



Power to Grow

Microgrid Experiences for rural electrification in Sarawak

Sarawak Energy And Taiwan SmartGrid Exchange Symposium,
NTUH International Convention Center

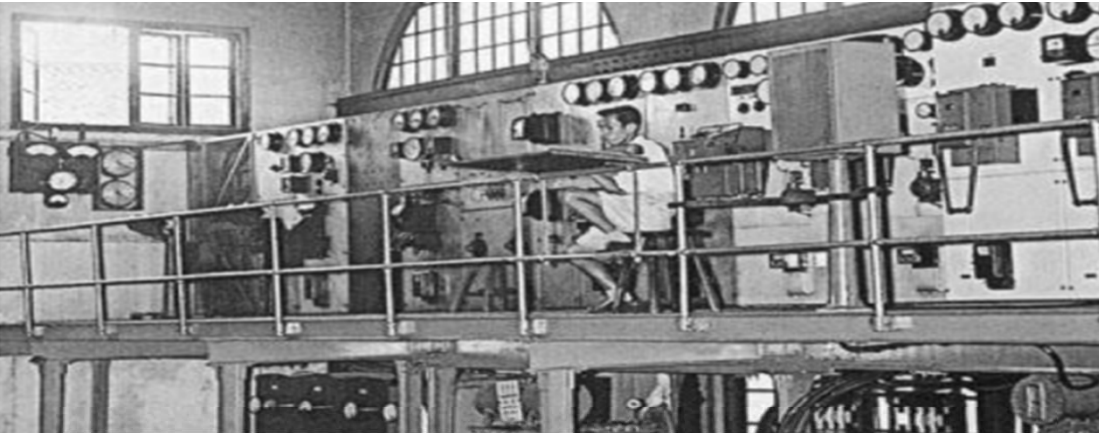
Goh Wei Chiun

Senior Engineer, Research & Development

Sarawak, Malaysia

- One of three territories in Malaysia
 - Bumi Kenyalang: "Land of the Hornbills" on north of Borneo island
- Large geographical area (124,450 km²) with 750km of coastline
 - Population of 2,420,009 (2010 census), 20 persons/km²
 - 4 cities: Kuching (700k), Miri (350k), Sibiu (257k) & Bintulu (200k)





