

## **Mechanisms Supporting Community and Sustainability Contributions in Maliau Basin**

Maliau Basin has implemented a comprehensive system that enables and encourages enterprises, visitors, and the public to actively support community development and sustainability initiatives. The following are key examples of how this system operates in practice:

### **1. Conservation Fees**

All visitors to Maliau Basin are required to pay compulsory fees such as conservation fee, filming fee, and bench fee. A portion of these funds is strategically reinvested into environmental protection such as the Maliau Basin Wildlife & Resources Survey, community initiatives such as sustainable development programs for community leaders, forest patrolling and monitoring, ecological monitoring, training, environmental education programmes for students.

### **2. Local Community Involvement in Tourism Services**

Tourism-related employment is provided to nearby communities, with locals engaged as porters, guides, cooks, and support staff. This not only creates direct economic benefits for local residents but also builds a sense of ownership and responsibility for environmental conservation.

### **3. Environmental Education and Awareness Programs**

Through the Maliau Basin Studies Centre (MBSC), various environmental education activities are conducted for students, tourists, and local communities. Programs include guided nature walks, biodiversity awareness sessions, and hands-on conservation learning designed to foster appreciation for the unique ecosystem.

### **4. Reforestation and Habitat Restoration Projects**

Tree planting activities are regularly organized in collaboration with visitors, NGOs, and corporate partners. These initiatives focus on reforestation in degraded buffer zones and support carbon offsetting goals, contributing to the long-term resilience of the forest ecosystem.

### **5. Wildlife Survey and Research Participation**

Tourists, students, and visiting researchers are invited to take part in research, survey and exploration, including wildlife monitoring, camera trap data collection, and biodiversity inventories. These efforts directly contribute to scientific research and conservation planning.

### **6. Sustainable Infrastructure and Waste Management**

Tourism facilities within Maliau Basin adhere to strict sustainability guidelines. Infrastructure incorporates solar energy, and eco-friendly design principles. Waste reduction measures,

including targeting a zero-waste policy and proper waste segregation, are enforced to maintain the area's ecological integrity.