land. NCR land has been excluded from the project area. The project area has been legally designated and licensed by the Forestry Department of the Sarawak Government, ensuring full compliance with state regulations. SaraCarbon as a private entity cannot make any determination or adjudicate NCR claims, which falls within the authority and jurisdiction of the Sarawak Land and Survey Department (L&S) and relevant state authorities.

B. UNIMAS helps design and guide our Community Engagement and FPIC Process

SaraCarbon had conducted extensive and transparent consultations with local communities over the past few years, ensuring that community voices are heard and concerns addressed.

On 17 February 2025, there was also a community engagement with the district office of Marudi with Ketua Kampung. The letter signed by En Jaba Anak Mawa, which was misrepresented in the media, was presented to the community representative and verified by Tuai Rumah and District Officer Puan Rose Anak Edward Tarang. Furthermore, Tuai Rumah Belarek Layat of Kampung Long Patan, Batu Belah stated that he is unaware of any such false propaganda against Sara Carbon.

On 24-25 February 2025, Saracarbon hosted a two-day workshop and engagement session at Dewan Suarah Marudi. Representatives from SaraCarbon, the Marudi District Office, Telang Usan, Beluru, UNIMAS, and NGOs.

Community leaders' longhouses and villages within and around the licensed area attended the 2 days' workshop and found this informative.

State-elected representatives, including

- Yang Berhormat Datuk Gerawat Gala, Deputy Minister in the Premier's Department (Labour, Immigration and Project Monitoring) & Mulu Constituency Representative.
- Yang Berhormat Datuk Dr Penguang Manggil, Deputy Minister for Public Health, Housing & Local Government & Marudi Constituency Representative.
- Yang Berhormat Dato Dennis Ngau, Telang Usan Constituency Representative.

The engagement clearly explained the project scope, programs, and community participation opportunities. Refer to [press release](#).

C. Measurable Impact on Communities and Peat Rehabilitation

The project supports sustainable livelihoods, environmental rehabilitation, and economic opportunities for local communities' project. Please visit our [website](#) to explore potential collaboration

Key outcomes include:

The programme creates employment opportunities, enhances skill-building and provides market access for local handicrafts.

3. Addressing Misinformation

SaraCarbon disagrees with the misleading and inaccurate claims made by Sarawak Report, Sahabat Alam Malaysia (SAM) and SAVE Rivers. The accusations of encroachment on NCR land and lack of Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) are categorically false.

The concerns raised by these alternative media and NGOs appear to be based on incomplete information and ignore the extensive consultations that have taken place by UNIMAS.

4. Commitment to Transparency and Open Constructive dialogue

The Marudi Project is a shared responsibility in alignment with Sarawak Climate Goals, it remains committed to transparency, compliance, and meaningful community participation. Verra independent validators will be part of this engagement process and encourage constructive dialogue based on facts, not speculation.

For further inquiries please contact:

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