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# THE SETIU WETLAND'S LOSS OF ATTRACTIVENESS TO TOURIST DESTINATION FACILITIES: ECO-TOURISTIC EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES

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#### Abstract

Setiu Wetland, Terengganu, Malaysia, has vast eco-tourism potential. An eco-touristic educational experience provided by tourism facilities is an important strategy for reducing negative impacts on the environment. However, growth has been limited by the loss of appeal of coastal wetland tourist destinations, because of the lack of innovative and up-to-date tourism facilities. The lack of physical development of wetland facilities has contributed to a drop in the number of tourists visiting the wetland, an issue aggravated by a lack of defined policies or norms regulating these facilities at the National level. In Setiu Wetland, deficiencies in physical design facilities for eco-touristic educational experiences must be identified. This study investigated the gaps in physical facilities designed for eco-touristic educational experiences in Setiu Wetland. Three methods will be used in this study: planning documents, virtual and on-site observation, as well as an in-depth interview. The information was much more precise after an in-depth interview with the caretaker and a stakeholder. There is a need to formulate appropriate design strategies to support the main stakeholder's involvement in the investigation of eco-touristic education on existing coastal wetland facilities.

**Keywords**: Educational Experiences, Facilities Design, Attractiveness, Eco-tourism, Setiu Wetland.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the physical design of the facilities was the main factor in a country's ability to attach technology to tourist educational experiences. It is a new requirement that requires facilities design planning and layout. Current facilities designed for programs and activities in the Malaysian Coastal Wetland have less approach to tourism. However, in nature's educational experiences, the connection often occurs on an interpersonal rather than an academic level. The physical design attributes of many public wetlands have generated little excitement in sustaining the attraction and meaning of these places, which are essential to the natural environment for holistic educational experiences.

Wetlands are among the most productive ecosystems on the planet, offering services such as water, food, construction materials, transportation, and coast protection, as well as significant opportunities for tourism and recreation, all of which are classified as "ecosystem services" (Tapper, R., 2012). When travelers are aware of the negative impact of tourist activities on the environment, they are more likely to engage in ecologically responsible behavior, thus ensuring the long-term viability of tourist destinations (Puhakka, 2011). According to Ahmad, C.B., et al. (2016), the product of the park, including its facilities,

programs, and services, are included in the attraction. Proof that natural experiences will influence individuals has grown rapidly (Franco et al., 2017).

Wetlands can divide into three Tidal or Coastal Wetlands Inland Wetlands and Human-Made Wetlands. Tidal wetlands are exposed to wave action, inundation that promotes soil anoxia, and salinity. Wetland, one of the three distinct ecosystems along with forests and oceans on the earth, is considered to be "the kidney of the earth" (Bullock & Acreman, 2003). Mangroves and coastal wetlands provide vital biological services such as sediment and nutrient retention, storm buffering, and, along with sea-grasses, nursery habitat for many economically important species' juvenile periods (Schärer-Umpierre, M. T. et al, 2014).

In addition, the world's most used coastal wetlands are heated natural buildings, which are quickly removed. According to Malaysia's 1999 National Wetland Policy, wetlands are described as "Land that is submerged or inundated by water all the time or some of the time." providing ecological services and regulating water regimes and biodiversity sources at all levels, including organisms, genetics, and ecosystems. Malaysia has a large wetland area. 105 websites including mangroves and moats, river systems as well as tropical moor forests listed on the Malaysian Wetland Directory.

Ecotourism is attracting natural resources or mixing natural and cultural resources. Detailed plans for tourism organizations in protected wetlands are presented (Ahmad, C.B. et al., 2016). The visitors need local transportation, access to the wetland (road, trails) and a wide range of birds, other species, plants, and other attractions, the understanding of wetlands, services guidance, and the food and accommodation service, according to Kusler, J. (2006).

