

# The Development of Partnership Model for Natural and Environmental Resources Management in Border Region

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**Abstract.** The problem of natural and the environment resources includes various complex problems such as; the problem of forest destruction due to fire and illegal logging or potential conflicts in natural resource management as well as space, land and field, defense and security, migration of people across the countries, the orientation of border community, employment and also poverty, all circumventing which have a negative impact on diplomatic relations between countries. All of these problems are needed a regional management model that can integrate the interests between countries as an effort to manage the natural and environment resources based on the principle of partnership to realize harmonization of relations between countries. It can make all the problems as a strategic, integrated and responsible agenda. A collaboration model which has a foundation of vision and mission between countries is needed also used as an instrument of management that environmentally friendly, sustainable, fair and has a beneficial value to the people in both countries. This research is aimed at finding out the discourse on partnership model for natural and environmental resources management in Indonesia-Malaysia border region. Sajingan Besar Subdistrict, Sambas Regency, is geographically bordered by the Kuching-Malaysia region. From time to time, the environmental degradation occurred in this sub-district which has natural resources located in protected forest areas with a diversity of flora and fauna. In-depth interview, study of literature and observation were conducted to get data on the existing condition. Issues and problems as mentioned above still occur until now such as national boundaries and land grabs between citizens of both parties and the sensitive thing is the occurrence of conflicts of interest in managing the environment and natural resources. The best partnership models are coalition and joint venture among Indonesia and Malaysia.

**Keywords:** Model, Natural Resources and Environment.

## 1 Introduction

This research was conducted in Sajingan Besar District, Sambas Regency, West Kalimantan. The choice of the remote region as a case study is motivated by the phenomenon that the remote area of Sajingan Besar Subdistrict is also the rear area of the existing settlement centers in the region in West Kalimantan in general, this is related to the limitations of social and economic infrastructure.

Issues and problems about remote area related to natural resources, space, land and field are all three sensitive issues that lead to different perceptions leading to border conflict because of natural resources and land space that coincide in one border area [1][2]. At least, there are 3 issues in this paper; the increasing behavior of border crossers, the seizure of natural resources and the orientation of citizens at the border to the state of Malaysia must be resolved.

The problem is the absence of a master plan for managing the natural resources of space, land and field at the border, the practice of illegal logging of forest, land tenure and forest fires [3][4]. The emergence of the idea of border cooperation is based on a geopolitical perspective and the sensitive potential conflict and easily arises in the border area so cause a tension between countries [5]. Ecologically, the natural resources of space, land and field at the border are not solely limited by administrative areas but also the capacity, carrying capacity and resilience factors become joint responsibilities between countries, for example the management of air, water and land which is related to interests of 5 stakeholders, namely government, countries, communities, NGO and customs.

With a partnership between the two countries with the principle of mutual cooperation there is a strategy to utilize the potential of natural resources, space, land and field that can be carried out by two parties within a certain period of time to achieve mutual benefits with the principle of mutual need and mutual growth by utilizing the potential of natural resources, space, land and field in the Indonesia-Malaysia border region [6]. Lan Lion said that partnership is an attitude of running a business characterized by a long-term relationship, a high-level collaboration, mutual trust, where the suppliers and the customers commerce each other to achieve common business goals. According to Louis E. Boone and David L. Kurtz [7], partnership also implies an affiliation of two or more companies with a common goal, which is to help each other in achieving the common goals. The concept of partnership between countries in managing the natural resources and the environment in the Indonesia-Malaysia border region can be formulated from this research.

## **2 Research Method**

This study uses in-depth interviews, literature studies and observations in the Sajingan Besar District area of the Indonesia-Malaysia border region. Based on the empirical and theoretical background described, the concept of partnership between countries in managing the natural resources and the environment in the Indonesia-Malaysia border region can be formulated.

## **3 Discussion**

The increasing behavior of border crossers, the seizure of natural resources and the orientation of citizens at the border to the state of Malaysia are the empirical issues in this research. The absence of a master plan for managing the natural resources of space, land and field at the border, the practice of illegal logging of forest, land tenure and forest fires causes some problems.

The government has not been managed the potential of natural resources, space, land and field in the border region maximally. Collaboration between the two countries will minimize

the negative impacts, for example the practice of illegal logging, land tenure and forest fires. Cooperation between countries is based on the geopolitical perspective with utilization through the joint management of the ecological resources of natural space, land and field. Even though it is limited by the administrative territory, the capacity, carrying capacity and resilience factors become a joint responsibility between countries with air, water and land management through a partnership model between countries managing the natural resources and the environment in the Indonesia-Malaysia border region.

