

Global Knowledge Dialogue for Asia and the Pacific

Session I:

ISC Advancing Planetary Health in the Multilateral Space

Prof Emerita Datuk Dr Asma Ismail

Chair, National Planetary Health Action Plan

6 October 2023

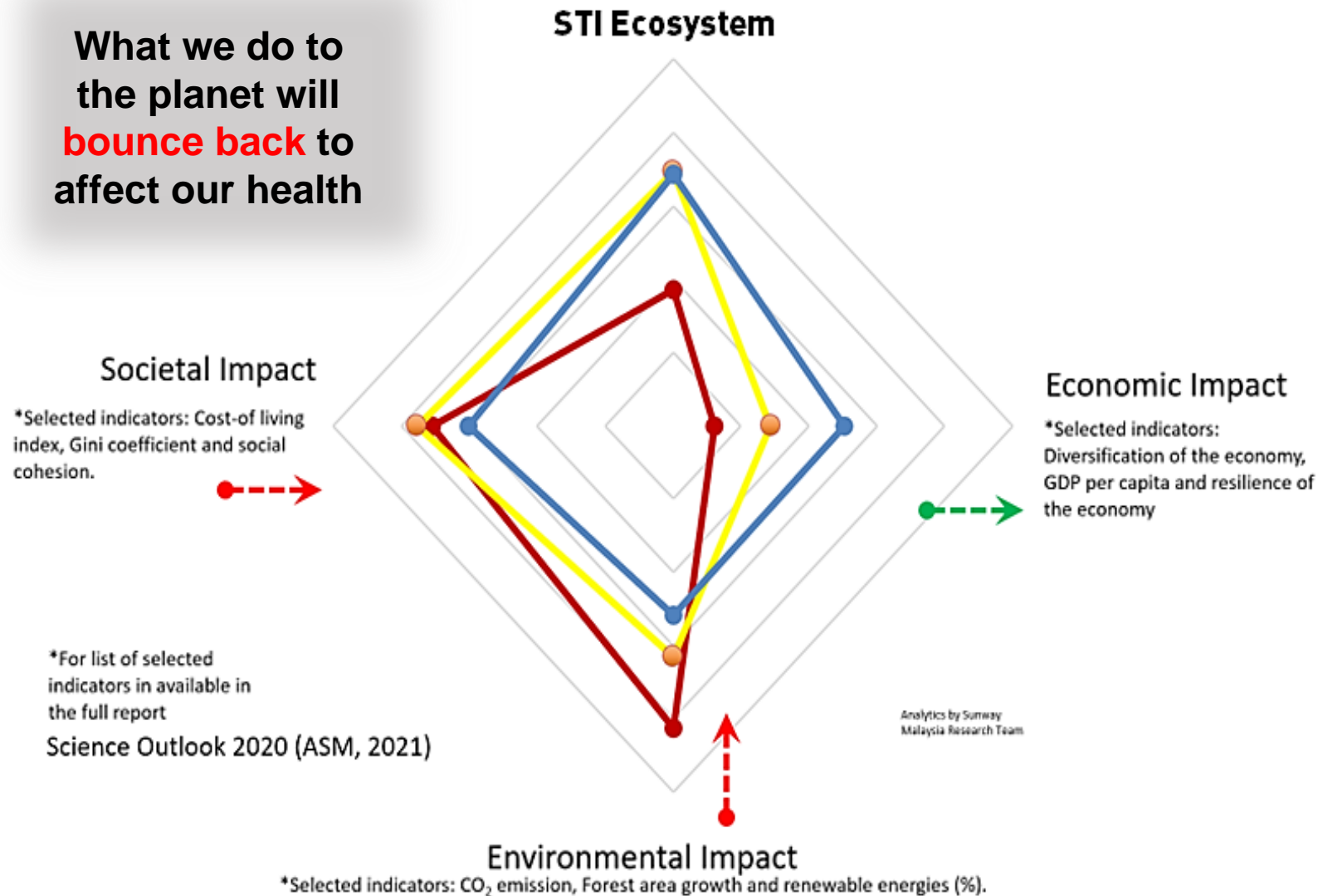
National Planetary Health Action Plan (NPHAP)



MALAYSIA'S PROGRESS ACROSS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PILLARS