sarawak  energy

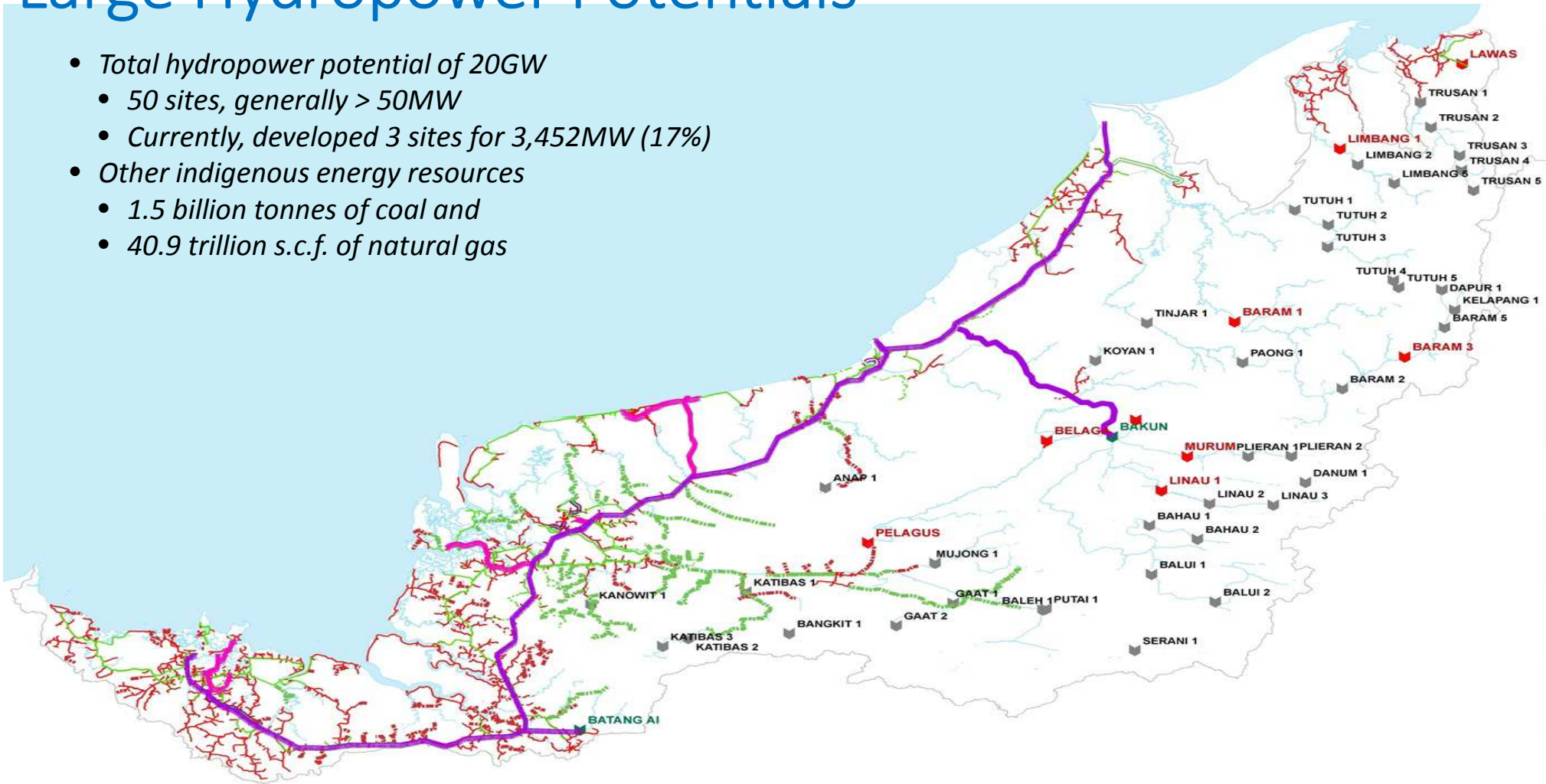


Sarawak Energy is fully owned by the State Government and has a proud history over 70 years .

A fully integrated electric utility, Sarawak Energy is the sole entity responsible for transmission and distribution of electricity, and the main entity responsible for electricity generation, in the state of Sarawak.

Large Hydropower Potentials

- Total hydropower potential of 20GW
 - 50 sites, generally > 50MW
 - Currently, developed 3 sites for 3,452MW (17%)
- Other indigenous energy resources
 - 1.5 billion tonnes of coal and
 - 40.9 trillion s.c.f. of natural gas





SCORE was developed to propel the economy to a new level of income and development. Principal objective of SCORE is to harness Sarawak's sustainable strategic advantage in the production of bulk electricity at globally competitive prices to attract investment to the State.