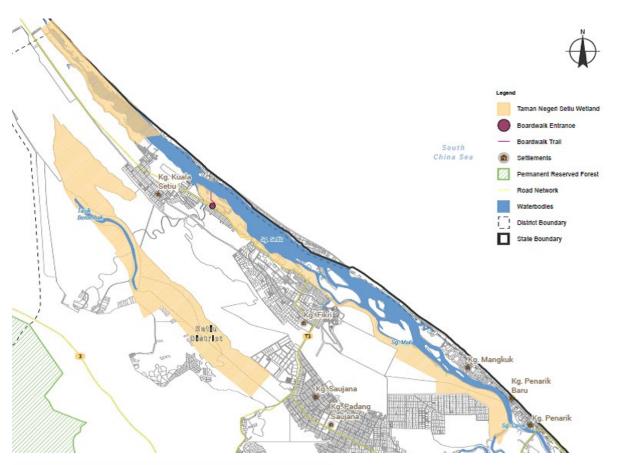
#### **SITE STUDY**

Setiu Wetlands is unique as Malaysia's largest wetland, with nine diverse ecosystems interconnected in one location, including the sea, beaches, mud, lagoons, estuaries, rivers, islands, coastal forests, and mangrove swamps, according to Terengganu State Park. Setiu wetlands are not unique but also a beautiful area rich in flora and fauna, with the sea, clean water, forest animals, and even hills.

Setiu Wetlands has also been designated as a Terengganu State Park, with the Terengganu State Park Management Council in charge. It is essential to local communities in terms of providing food, such as wild and cultured fish, as well as supporting aquaculture and providing clean and fresh water for use by local homes, farms, aquaculture, and small-scale industry. It protects downstream areas from flooding, provides habitat for a variety of aquatic creatures and coastal organisms, and provides recreational and educational opportunities.

The first state park in Terengganu in 2015 is Setiu Wetland. The decision to develop the State Park is focused on the biological diversity of the region and the conservation of nature. The wetlands are fed by four rivers: Setiu, Chalok, Bari, and Merang. It has an inland lagoon with a length of 14 km. Only in Setiu may painted terrapins, terrapins of the river, and green turtles be found in one location. Setiu has the largest wetlands in Malaysia's Pantai Timur Semenanjung, covering 23,000 hectares and 130,436.3 hectares. Regardless of how it was designated, the Taman Negeri Setiu Wetlands area encompasses 1,596.187 hectares, accounting for approximately 7% of the district's total land area.

Figure 1
Setiu Wetland



(Source: Facebook Terengganu State Park, 2020)

The vision is to become a global exemplar in biodiversity conservation and sustainable ecotourism practice. The mission is to preserve biodiversity for the benefit of present and future generations. There are three objectives for Setiu Wetland State Park (SWSP):1) Preserving and protecting flora and fauna and objects of importance in geology, ancient sciences, history, ethnology, and other scientific also scenery interests; 2) Advances in education, health, aesthetic value, and public reaction; and 3) To ensure the habitat of the flora fauna can serve as a catchment area and maintain the ecosystem.

The physical design attributes of many public wetlands have generated little excitement in sustaining the attraction and meaning of places essential to the natural environment for holistic educational experiences. Proof that natural experiences influence individuals have grown rapidly (Franco et al., 2017).

The choice Setiu Wetland due to Setiu District's Development vision is "To establish Setiu District as the center for production and processing of agricultural and marine products as well as eco and agro-tourism as well as an educational center for the northern region of Terengganu." Wetland School of Setiu is a community-based wetland education and awareness center. It is also known as EcoSwed. This is a social project aimed at helping the local community's socioeconomic level by empowering local community-based ecotourism in Setiu Wetland, Terengganu. It is also a platform for a one-stop center for all those interested to explore Setiu Wetland, connecting with the wondrousness, the beauty, and the miracle of the hidden gems of Terengganu, and offering help and support, technical guidance, training, and

capacities for local community activity in ecotourism services and the promotion of conservation. It is actively involved with the local community and helps to make a journey to Setiu Wetland. However, the Wetland School is not yet successful, as the program is not well known because of the lack of marketing, the lack of attraction, and the lack of knowledge of tourism.

