

Dr. Peter Songan is currently a professor of human resource development at the Faculty of Cognitive Science and Human Development, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak. He obtained his PhD in Adult, Extension and Continuing Education, with minors in Industrial and Labor Relations, and International Agriculture and Rural Development from Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, U.S.A. in 1992. He has 24 years of teaching and research experience in the university. He teaches and supervises both the undergraduate and postgraduate students. He is currently the Dean of the Centre for Applied Learning and Multimedia. Previously, he had been the Deputy Dean (Research and Services) of the Faculty of Cognitive Science and Human Development for two consecutive terms. In the area of research and publications, he have been involved in some 25-research projects, resulting in the publications of 17 articles in refereed journals, 14 articles in chapters of edited books, 2 edited conference proceedings, 18 articles in conference proceedings, 8 articles in research reports or monographs and 60 articles presented in conferences, seminars and workshops. One of the major research projects that he is now currently involved with is the *e-Bario* Project. This project set out to define the extent to which contemporary information and communication technologies (ICT) could deliver sustainable human development to remote rural communities in Sarawak. As a recognition for its success in using ICT to bring development to the marginalized Kelabit community living in a very remote location of Sarawak, this project has been awarded the Malaysia IT Premier Award for the Socioeconomic Sector by the Government of Malaysia, the SSPI Industry Innovators Award for Systems Development and Applications by the Society of Satellite Professionals International; the eAsia Award by the Asia Pacific Council for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business; and Bario was selected as one of the World's Top Seven Intelligent Communities for 2001 by World Teleport Association and it's Intelligent Community Forum Project. Dr Peter Songan has also been actively involved in conducting numerous consultancy projects mostly in the area of social impact studies and community and rural development, resulting in the publication of 14 technical reports.