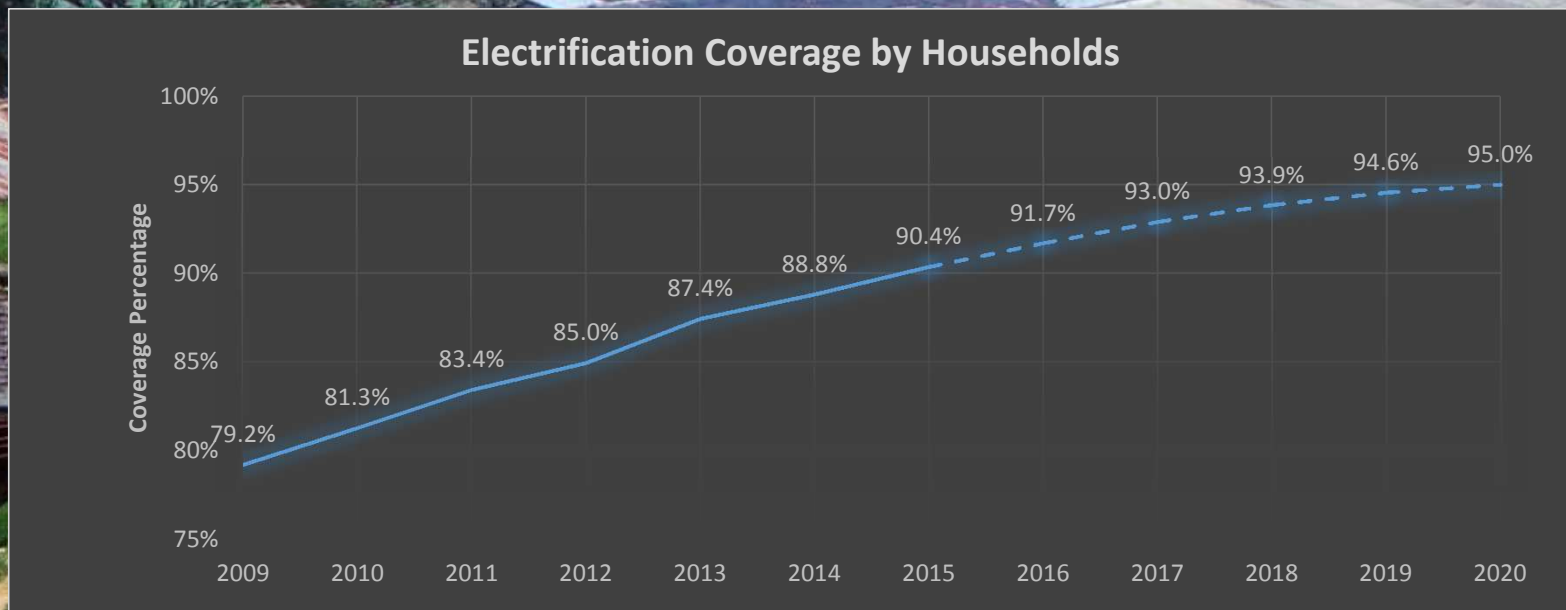
6 Objectives of SCORE



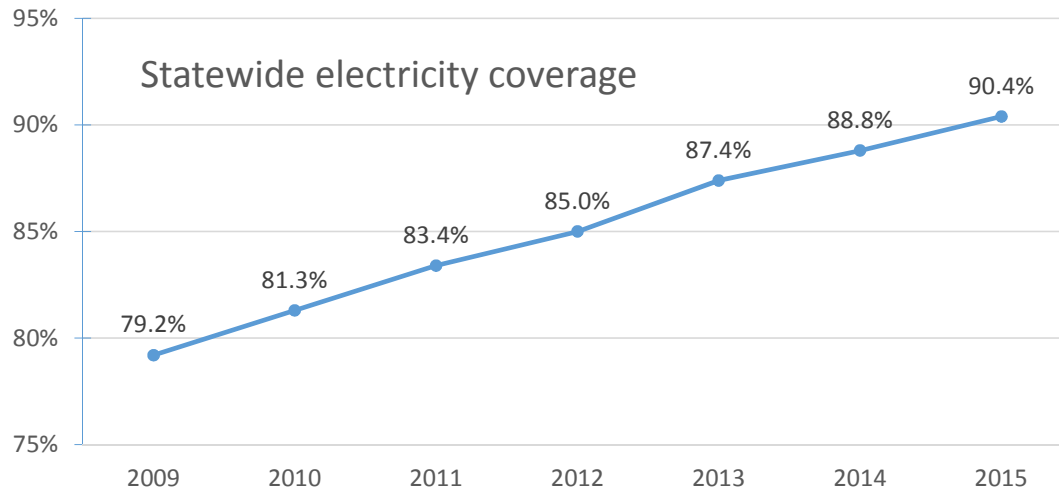
- 1 To create new sources of wealth
- 2 To move State's economy up to the value chain
- 3 To achieve higher per capita income
- 4 To enhance quality of life
- 5 To achieve balanced regional development
- 6 To eradicate poverty

Rural Electrification in Sarawak

- Urban/rural ratio 52%:48% with 1.2 million people living in rural settings: 6,235 villages, about 200,000 homes
- 1,919 (30%) of villages yet to have 24-hr electricity
 - Some 40,000 homes and 250,000 people



Rural Electrification Achievements 2009-2016



Yet to be electrified	Villages	Households
Accessible	556	9,567
Need access	916	17,603
Remote	397	11,321
Total	1,869	38,491

- Statewide electricity coverage has climbed above 90% in 2015 from below 80% in 2009
- Substantial funding since 2009 until 2016,
 - Grid expansions: RM2,965 million for about 80,000 households