The research aim is to provide a resilient coastal wetland facilities design framework for stakeholders in Setiu Wetland, Terengganu, Malaysia, in order to provide an Eco-touristic educational experience. The initial objective in order to find a solution and build the indicator is to identify the gaps in the physical design facilities in Setiu Wetlands. The second objective is to identify emergent themes from stakeholders in building a design framework for coastal wetland facilities geared toward eco-touristic educational experiences. The third objective is to create indicators for resilient facility design in monitoring and management mechanisms for eco-touristic educational experiences in Setiu Wetland. As a result, this study highlights a lack of attractiveness in the establishment of physical infrastructure for tourist environmental education experiences.

#### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### Wetlands as a Sustainable Tourism Destination

"Sustainable tourism destination" is an emerging word used to encourage sustainable development in cities as recognition schemes. There was a misunderstanding. The role of cleaner production is critical if "prevention" is to be included in the concept of sustainable destinations for tourism.

Wetlands are among the world's largest agricultural habitats and are also important tourist and leisure facilities, identified as ecosystem services. Services including water, food, building materials, transport and coastal protection are provided as well. If tourists realize the adverse environmental consequences of tourism activities, they prefer to engage in an environmentally friendly way, thus facilitating the sustainability of tourist sites (Puhakka, 2011). Maritime and coastal tourism is one of the world's largest industries' fastest-growing regions. However, whilst tourism is increasingly aware of the economic and environmental importance, scientific research has emerged only in recent years (Hall, 2001). If the tourism is not well designed and well-managed, the ecological services that wetlands, biodiversity and thus nature provide for these people, may have very negative impacts on them.

Tourism destinations include a wide range of critical components, aspects, and attributes that entice visitors to visit locations that meet their demands upon arrival. The facilities and service quality of these essential components and factors impact travellers' decision-making process when selecting a trip location (Malik Younis, 2020). The main tourist destination elements are known as the 5 A's: Access, Accommodation, Attractions, Activities, and Amenities. This entire element relates with facilities. These are: 1) Attraction: All the factors that make a tourist appealing are included. It could be a spot, nature, lakes, beaches, monuments etc. 2) Accessibility: It is how you can access or reach this attraction place. How to get to it. 3) Accommodation: Place to stay or to stay for rest or overnight stays. 4) Amenities: All other facilities, such as food, drinking water, sanitation etc, are needed for good and comfortable living while traveling. 5) Activities: It comprises activities such as nature tours, history & architecture, boats, views, fitness, etc. It includes an attraction. Sustainable tourism development is not just a trendy concept. The tourism industry is rooted in and relies on sincere concern and attention for social, ecological, and cultural structures. Tourism can contribute to sustainable development and can help mitigation plans to solve our societies' complicated challenges.

#### Wetland and Environmental Education Experiences

Action experience and aesthetic experience are the two factors that are most likely to influence tourist experience in wetland parks. To improve action experience, operators may develop diversified recreational activities that offer tourists a totally different life experience. The appearance of man-made facilities, such as restaurants and visitor centre, could have an impact of the aesthetic experience.

For environmental education to be successful, Hungerford and Volk (1990) outlined other elements that it must include. 1) The development of environmental sensitivity is the sense of great concern and respect for the environment, which includes all of the living and non-living entities that make up a certain ecosystem. 2) Self-efficacy and locus of control refer to the belief that one can achieve beneficial results. the difference in the environment's status. Environmental despair or emotions of helplessness are the antitheses of this. 3) A sense of one's physical and psychological interconnection with the natural environment leads to a sense of personal investment and responsibility. Positive role modeling, a feeling of location, and belonging to an environmental community may all promote. These sentiments might emerge from positive role modeling, a sense of location and belonging in an environmental group. 4) Both traditional instruction and private inquiry may be used to build knowledge. Environmental knowledge must be comprehensive and cover the biophysical, social, and inter-relational facets of both the natural and human worlds. 5) Demonstrating Skills when people are given the opportunity to practise the behavior, including the scientific knowledge, required to take environmental action, strategies emerge. These abilities might include practical experience, technical understanding, and political acumen. 6) The result of all of these elements is Intention to Act. It is what ultimately leads someone to choose to do something constructive.