—●— 2000 —●— 2010 —●— 2019

What we do to
the planet will
bounce back to
affect our health



- **Economic impact** has shown **progress** over the period of 2000 – 2019.
- STI ecosystem has shown progress from 2000 – 2010 but **remained stagnant** from 2010-2019.
- The **social and environmental** aspects **regressed** over the years.
- We need to take care of the environment since the cost of not doing anything is in the **billions** for Malaysia

MANDATE TO FORMULATE THE NATIONAL PLANETARY HEALTH ACTION PLAN (NPHAP) AT THE NATIONAL SCIENCE COUNCIL

- At the ASM, we realised that for Malaysia and its people to flourish, it is vital for us to properly conserve, preserve and manage our ecosystems, biodiversity, human and animal health as well as address climate change in an integrated manner. We need to take care of planetary health.
- Planetary health is based on the understanding that human health and human civilization depend on flourishing natural systems and its wise stewardship.



MANDATE TO FORMULATE THE NATIONAL PLANETARY HEALTH ACTION PLAN (NPHAP) AT THE NATIONAL SCIENCE COUNCIL

- The National Science Council chaired by the Prime Minister at its meeting held on **8 April 2022** [agreed](#) for MOSTI through ASM in collaboration with central agencies, and relevant ministries to develop an **Integrated** National Planetary Health Action Plan (NPHAP) that is **humanity-centric, STI enabled, nature-based and values driven**.
- The development of the National Planetary Health Action Plan is a **mission-oriented** plan that takes an **all-of-Malaysia approach** to ensure the health of our people, biodiversity (flora & fauna) and planet.
- The NPHAP will also serve to provide a framework for the development of an **impact tracking system** in due course to monitor outcomes from the implementation of the plan. Its work in progress and we were given 1 year, from May 2023 to May 2024 to complete the plan.