 - Off-grid schemes: RM 818 million for over 3,000 households

Rural Electrification Requirement & Strategy



Element of subsidy to maintain equity with urban dwellers

- Charged at the same tariff
- Given similar level of service, reliability and quality

Whenever possible, connect village to main grid

- Off-grid mini/micro grid schemes reserved for remote/isolated villages
- Those without road access or too far for grid connection

Multi-stage expansion strategy

- Villages close to grid (< 30km) and with road access
- Villages close to grid (< 30km) but need road access
- Remote villages (> 30km)

Rural Electrification Programs

Legend

- Category 1 : Grid Connectable (V : 564 / HH : 10,514)
- Category 2 : Grid Possible but Need Access (V : 927 / HH : 18,038)
- Category 3 : Remote Not Grid Connectable (V : 428 / HH : 12,452)

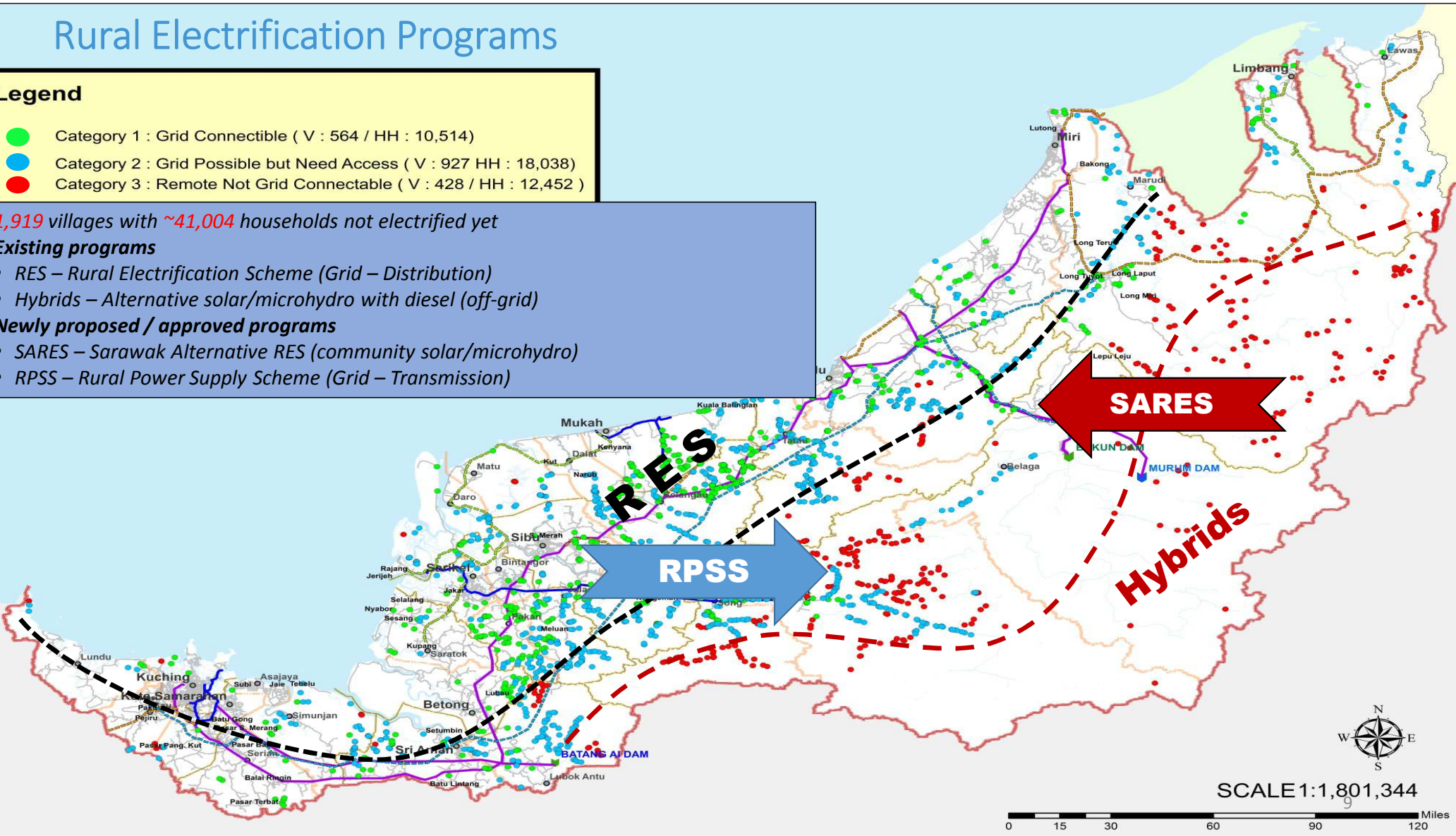
1,919 villages with ~41,004 households not electrified yet

