

## **Socio-Economic Benefits for adjacent Local communities from Sinharaja Rain Forest**

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The relationship between man and forest is indivisible from ancient tribal to modern human societies. Sinharaja rain forest is one of the biosphere reserves which show that unique relationship. The main objective of this research is identifying the socio-economic benefits to adjacent local communities from Sinharaja rain forest. Primary data was collected through observations, interviews and questioners. A random sample composed 30 percent house from Kudawa Grama Niladhare Division in Kalawana Divisional Secretariat Division. Research reveals that local communities have obtained more socio-economic benefits directly and indirectly. Some of them are Kithul products, timber, roofing materials, hydropower electricity, resins, water, food and medicines. Furthermore some illegal economic activities such as cutting Agar wood, Sandalwood and Red Sandalwood trees were identified. The outcome of this research reveals that the benefits of Sinharaja rain forest increase the level of local communities' income and their social status.

**Key word-** Sinharaja Forest, Local communities, Scio-economic benefit

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