SLB Development Master Plan

SLB Situation & Issues

- Steady decline of upstream forest
- Steady decline of mangrove and peat swamp forest
- Soil erosion and sedimentation in waterways and lake
- Loss of rare and vulnerable wildlife species
- Inappropriate and unplanned land use
- Lack of integrated water management
- Freshwater over - pumping / saline intrusion
- Groundwater overuse
- More severe flooding
- Over - capacity fishing
- Insufficient waste treatment facilities
- Wastewater pollution problems
- Unsanitized solid waste management
- Deterioration water quality in waterways and lake
- Culture and local wisdom disregarded - historical / archeological sites deteriorated
- Lack of network of culture and historical / archeological sites and local wisdom
- Lack of sustainable tourism promotion
- Lack of effective management

Vision

Songkhla Lake Basin shall be restored and managed along a sustainability framework, keeping balance among ecological, economic and social systems; under institutional framework which pays high respect to public participation, efficiency, transparency and justice.

Goal

- SLB ecological system must be restored and conserved, so that valuable natural resources and social environment can be safely handed over to younger generations
- Natural resource utilization in SLB must be efficient and cost-effective, so as to accommodate public consumption, without detrimental impacts.
- Restoration, conservation and utilization of natural resources in SLB must be equitably shared among various sectors in the communities, without imposing negative impacts upon other sectors; consequently leading to better quality of life.

Strategies / Measures

Rehabilitation of SLB natural resources and biodiversity

1) Restoring and nourishing forest in upstream part of the Basin;
2) Restoring and nourishing mangrove and peat swamp forest;
3) Provision of public land for inhabitants who may be displaced following above measures;
4) Dredging the Lake where appropriate, e.g., where dredging can restore abundance of aquatic fauna; and
5) Restoration of rare and vulnerable aquatic fauna species.

Sustainable use of SLB natural resources

1) Management of soil resource and land use in SLB, in line with their natural potentials;
2) Management of surface water and groundwater, in an integrated manner;
3) Controlling the amount of freshwater pumped from the Lake during dry seasons;
4) Management of water resource with emphasis on public participation;
5) Improvement of drainage and mass transportation systems; and
6) Sustainable management of fishery and aquaculture.

Pollution prevention and control

1) Reduction of discharge nutrients from wastes into the Lake;
2) Installation of appropriate waste treatment systems for municipalities;
3) Campaign for environmental awareness in pollution problem;
4) Establishment of efficient and effective scheme for managing solid wastes;
5) Controlling land use and pollution source; and
6) Improvement of environmental quality along selected waterways.

Restoration and conservation of arts and culture, historical and archeological, local wisdom and tourism sites

1) Restoration and conservation of arts and culture, tradition and local wisdom;
2) Restoration, conservation and utilization of historical and archeological sites and tourism sites;
3) Development of network for learning, and exchanging information; and
4) Promotion of sustainable tourism, in line with potentials of the sites, with careful consideration on communities' benefits.

Enhancement of efficiency in SLB administration and management, with emphasis on public participation

1) Improvement of mechanism for management of SLB natural resource and environment;
2) Enhancement of public participation
3) Establishment of mechanism for improving work culture;
4) Establishment of mechanism where SLB database can be continually improved and updated; and
5) Establishment of a surveillance process for monitoring SLB development.