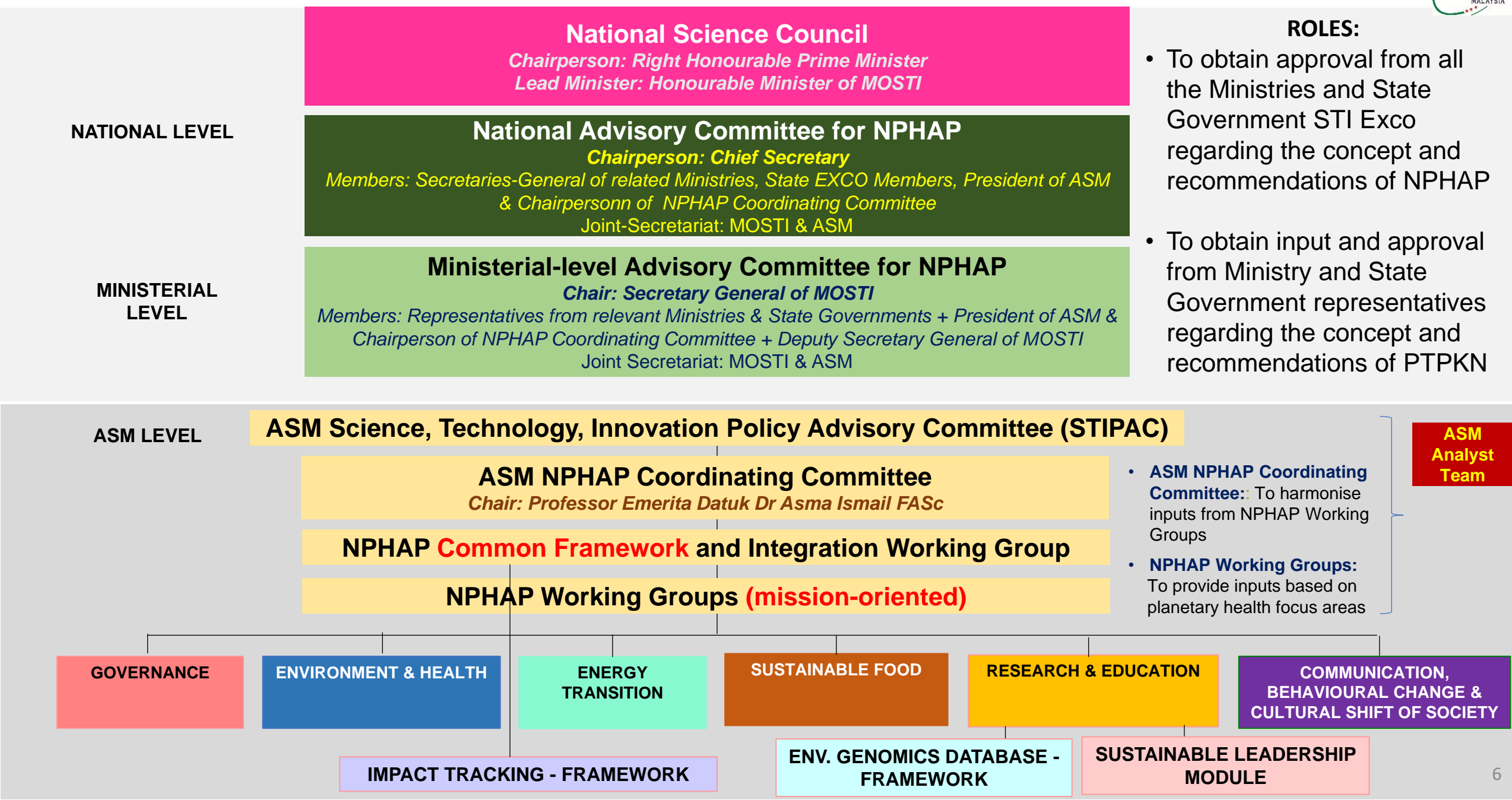


MANDATE TO FORMULATE THE NATIONAL PLANETARY HEALTH ACTION PLAN (NPHAP) AT THE NATIONAL SCIENCE COUNCIL

- The plan will translate into significant shifts in how government agencies work in collaboration with the quadruple helix, **breaking silos and linking policies** so that they protect humanity and the planetary ecosystem that we depend upon for our survival.
- We hope to integrate nature-based solutions that can be scientific knowledge, indigenous knowledge and local knowledge into various aspects like policy, infrastructure and society.
- We will also highlight low hanging fruits.