Existing programs

- RES – Rural Electrification Scheme (Grid – Distribution)
- Hybrids – Alternative solar/microhydro with diesel (off-grid)

Newly proposed / approved programs

- SARES – Sarawak Alternative RES (community solar/microhydro)
- RPSS – Rural Power Supply Scheme (Grid – Transmission)



SCALE 1:1,801,344

0 15 30 60 90 120 Miles

Microhydro & Solar Hybrid Stations

Alternative schemes for villages deemed too far for grid connection within the next 5 years

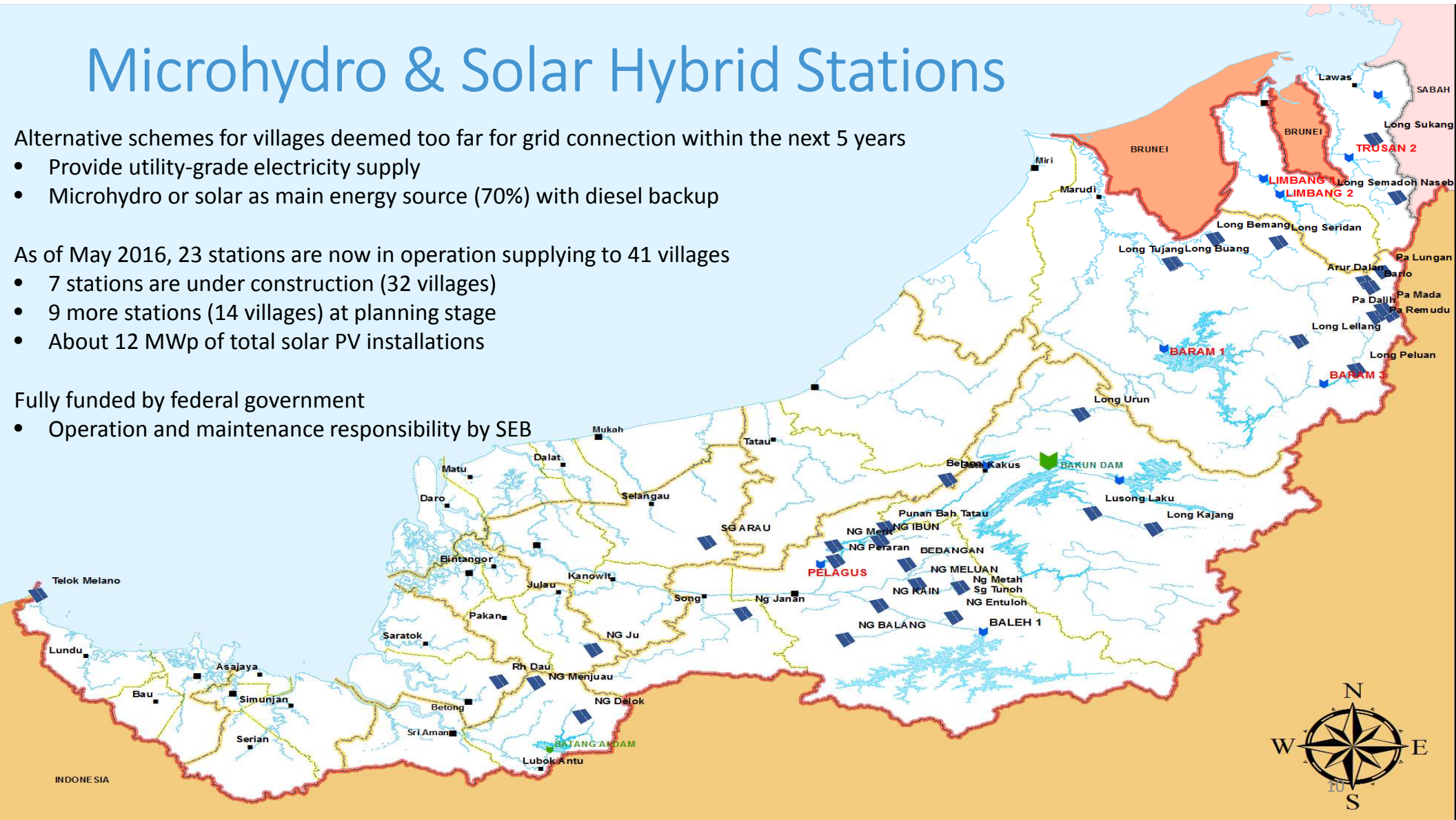
- Provide utility-grade electricity supply
- Microhydro or solar as main energy source (70%) with diesel backup

