

The need to consider customary ancestral adat land in the development of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure

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Customary land

- Different types of customary land
- Sabah, Sarawak
- Kelantan, Trengganu, Penang
- Melaka, Negeri Sembilan



Customary ancestral adat land (tanah pesaka adat)

- Unique to
 - the Malay ethnic group of Negri Sembilan , a state in Peninsula Malaysia
 - the Adat Perpatih, an unwritten custom
- Adherence: Kuala Pilah, Tampin, Rembau, Jempol, Jelebu



Adat Perpatih

- A custom originated from the Minangkabaus of Pagar Ruyong, Sumatra
- Meticulously observed to the smallest detail encompassing behaviour and ceremonies
- However adat is not codified, but stated in the form of maxims
- Therefore needs intelligent interpretation
- The adat is transferred orally from one generation to the other



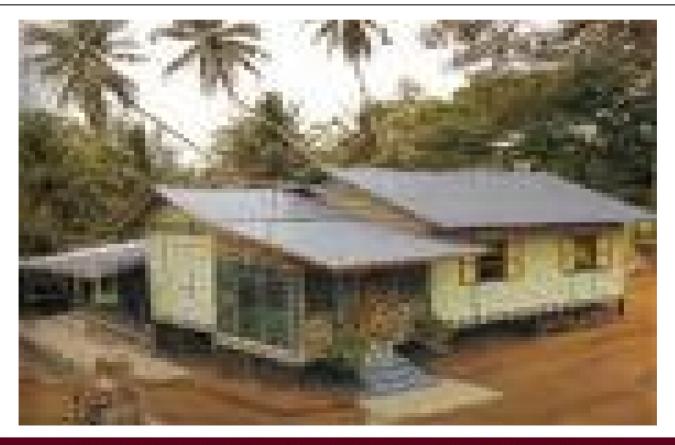
Adat Perpatih

Is symbolised by

- the rumah gadang or the adat house symbol of the Adat Pepatih
- the tanah pesaka or ancestral land: provides the communal cohesion necessary to keep the Adat alive
- the Lembaga or clan chief:
 the upholders of the Adat



Rumah adat



INSPIRING CREATIVE AND INNOVATIVE MINDS



Tanah pesaka adat – ancestral adat land













Distribution of *ancestral adat land* in Negeri Sembilan (2002)

district	hectares
Kuala Pilah	6418.37
Tampin	751.09
Rembau	5269.01
Jempol	680.68
Jelebu	157.58



Lembaga - clan chief

Undang

Lembaga

Buapak

clan members



Lembaga – clan chief

- UNDANG heads the Lembagas
- the Lembaga heads the buapaks
- the Buapak heads a family unit
- UNDANG in charge of the *luak* (clan district)
 (Sungei Ujong, Rembau, Tampin, Johol)



Customary ancestral adat land

- Origin: early Minangkabau settlers
- Land use: agriculture,
- Ownership: clan, female members may own more than one plot
- Inheritance: matrilineal, female members only
- Dealings: among clan members only subject to the Lembaga's approval



The senario

- Limited, no new alienation since 1911
- Identified in title but not spatially on the ground
- Multiple owners
- Small uneconomical agricultural plots
- Underutilsed, idle or abandoned
- Many landowners are old and poor

Motivation:

- Ancestral adat land and thus Adat Perpatih need to be conserved
- Ancestral adat land need to be revived



Why SDI?

- Access to information: create awareness or educate clan members
- Need to differentiate tanah pesaka adat from harta carian to avoid conflicts
- Need to identify the owners of ancestral adat land
- Information on distribution, location and use of ancestral adat land, ilde, abandoned or otherwise



Why SDI?

- Need information to inform the Lembagas
- Need information: water resource, topografi, soil suitability, etc to develop the land



Conclusion

- Revival of the roles and responsibilities of Lembaga, the Adat land, the Adat Perpatih
- Improve rural economy
- Independent and self sufficient women
- Reduce or eradicate poverty
- Unambiguous inheritance
- Well informed land adminstrators, Lembagas and clan members



Terima kasih

Thank You