#### Wetland and Facilities

Best practices include selecting building and site design materials based on sources that mitigate harm and have features like longevity, recycling, responsible and sustainability. Using a variety of tools and strategies for management to improve and complement one another (iucn, 2020). Yet there is optimism that the needle might move in the other direction: wetlands are increasingly seen as the prime nature-based solution for resilience in society; clean water supplies are secured; the impact of flooding and droughts is reduced; food security is made possible; and people are buffered against the harmful effects of climate change (Wetland international, 2020). The attraction involves the product of the park, such as its facilities, services, and programmers (Ahmad et al., 2012). Visitors want higher quality parks with adequate maintenance and facilities such as separate children's play areas and greater protection.

#### **METHODOLOGY**

This study was carried out using qualitative methods, including in-depth interviews and site observations. Observing of Setiu Wetland provided valuable insight into the strengths and limitations of facility planning. Without a doubt, the development of physical assets and facilities in coastal wetlands is complicated and costly, and there is a need to assure their quality and adhere to international standards.

At the first stage of data collection will be involved in site visit observation and indepth interview with help from the gatekeeper for the evidence. In this study, data collection was collected through a by photograph, video, voice recorded and mapping. Overall facilities physical design provided in Setiu Wetland will be record including SWOT, description and observation interpretations by another participant and the researcher.

This data collection will generate the objective of the research which is to identify the current gap of the physical design facilities in Setiu Wetland. Creswell (1998) argues that qualitative research is a process of understanding based on a distinct methodological tradition of research that explores a social or human problem and, in this case, the researcher creates a complex, holistic picture, analyses words, reports detailed views of information and conducts the study in a natural setting.

The methods of data collection are growing, and they increasingly involve active participation by participants and sensitivity to the participants in the study. Therefore, on site observation provided evidence supported by interview to gather information as well as explanation.

In case study data collection, there are three main methods which are focus group, site visit observation and in-depth interview with the expert. A case study in Setiu Wetland with and site visit observations on the physical attributes of physical facilities which contribute to tourist environment educational experiences. It is also a part of research objective to identify research gap in the physical design facilities in Setiu Wetland.

By using a case study approach, it provides a clearer picture of the problem. Direct observation: In this method, data can either be collected by an external observer (often termed as a non-participant observer) or by a participant observer who can be a part of staff performing normal duties while observing the processes.

#### **Site Observation**

Observation, particularly participant observation, has been used in a variety of disciplines as a tool for collecting data about people, processes, and cultures in qualitative research (Kawulich, B.B. 2005). By observing the existing facilities design of the Setiu Wetland, characteristics of the built and open environment or both physical and social aspect of the case studies Coastal Wetland. Physical assets are those characteristics that the building and facilities must bear or possess to guarantee their attraction to users and ability to enhance utilization for the achievement of the predetermined goals for which they are being provided (Musa et al, 2012).

A complementary or alternative approach is Structured Protocols, which may include a checklist or rating scale, photographs or video images are another form of data collected (Yin, R. 2003). Observing Setiu Wetland will provide important insight to detect facilities planning weaknesses and strength from SWOT Analysis. It will be a part of the data collection description. The design of physical elements of the facilities design in Setiu Wetland mapped into plans.

These included zoning, planning of built space and building landmark as a part of planning documentation. Site inventory for physical element is a part of site analysis. Without a doubt, the physical assets and facilities physical development in the coastal wetland is complex and cost-intensive and there is a need to ensure their quality and maintain the global standards.

#### **In-depth Interview**

The interview session with the gatekeeper, local community and authority is emergent rather than tightly prefigured. Several aspects emerge during a qualitative study. The research questions may change and be refined as the inquirer learns what to ask and to whom it should be asked. Thus, the data collected was confirmed, cross-validated and substantiated (Creswell, 2003). Therefore, In-depth interviews were carried out using interview questions based on secondary data. The results of the online data collection and in-person interview with the president of Wetland School of Setiu (WSS), Mr. Muhamad Allim Jamalludin, were analysed by a coding, giving several themes focused on facilities and tourist attractions. This will enable

us to understand barriers and ways forward to improve natural educational experiences through the facility's design and planning.

