

Malua BioBank — Tradable Biodiversity Conservation Certificates for a Sabah Rainforest Reserve (Malaysia)

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Malaysia

Quality score: 13/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Launched in 2008 in Sabah's Malua Forest Reserve, the Malua BioBank set aside 34,000 hectares of logged rainforest and sold tradable Biodiversity Conservation Certificates to fund US\$10 million in restoration — but commercial uptake proved weak after an anchor buyer withdrew.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	0/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	1/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	0/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Governance, certification & transferability	1/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-09-28

[Sabah State Government / New Forests \(Eco Products Fund LP, with Equator LLC\)](#) — accessed 2026-09-28

[State of the Apes](#) — case study on the Malua BioBank — accessed 2026-09-28

[CBD.int](#) — Malua Wildlife Habitat Conservation Bank case study (PDF) — accessed 2026-09-28

[Mongabay](#) — 2008 launch coverage — accessed 2026-09-28

[Geoforum \(2015\), ScienceDirect](#) — 'Love for sale' — accessed 2026-09-28

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