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Bachelor of Administrative Science

**THE RESPONSIBILITY AND CHALLENGES OF SABAH PARKS TOWARD
SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT IN MANUKAN ISLAND, TUNKU ABDUL
RAHMAN PARK**

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Abstract

Sabah Parks mission is *to preserve areas in Sabah that contain outstanding natural values as a heritage for benefit of the people, now and in the future* (Sabah Parks website, 2019). Tunku Abdul Rahman Parks (TARP) is among one of the parks that aims *to protect their flora, fauna and marine ecosystem*. Unfortunately, solid waste problem and sea activities become a threat to sustain the environment in Manukan Island, TARP. This research is using content analysis, interview and observation to determine policy or enactment and organization for sustainable environment in the island. It is also aims to identify activities held by Sabah Parks toward sustainable environment in the island. Thus, it is found out that there is organization that established under Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Environment known as Sabah Parks. This organization is responsible toward sustainable environment in the island by complying with Park Enactment 1984, Management and Development Plan Tunku Abdul Rahman (TARP) 2015 and Environment Impact Assessment (EIA). This research identified that sea activities in the island become challenges due to uncontrolled of tourist access in the commercial jetty (located in Jesselton Point, Kota Kinabalu) by Sabah Parks. Meanwhile, the solid waste problem in the island is caused by the land-based sources due to the location of Manukan Island that near to capital city, Kota Kinabalu.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

In order to maintain the ecology and ecosystem in our surrounding, sustainable environment has become the crucial part of discussion among the society. Ugochukwu, Ertel and Schmidt (2008) defined sustainable as dynamic system characteristic that preserve themselves overtime. Sustainable environment is to measure whether the current natural resource could be sustained into distant future (Goldernberg, 2000). In addition, sustainable environment is one of the mechanisms to ensure the present environment is not affecting the ability of the future generation to meet their own needs (United Nations, 1987). Goosen (2012) claimed that there are three elements that is interrelated and affect the quality and sustainability of environment which are economic progress, environmental management and individual wellbeing.

1.2 Sustainable environment in Malaysia

Since colonial era, Malaysia focusing on the environmental issue by participating in Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), Association of South East Asian Nation (ASEAN) and Regional Growth Triangle (UNDP, 2005). Malaysia created a network of protection areas that represent the Malaysian ecosystem such as National Parks, Wildlife Reserves and Wildlife Sanctuaries with total coverage of 3.3 million hectares. Despite the effort, the major environment issue in Malaysia is the degradation of environment due to agricultural activities, industrial activities and social activities. In order to solve the issue, National Policy on Environment (DASN) and Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) are Malaysia initiatives to protect the environment. EIA is required for the proposal to

develop new project or expansion of existing project in Peninsular of Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak (EIA, 2016). DASN is established under the Ministry of Energy, Science, Technology, Environment and Climate Change.

The objectives of DASN (2002);

- I. A clean environment, safe, healthy and productive environment for present and future generation.
- II. Conservation of country's unique and diverse cultural and natural heritage with effective participation by all sectors of society.
- III. Sustainable lifestyles and patterns of consumption and production.

In addition, World Wide Foundation (WWF), United Nation in Malaysia (UN) and International Union for Conservation of Nature in Malaysia branch are the organizations that actively involved in promoting sustainable environment. These organizations claimed that Malaysia effort toward sustainable environment help to monitor the economic. The rich of natural resources and unique of landscape in Malaysia lead to the economic growth in this country. The organization also stated that the technology and environmental law and policy can be used to overcome the environmental issue such as pollution.¹ In Marine Park Malaysia, the development of project that impacts the sustainable environment is based on Fisheries Act 1985 (DMPM, 1980). Meanwhile, Park Enactment 1984 is set of rule that applicable to manage and administrate Sabah Parks (Sabah Park 1964).

¹ Mokthsim, N., & Salleh, K. O. (2014). Malaysia's Efforts toward Achieving a Sustainable Development: Issues, Challenges and Prospects. *Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences*, 120, 299-307. doi:10.1016/j.sbspro.2014.02.107