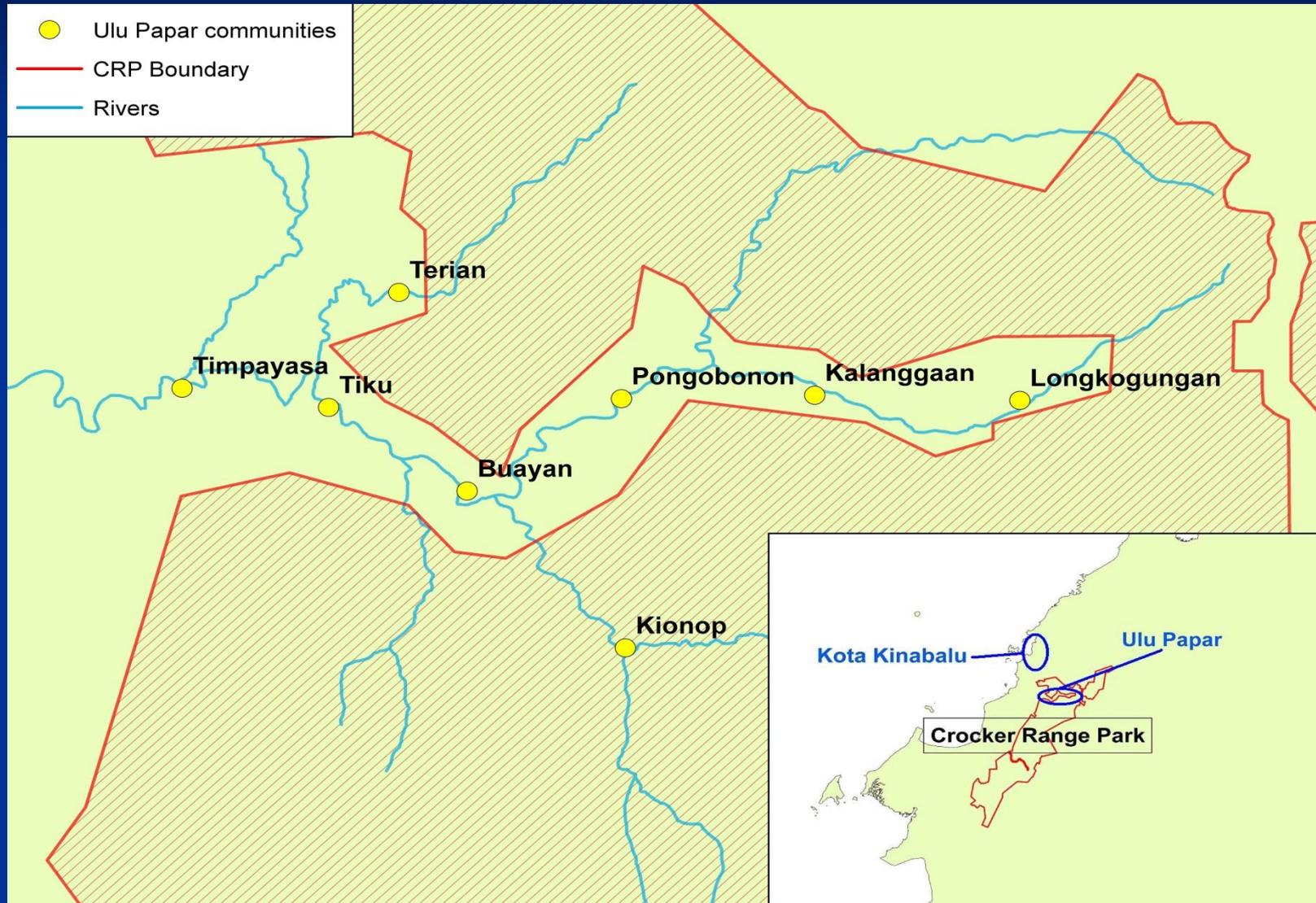


Adam Murphy, Field Coordinator, the Global Diversity Foundation (SEA regional programme)

Ongoing GDF work in Sabah:

- Collaborative research with the communities of the Ulu Papar river valley, adjacent to the Crocker Range park in Sabah. Project focuses on building the capacity of community members to become conservation managers through training in various ethnobiological, resource monitoring and outreach techniques. Project is carried out in collaboration with Sabah Parks (the Sabah state parks management authority).
- Preliminary study examining possible strategies for the establishment of an ecological and cultural “corridor” linking the Crocker Range and Kinabalu state parks; with a particular focus on strengthening existing community-based conservation efforts in the area through the formal recognition of the ICCA (Indigenous peoples and Community Conserved Areas) concept.

Ulu Papar river valley. Penampang district, Sabah, Malaysia



Challenge questions

1. How can IT be used to enhance community-based conservation initiatives, and how can it help to provide a common platform for collaboration between communities, government agencies mandated with biodiversity conservation, and other outside agents?
2. What are some of the potential dangers inherent in the intersection between communities, biodiversity conservation and IT (for example, the databasing of Traditional Ecological Knowledge)? How could these dangers be avoided? How can the complexities of ecological knowledge be incorporated into databases without losing the original cultural context of the data?