

Penelitian Semasa Status Penilaian Impak Sosial di Sabah *Assessment of the Current Status of Social Impact Assessment in Sabah*

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Penyelidik Jemputan

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2013

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Bertarikh 1 Jun 2013, Sekolah Sains Sosial, Universiti Malaysia Sabah.

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CADANGAN CARA MERUJUK LAPORAN INI:

Gaim James Lunkapis (2013). *Assessment of the Current Status of Social Impact Assessment in Sabah, 2000 to 2010*. FRGS Research Fund (2011-2013), Centre for Research and Innovation: Universiti Malaysia Sabah.

Kajian ini telah dibiayai oleh Universiti Malaysia Sabah melalui gran penyelidikan FRGS 0259-SS-2/2010 dari Kementerian Pengajian Tinggi dan mendapat kerjasama dari Jabatan Perlindungan Alam Sekitar, Sabah



Executive Summary

Abstract

This research critically assesses the quality of Social Impact Assessment which normally presented as a chapter in the Environmental Impact Assessment reports. The need for Social Impact Assessment in Malaysia has been acknowledged by the Dasar Sosial Negara as a tool to assess the implementation of projects, programs and policies. Consequently, this follow-up research was necessary in order to understand and to assess the practical implementation of this tool. The objectives therefore were to find out the gaps in the implementation process. This was made possible through access to Environmental Impact Assessment reports from the Sabah Environment Protection Department starting from year 2000 to 2010. Assessment methods utilized Delphi Technique and Goal Achievement Matrix to evaluate the quality of this chapter in each of the report examined. Field studies and series of workshops were necessary to gauge feedback from agencies which were useful to frame the final outputs. Outcomes from this research was useful to chart the future undertaking of Social Impact Assessment activities in the state of Sabah which could improve the quality, trustworthiness and efficiencies of this chapter of Environmental Impact Assessment reports.

Introduction

Social Impact Assessment (SIA) is a tool to check whether policy, project and program are compatible with human environment prior to its implementation. The current practice was to make SIA as a chapter or a section within the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) reports. Brief examinations on most EIA report in the state of Sabah revealed that there was no established guideline and standard on how SIA section should be written and presented. The objective of this research therefore was to examine how SIA section was outlined and thereafter to learn from these experiences.