The study data was gathered during a field trip on May 8, 2022. Data gathered through In-Depth interviews and observations may also be sufficient to answer the research questions. It is information about Setiu Wetland facilities and tourist attractions. Data collected from the SWOT by participants' observation that already went to Setiu Wetland were also analysed to discover more about the facilities and activities provided in Setiu Wetland.

#### **RESULTS**

On May 8, 2022, site visits were conducted on the properties of interviewed landowners to determine how landowners manage and use their land. These site visits took place immediately following the interview. Therefore, the site visits resulted in two categories of data: data provided by the participant (conversation) and data collected by the researcher (mapped information, photographs, and observations). Participant observation can also play an important role when examining topics where there is already a considerable body of knowledge and it can be translated into SWOT analysis.

#### **Site Visit Observation and Participant Observation**

On 8<sup>th</sup> May 2022, site visit observation of Setiu Wetland (SW) in Table 1 with the field notes and the participant observations had been on-going process to collect more information to strengthen the data collection using SWOT as shown in Table 2.

Participant observation is a foundation in field work in many fields, and as such, it has shown to be a useful technique for creating studies that offer an authentic depiction of a culture. (Kawulich, B.B. 2005). Data saturation has been calculated based on the observations of 5 participants and the data obtained by the researcher in the Table 2.

**Table 1**Site Visit Observation on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2022

No.	Item	Images	Field Notes
A	Wetland School of Setiu		<ul> <li>center of educational wetland</li> <li>no new innovation</li> <li>traditional learning process</li> </ul>
В	Open Area		<ul> <li>many open areas are wasted</li> <li>lack of food and beverages area</li> <li>abandon building</li> <li>waste space for tourism attraction</li> </ul>

С	Terrapuri Resort	• price	very
		expens	sive
		• culture	resort
		• calm a	rea
		• restric	ted area

According to the researcher's and another participant's observations, there is some similarity in terms of the condition of the area, job opportunities, many places that can be done as tourism attractions including handicraft from the local community that can increase local economy, and beside the beach, a lot of good facilities and information attraction can be done. In order to get further support from observation and participant observation, an in-depth interview was carried out to enhance the contents of the field notes and SWOT.

 Table 2

 SWOT from Participants' Observation

Participant	Strength	Opportunities	Weakness	Treats
A	Wide Coastline	Commercial	Accessibility	Flood
		Coastal Area		
В	It has a beach that	Job	No bus facilities	Irregular
	attracts tourists	Opportunities		roads
				Flood
С	Nice beach view	More stalls can	Abandon building	Flood
		be open along	The lost attraction	
		the beach for	for the visitors to	
		more attraction	revisit	
D	A lot of green views	Handicraft	Less information	Floods
	for tourism	Local economic	about the	
		increase	area/landmark	
E	Tourism nature	Economic	Less Attraction for	Flood
	activities	increase	visitor to come	
	Nice view of beach	Job	Only one Resort	
	Homestay & Resort	opportunities	(Terrapuri)	

#### **In-depth Interview**

During the site visit, Mr. Allim of Setiu Wetland conducted an in-depth discussion with the proprietor of the Wetland School. This interview session was done and converted into text, as shown in Table 3, with coding based on his statements. The owner's explanation provides the strength from the observation as well as the SWOT from the other participant. It will aid in the creation of ideas for future generations.

**Table 3** *In-Depth interview during Site Observation on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2022* 

#### **Interviewee Statement**

#### **Coding**

Briefly, I can explain that there are several tourism potentials in Setiu Wetland that have been mapped between Terengganu and Kelantan. Initiatives by NGOs are Rumah Tok and Wetland School of Setiu. As a result of the mapping, 20 Natural and cultural treasures can be commercialized. Along the boat route in the Setiu lagoon, there are places for harvesting Lokan, Kerang, and many more. In addition, we also have handicraft products, a cottage industry for the local community. There are also projects that we do to convert instead of tourists buying handicrafts; we want them to learn how to make their handicrafts to indirectly generate local income for the community. it also involves sustainability we focus too much on the product, and we will use a lot of resources. Sometimes what people want is not the stuff very much but the skills, that's what's expensive. Setiu Wetland still people are useful and people are still producing traditional products.