As of May 2016, 23 stations are now in operation supplying to 41 villages

- 7 stations are under construction (32 villages)
- 9 more stations (14 villages) at planning stage
- About 12 MWp of total solar PV installations

Fully funded by federal government

- Operation and maintenance responsibility by SEB



Single Village Utility Solar Hybrid Scheme

Households: 26 (and a school)

Population: 114

Solar: 129.6 kWp

Battery: 5 x 2250 Ah @ 48V

Diesel generator: 2 x 58 kW

- Unmanned autonomous operation
- Remote condition monitoring



Rumah Dau, Sri Aman
Solar Capacity: 129.6kW





Pa Mada



Long Lellang



Lusong Laku



Long Sukang



Bario Centralised Solar Hybrid Station

Cluster of 11 villages with 250++ households, shops, offices & various buildings



403.2kWp AC coupled
483.84kWp DC coupled



Battery Inverter
600 kW



Batteries
3 x 2150 Ah @ 480V



Solar inverters
500kW + 600kW



Diesel set x 4
(126.4 – 360 kW)



Skid tanks x 4



Distribution lines
11kV (~20 km)



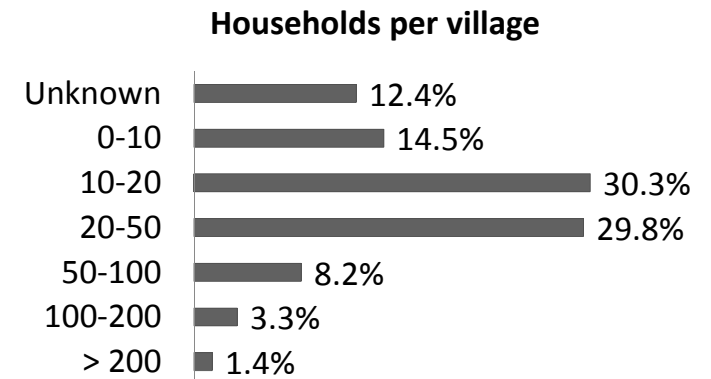
Bazaar & various
administrative offices

Bario AC-DC coupled Hybrid System



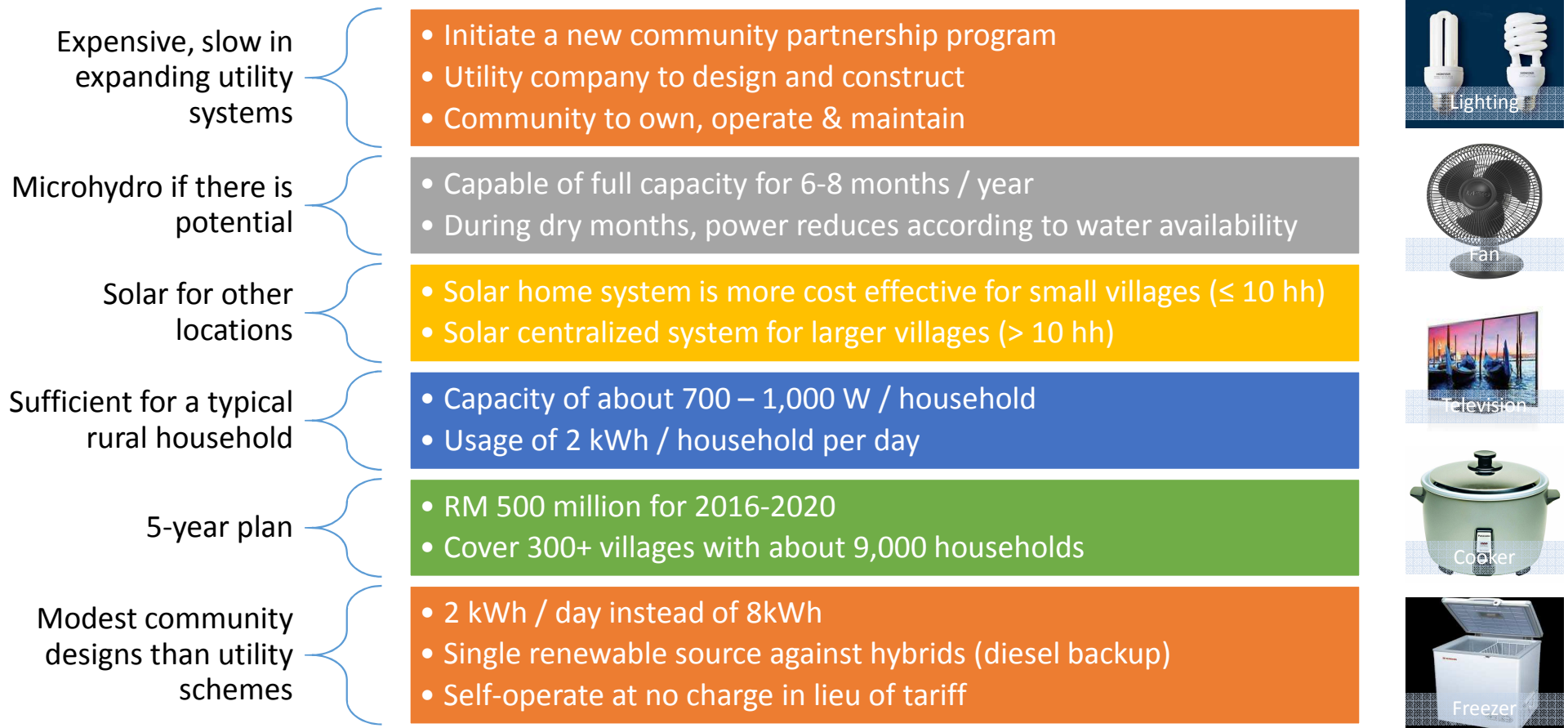
Design and Practicality Considerations

- Villages are widely spread and small
 - Over 50% have less than 50 families, with most having 10-50 families
 - Separated by 5-10 km distance
 - Many situated by rivers & water ways
 - Communities are attached to surrounding lands



- Utility-operated versus community-operated
 - Prohibitive to construct utility-grade systems for all 400+ villages
 - Self-help “community-operated” solutions for small villages
 - Simple-to-operate based on standardized / modularized (plug & play) designs for villages with < 50 families

Community Based Plan for Remotest Villages



Community Solar Home System



Commissioned and handed over to community in 2014

17 households, 40 population

5.44kW in total or 320 W / home

Lightings, TV, radio, video player, satellite decoder, fan, computer & phone charger

Community microhydro

- 30 kW for 30 households
- Weir with self-cleaning intake
- HDPE pipes for penstock
- Single turbine with changeable nozzle
- Simple electrical load-dump regulation
- Standard distribution systems



Sares launched for full electricity coverage

- The Sarawak Alternative Rural Electrification Scheme (SARES) was launched in June 2016 by State of Government to speed up efforts towards full electricity coverage in the state by utilising renewables like solar and micro-hydro in Sarawak's interior.
- 323 isolated villages comprising 8,708 households located in remote areas of Sarawak will benefit from the SARES's implementation over the next five years through a funding of RM500 millions.

No	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Households	1332	1844	1844	1844	1844
Funding Allocation	RM80 millions	RM105 millions	RM105 millions	RM105 millions	RM105 millions

