This newsletter contains the latest updates about the Heart of Borneo, a global initiative to establish conservation and sustainable development across more than 20 million hectares of transboundary forests on the world’s third largest island.

**International Headlines**

**Developing the Business Case for Palm Oil on Degraded Lands**

Bali, INDONESIA

November 2008

During the sixth annual meeting of the Roundtable for Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO RT6), WWF presented the preliminary findings of its study, *'Development and Improvement of Palm Oil on Degraded Lands'*. The report is the initial product of a collaborative effort between WWF and Cargill involving intensive field research and interviews with oil palm companies. The study finds that palm oil on degraded lands can be profitable and there is a large potential to increase production through better management practices without additional capital investments. The research will continue in 2009 with the goal of working with plantations to put the findings into action.

**Country Headlines**

**WWF & Standard Chartered Bank**

BRUNEI Darussalam

October 2008

Standard Chartered Bank (SCB) presented BND700,000 donation to WWF and Brunei’s Heart of Borneo Council. The presentation was accepted by the Crown Princess of Brunei Darussalam. The funding was generated through the ‘Greatest Race on Earth’ partnership between WWF-UK and SCB. The funding will support priority work of the Heart of Borneo including projects in Brunei as well as catalyze transboundary initiatives with Malaysia and Indonesia.

**Photovoice Project**

West Kalimantan, INDONESIA

December 2008

WWF, Photovoice International and National Geographic accomplished seven months of collaborative project in six villages along Labian-Leboyan catchment area. This area links two Heart of Borneo national parks, Betung Kerihun and Danau Sentarum.

The project proved useful in building and strengthening community awareness toward nature, as well as to voice out their concerns and aspiration on the natural resource use from the communities’ point-of-view. The project will be extended into other Heart of Borneo areas in Central Kalimantan.
From the Network

**WWF Chairperson’s Visit to Heart of Borneo (and Coral Triangle)**
Sabah, MALAYSIA
October 2008

Representatives from seven WWF National Organizations visited two of WWF’s priority initiatives, Heart of Borneo and Coral Triangle. Their visit represented a unique mix of local to global expertise from the organization and put forward diverse perspectives on how successful partnerships operate in their own countries. With on-the-ground observation and interaction with local field officers, it is hoped that Chairpersons are able to give milestone-creating support to meet challenges up ahead.

**WWF Sweden Board Member Trip to Heart of Borneo**
East Kalimantan, INDONESIA
December 2008

Heart of Borneo Indonesia hosted a field trip for staff, Board Member and major donor from WWF-Sweden office to Kayan Mentarang National Park. The group took a closer look at the community situation in the area and discussed field realities for establishing a corridor between two National Parks, Kayan Mentarang and Betung Kerihun. The group also explored ecotourism development in Hulu Bahau.

**Community Profiling Workshop in Heart of Borneo**
Long Semadoh, Sarawak, MALAYSIA
October 2008

Active community contact and understanding to better manage Borneo’s natural resources is vital to set up a Community Blueprint of Heart of Borneo Malaysia. The recent Workshop held in Long Semadoh was the start of establishing contact and creating a comprehensive overview together with the community, particularly in Sarawak. WWF hopes to lead more workshops and stimulate ideas for socio-economic activities while keeping the richness of the communities’ natural heritage.