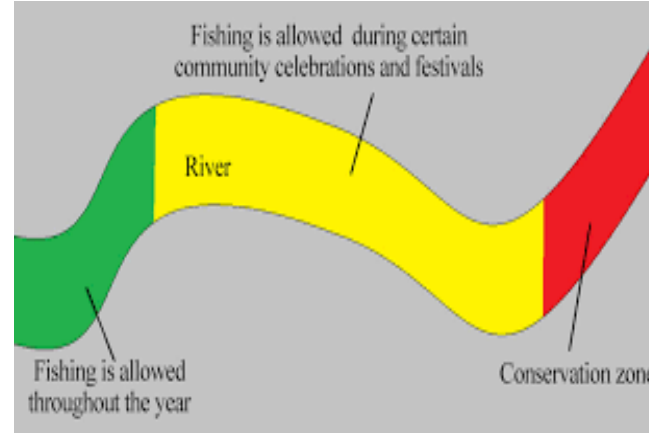


NATIONAL PLANETARY HEALTH ACTION PLAN (NPHAP) COMMITTEE STRUCTURE



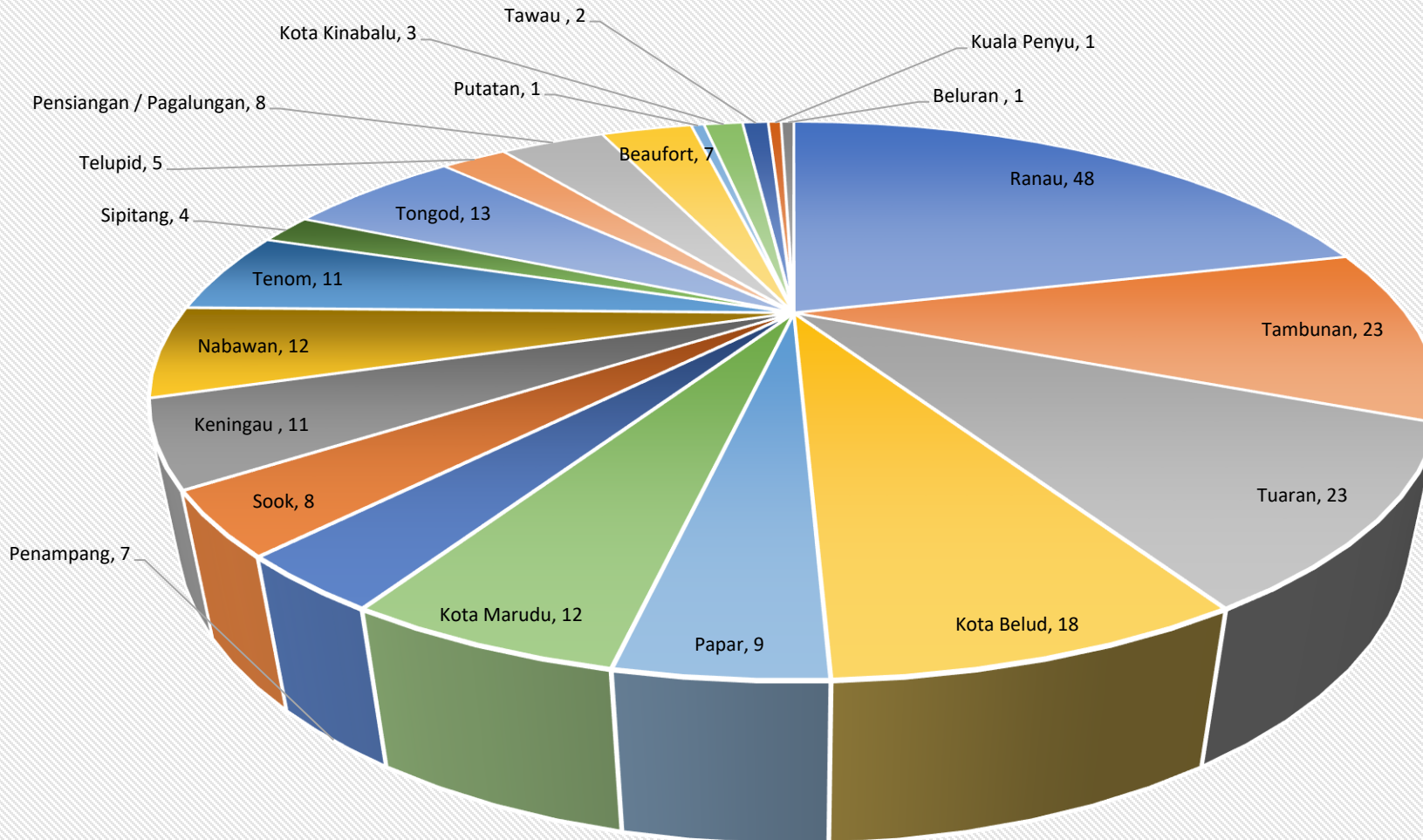
People as agents of change: Tagal system (indigenous knowledge) in Sabah for conservation of rivers

- Malaysia has **1,800 rivers** and major tributaries, with a **total length** exceeding **38,000 km**.
- Tagal is community-based conservation of the rivers in Sabah using indigenous knowledge from the Dusun ethnic group.
- The river is divided into zones (green –fish all year round, Yellow- fish only at designated times , Red – no fishing allowed) .
- The Tagal system **empowers the community** to practice indigenous knowledge and facilitated by ministries to further **educate with relevant knowledge** and **enabled the community to handle the ecotourism**. **Example of ROV bringing ROI**.
- **Example of build inside to deploy outside**. **Share best practices in other parts of Malaysia and around the region**.
- **See video : Tagal**



IMPACT OF TAGAL SYSTEM

NUMBER OF RIVERS IN SABAH IMPLEMENTING THE TAGAL SYSTEM



Data source: Proprietary of Department of Fisheries Sabah, 2023

- **227** rivers have been identified where Tagal system is in place
- **628** villages are involved in implementing the Tagal system,
- A Tagal System is typically 3km in length of a river– as such Tagal system in Sabah covers conservation at an estimated **1, 884km** in length.
- The Tagal practice has been extended to Sarawak and Pahang. It can be extended to all the rivers in Malaysia and even among ASEAN countries.
- This is an example of ROV bringing in the ROI to the people .
- Ecotourism Tagal systems have recorded ticket revenue ranging from RM10,000 to RM 500,000. per year. (Source: Department of Fisheries Sabah, 2023)