SARES Phase 1a Completed Projects



SARES Phase 1B in Progress



Long Tepen



Long Urang



Long Lunyim



Long Jenalong



Long Latei



Long Leng

SARES Phase 1 Implementation



Centralized system



SARES Phase 1A Energised Communities



Song



Ulu Pelagus



Bkt Mabong



Ulu Skrang

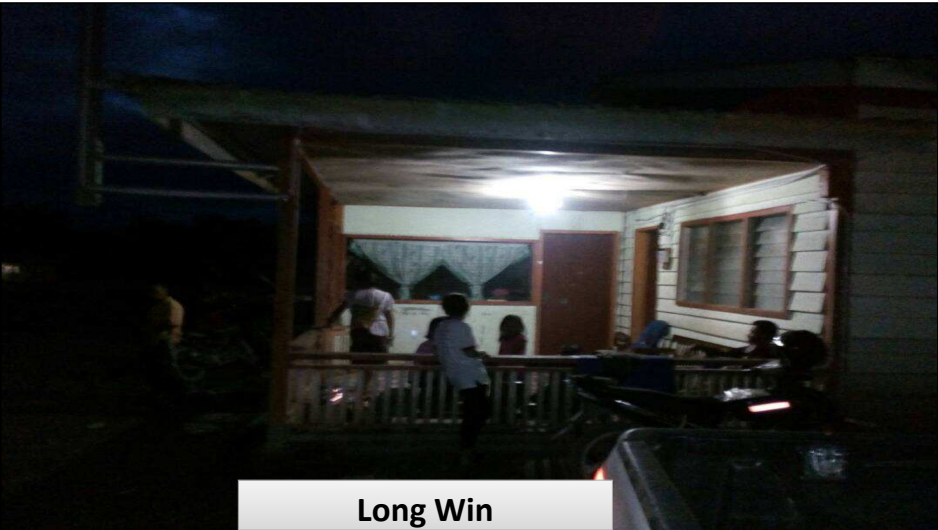


Sebauh



Limbang

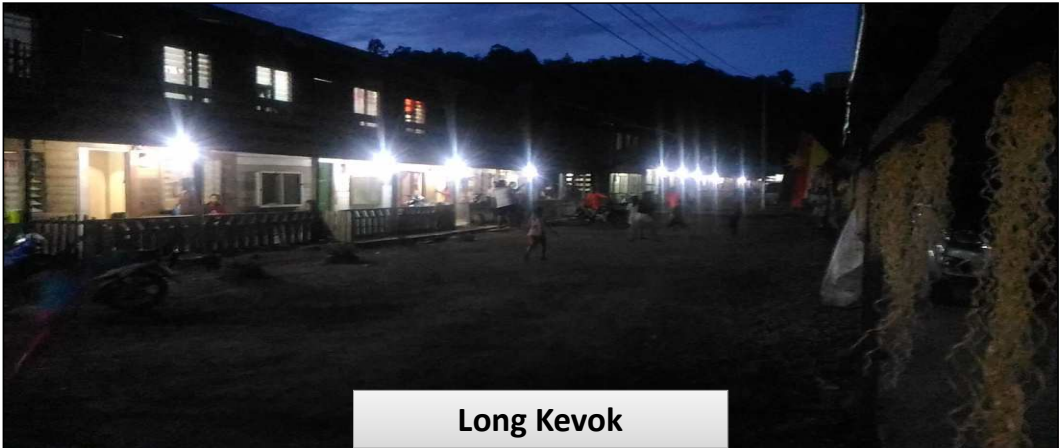
SARES Phase 1B Energised Communities



Long Win



Long Jenalong



Long Kevok

SARES Phase 2 – Communities Engagement



Rh Jinggong, Katibas



Long Kawi, Telang Usan

Community Engagement (March – May 2017)

- Site visit to villages in Phase 2 list (65 villages)
- Briefing communities on SARES
- Solar sites identification and consent to use the land
- Acceptance of SARES project



Rh Lawan, Sg Gaat



Rh Kanyan, Tatau

Site Visit by SEB and Contractor (June 2017)

- Site visit to villages in Phase 2 list (36 villages)
- Finalise solar site selection
- Contractor to inspect site and local conditions

Practical Challenges at Rural Sarawak



Financial constraint limits progress (off-grid schemes costing over RM200k / household)



Lack of other infrastructures and amenities such as water supply and telecommunications



Lack of proper access hampers construction and eventual operation and maintenance

Few activities and limited opportunities makes rural areas unattractive to technically skilled



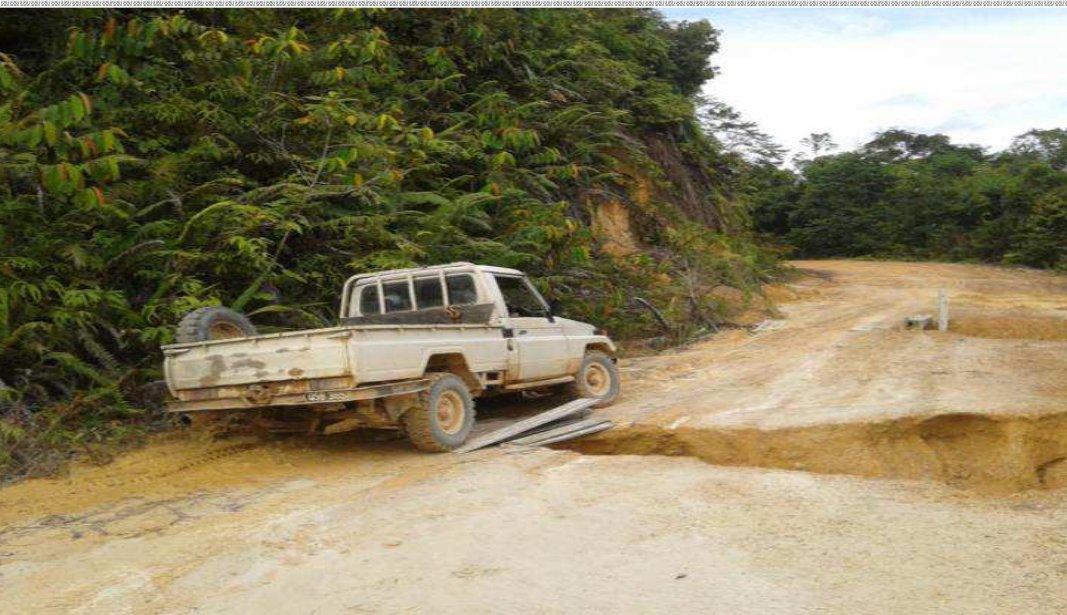
Sparsely distributed villages means numerous small systems (little economy of scale)

O&M challenges

- Remoteness of the stations
- Difficulties in stationing personnel at site
- Mainly these stations are designed to operate autonomously without on-site crew
- Require centralized system to monitor the equipment condition and performance of systems remotely.
- Lower O&M cost by reducing the number of site visits by SEB staffs



Journey to the Sites





Implementation & Logistic Challenges



Monitoring Center via Cloud Platform

- Develop monitoring and control system for asset health assessment and management of the hybrid stations.
- Provide the cloud-based user interface system application with the display of all site location on a single map.

LEONICS Monitoring and Operation Center



Grid Connected Inverter, LEONICS GTP-series is eligible for Bonus FIT rates in Malaysia.