There are some partnership models between countries which refer to the concepts and theories, such as the conceptual model, the representation model for an idea or conceptual and the existing condition model through the data, the potential and the explanation of the database structure. These models can be used for the purposes of research on the partnership model between countries of resource nature and environment management in the Indonesia-Malaysia border region.

Local governments have an important role in implementing sustainable regional development, by continuously build public facilities and infrastructure to create prosperous society that is in line with the nation's goals. The regional government in carrying out this role by implementing element (line element) in that region, such as the regional offices and agencies. In this case, the regional government has the authority to regulate regional business, one of which is in determining the strategy to accelerate the development of the border region (Districts of Sajingan Besar).

Partnership in the border region must be guided by the Master Plan for the Development of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia, including:

- a) Embodiment of the sovereignty of the Republic of Indonesia;
- b) Integration across sectors and regions;
- c) Sustainable development;
- d) Alignments with the local community and economy;
- e) Regional autonomy; and
- f) Partnership.

Partnerships in the border regions of Indonesia and Malaysia can achieve the goals or targets that have been planned and agreed together in managing the natural resources, space and field. This cooperation not only strengthens the relations between the two countries but creates harmony in diplomatic relations and as an effort to overcome the border issues and also controlling the occurrence of phenomena at the border that allows friction to minimize the border conflict. Such partnerships certainly involve the stakeholders from the government, business people, community leaders and the community themselves in managing the border natural resources.

The form of cooperation model can be taken in the following way:

- a) Coalition, which is a combination of two or more institutions that share the same goals, they work together to achieve their goals.
- b) Bargaining, which forms a partnership regarding the exchange of products or services between 2 or more people.
- c) Joint Venture, which is a cooperation in working on certain projects so that they can be quickly resolved and also the goals are quickly achieved.
- d) On the basis of harmony, cooperation based on harmony among humans, a cooperation based on harmony is not expected to be rewarded or wages.
- e) Cooptation, which is a process of accepting cooperation from various new elements in the leadership of an organization, this becomes an effort to avoid a fraud or unwanted things that can occur [8].

Partnership between Indonesia and Malaysia as two allied countries which have characteristics that are not quite different, but has different in their interests, especially in terms of border natural resource management. Historically, the partnerships have been done in education sector and carried out some results such as student exchanges, teachers and educational facilities. In the economic sector, investors from Malaysia who invest in Indonesia have helped the Indonesian government in alleviating unemployment. Many Malaysian investors have invested in the palm oil plantation industry. This is certainly beneficial for both parties. In addition, in Malaysia there are also many Indonesian migrant workers work as domestic helpers, medical workers, construction workers and other professionals.

In the development of harmonious cooperation between these countries, the cooperation of border areas in managing the natural resources is an alternative strategic model, such as the coalition and joint ventures. With this model, it hopes can decrease the main border issues and problems that are related to the improvement of prosperity by managing natural resources such as water resources, forests, tourism, plantations, agriculture and culture. They are 4 potencies of border natural resource management model in Sajingan Besar District:

- a) Development of border ecotourism.
- b) Development of border infrastructure.
- c) Development of potential forest resources and forest protection.
- d) Regional defense and security.

These strategic programs can be carried out based on the principles of togetherness, tolerance, mutual understanding and vision of the two countries. This is not easy because border areas also experience endemic problems such as illegal logging, forest fires and population migration.

#### **4 Conclusions**

- a) The complexity of border issues from time to time increasingly shows a rapid escalation and requires rapid attention as well. The cooperation between Indonesia and Malaysia in education sector through Malindo cooperation, in economy has been going well, but the cooperation of this conventional models has not been able to feel the maximum results. This is proven by the fact that there are still border issues which are interrelated to one another, such as the management of natural resources in the border region is not yet optimal as a joint agenda between Indonesia and Malaysia, thus requiring integrated and sustainable handling.
- b) It is necessary to conduct studies or research on the potential of natural resources that can be developed to overcome unemployment and poverty levels in the border area and improve the infrastructure facilities through Malindo cooperation forums in a more planned and programmed manner with joint financing aimed to realizing mutually beneficial cooperation.

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