- High tourism potential (tourism, education, agro, etc.)
- NGO involvement
- 20 natural and cultural treasure (nature environment attraction)
- Local community income (job opportunities)
- Handicraft (income for loval community)

#### FINDING AND DISCUSSION

SWOT analysis and coding from the interview session are comparable until data saturation, and this is supported by the Setiu District Council Report, Malaysia Plan, Setiu Wetland State Park, and MCMC for the technology section. One of the most essential characteristics of public facilities is that the benefits they bring can be shared by a large number of individuals. This is related to the attraction of visitors to come and revisit. As mentioned in the Setiu District Council Report, 2015, there are several issues, problems, and prospects of the study area in Setiu that have been pointed out. Setiu district has a large 74,034.45 hectares or 54.5 percent environmentally sensitive territory. This area includes flooded fields, wetlands, coastal and swamps, and lagoon areas of Setiu. Low population density and economic development based on conventional agricultural trends typically provide fewer opportunities for jobs and low returns. Urban development is very slow resulting in a lack of service diversity in metropolitan areas, resulting in very slow levels of urban development, especially in terms of business growth, public facilities and infrastructure, and less efficient public transport services.

The 11th Malaysia Plan has been emphasized by embarking on green growth which is a fundamental shift from the "grow first, clean up later" development model towards seeing sustainable development, low carbon, resource-efficient, and socially inclusive investment leaders. It pursues green growth for perseverance and resilience. Then, is followed by the 12th Malaysia Plan which will be coordinated with joint prosperity initiatives covering three dimensions, namely economic empowerment, environmental sustainability, and social reengineering. Therefore, the focus will be given to the environmental sustainability dimension, among others including the blue economy, green technology, renewable energy as well as adaptation and mitigation of climate change. The chosen Setiu Wetland as a case study because it still needs some improvement in terms of facilities and physical design for tourist attractions. It also less research about wetland facilities and the School of Wetland for sustainability development.

Setiu Wetland has also been recognized as Setiu Wetland State Park for Terengganu Darul Iman. As per mention in the vision to become a global exemplar in biodiversity conservation and sustainable ecotourism. It is also relating to the mission to preserve biodiversity for the benefit of present and future generations. Including the objectives which are preserving and protecting flora and fauna and objects of importance in geology, ancient sciences, history, ethnology, and other scientific also scenery interests; advances in education, health, aesthetic value, and public reaction; and ensuring the habitat of the flora fauna can serve as a catchment area and maintain the ecosystem. Thus, to achieve the vision mission, and objective of Setiu Wetland State Park Management Terengganu, a further step needs to be taken.

The loss of attractiveness to tourist destination facilities is one of the problems that has occurred in Setiu Wetlands. Setiu wetland lacks tourist facilities for tourism attractiveness. This issue has been highlighted in the Setiu District Council Report. This area is also active during the day and passive at night. When a place or park lacks attraction, it leads to its visitation decline (Ahmad, C.B. et al., 2016). According to Asbollah et al., 2017, the values which characterize tourist demand and their relationship to the environment would also point out the challenges and implications for tourism development in Malaysia based on the literature, to the identification and analysis of the weather of tourist attractions and to the preferences of tourists.