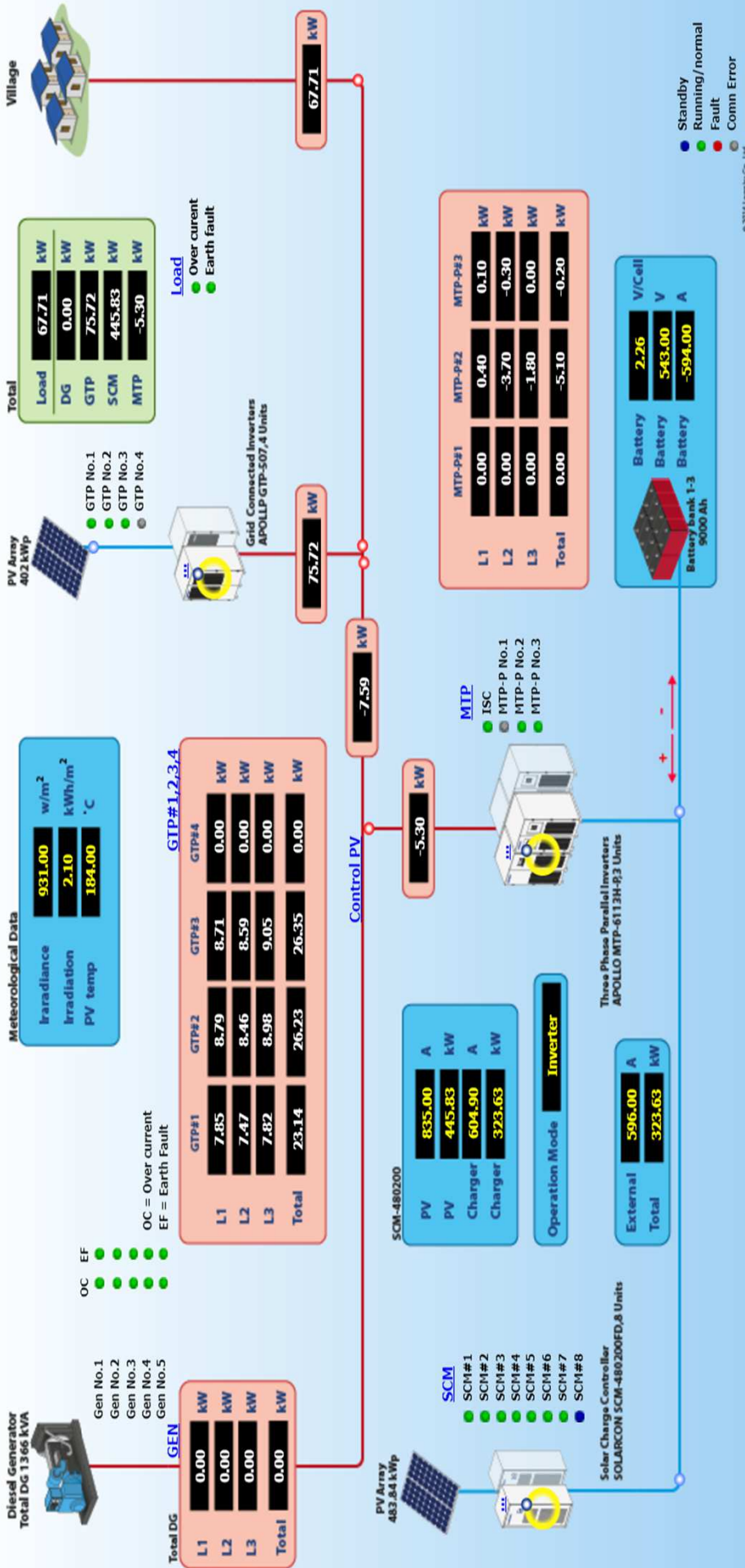
PV Power Farm Hybrid Commercial Residential BTS Special Warroom





Bario

- Main
- PV-DG report
- Energylog
- 3D Layout



© 2011 Luentis Co., Ltd

LEONICS.

*** Communication Error ***

Alarm Message

Date 27-Jul-17 Time 11:23:18

- Standby
- Running/normal
- Fault
- Comm. Error

Bario, Malaysia



Date: 2017-07-27 11:24:36

Irradiance (w/m²)

848.00

Irradiation (kWh/m²)

2.05

Powered by LEONICS.

DG (kW)
0.00

GTP (kW)
77.36

SCM (kW)
330.75

Load (kW)
70.58

MTP (kW)
-4.80

Operation Mode
Inverter

Battery/cell
2.27

Battery (A)
-610.00

V12

Design requirements and compromises

Solar and hybrids system requirements

- AC coupled solar (daytime load) and DC coupled solar (evening load)
- Battery equalization: diesel savings against battery life
- Maintain SOC to preserve battery condition

Microhydro design requirements

- Large water level fluctuations including flash floods
- Wet versus dry seasons: ease in changing setup parameters
- Manual versus automatic operation mode
- Weir, intake and desilting basin

Construction versus operation constraints

- Design conducive for implementation at rural locations
- Adapted for ease of operation by non-skilled villagers
- Contractors construct or under community partnership concept

3M Success factors



Man

- Community buy-in and capability to participate
- Trained personnel for design, implementation, T&C, O&M...
- Develop local contractors, competencies, training and certification



Machine

- Appropriateness of designs & specifications (tailored complexity)
- Major equipment with proven track records (supported by warranty)
- Attention to auxiliary devices (esp. condition monitoring)



Method

- Long term sustainability – maintenance KPI & supports
- Well defined roles & responsibilities of all stakeholders
- Strategy to sustain good products, contractors & introduce new ones

Way forward for collaboration work with TSGIA

- Energy management system
- System optimization design
- Integrated communication
- Data logging and monitoring system
- Power converter technologies
- Advanced energy storage and generation system
- Renewable distributed generation



Thank You