The lack and slow development of wetland facilities physical development in Setiu Wetland. As per mentioned in Setiu District Council Report that municipal development is quite slow and is only directed at Bandar Permaisuri, Sungai Tong, and Putera Jaya. Challenges generally faced by wetland tourism—impacts on wetlands because of the occurrence and operation of tourism facilities, such as degradation of wetland areas for building materials extraction, infrastructure, over-abstraction of water, inadequate waste disposal, and so on, all the same, because of the direct impact of tourists on wetland ecosystems through pollution, excessive trampling, disturbance of wetland ecosystems (UNWTO Tourism, 2012). Nature-based destination planners and managers could therefore consider enriching facilities, such as information boards, guided activities, and relaxation facilities, which could help to attract those visitors who are likely to be intrinsically motivated (Chow, et al., 2019).

Besides that, the lack of innovative tourism products and therefore the lack of up-to-date facilities often result in a loss of attractiveness and has contributed to a decline in the number of tourists visiting the wetland (UNWTO Tourism, 2012). Most facilities are still in their old version as it has now been established at Wetland School of Setiu, so not many tourists know about it. The shortage of financial and human resources directly affects capital investment and the growth of infrastructure for ecotourism (Ahmad et al., 2016). Therefore, technology has to been adapted to the reality for the young generation.

Furthermore, the lack of clear policies or guidelines concerning the development at the national level. Unsustainable increased resource over-collection has led to coastal wetland degradation and destruction (Wetland international, 2020). There is no single comprehensive law in Malaysia that covers the protection and management of biodiversity, especially wetlands. Many regulations are sector-oriented (Irini Ibrahim et al., 2012). No regulation exists on the field. A policy draft is alive, but it is yet to be put into effect.

Thus, tourists' nature educational experiences through the tourism facilities is a vital tool in minimizing adverse impact towards the encircling however it's been hampered thanks to the loss of attractiveness of coastal wetland tourists destination which is caused by the negative impact of lack of innovative and up-to-standard facilities tourism products and therefore the lack of wetland facilities physical development; a controversy exacerbated by lack of clear policies or guidelines concerning the event at National level and has contributed to a decline within the numbers of tourists visiting the wetland.

The architectural architecture and design material of the tourist region were developed in order to investigate the link between architectural design and environmental conservation in tourist regions and to comprehend the tourism industry's sustainable expansion (Meng, 2019). To address these difficulties, the architectural style of the tourism sector is always developing. Given the contemporary conditions of diverse tourism services and established tourism products, the standard of the building has a profound influence on the operation of the tourist city, and architectural architecture plays an essential role in developing tourist attractions (Li et al., 2013).

#### **CONCLUSION**

Throughout Covid-19 pandemic, the facilities physical design is main pull factors of a country to attach with the technology towards tourist nature educational experiences. It is a new requirement that's needed to look back facilities design planning and layout. Current facilities design for programs and activities in Malaysian Coastal Wetland too little approach in the tourism sector. However, nature educational experiences connection often occurs on an interpersonal level less than an educational one.

The physical design attributes of many public wetlands has generated little excitement in sustaining the attraction and meaning of places essential to the nature environment for holistic educational experiences. The main aim of this study is to develop coastal wetland facilities physical design framework towards tourist nature educational experiences. An indepth interview conducted with 1 correspondence to investigate views of main operation of the facilities provided and the activities. This is followed by observations on the physical attributes of zoning and building forms of physical facilities which contributes to tourist nature educational experiences and another participant observation by giving SWOT analysis. The expected outcome is a benchmark design strategies framework of Coastal Wetland facilities that will highlight the facilities for improvement. This study will significantly assist the Malaysian Ministry of Education and Tourism to promote the Coastal Wetlands as a leading global destination for education and highly skilled workforce which will subsequently improve the local community, local economy and tourism sector.

The Setiu Wetland is a one-of-a-kind wetland that demands particular planning, development, and management. The technology implementation in facilities planning in Setiu Wetland help to attract young generation to explore more in Setiu Wetland. Handicraft also can generate more income for the local community. Therefore, research and design strategies that support the engagement of the major stakeholders must be encouraged, including research into the educational experience of tourist nature, current coastal wetland facilities, and the opinions of the experts in designing strategies to improve the experiences of visitors by using digital technologies.

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Sekian, terima kasih.

"BERKHIDMAT UNTUK NEGARA"

Saya yang menjalankan amanah,

Setuju.

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