

Tanah Air Beta



VIBRANT FOREST LANDSCAPES

Annual Retreat for Landscapes Practitioners Other Effective Conservation Measures (OECM)

10th - 15th June 2022, RER Eco-Camp, Kampar Peninsula, Riau





Annual Retreat for Landscape Practitioners
Meeting Notes
10-15 June 2022



The 2022 Tanah Air Beta retreat for landscape practitioners in Indonesia was hosted by APRIL at Restorasi Ekosistem Riau's (RER's) recently inaugurated Eco-Camp. RER's Eco-Camp sits inside APRIL's production forestry concession, adjacent to RER's ecosystem restoration concession (ERC). The ERC is a tenure conferring conservation responsibilities on the largest remaining peat swamp forest on the Kampar peninsula in Riau Province, Sumatra – and one of the largest in Southeast Asia. The retreat enabled a diversity of key-actors influencing conservation in Indonesia to focus on emerging issues of biodiversity conservation. Primarily we focused on strategies for conservation that are not under strict protection through formally protected national parks or equivalent reserves. We examined initiatives that might fit IUCN's designation as Other Effective Conservation Measures, in the case of Indonesia particularly the case of *Kawasan Ekosistem Esensial (KEE)*. Participants are listed in Annexe 1.

Participants gathered at Kerinci on the 10th of June and moved by road and helicopter to the Eco-Camp on the 11th Morning.

Retreat participants enjoyed the natural surroundings of the Eco-Camp. Bird watching, nature walks, silent electronically-motored boat-rides down the Serkap river, guided by Pak Prayitno, stimulated *in-situ* thinking and discussion among some of the most active and influential researchers and practitioners in Indonesia's conservation community. We were all introduced to the e-bird system and notes on birds were uploaded onto e-bird each day – a new experience for most people. Eco-Camp's observation deck was conducive for meeting, observing, and strategizing ways to secure positive futures for biodiversity. We appreciated the need to align efforts amidst policy changes emerging from international conventions as they relate to sovereign and local development aspirations. We observed three primate species and numerous charismatic bird species.

The Eco-Camp is spacious and encouraged a lot of invaluable informal interactions amongst participants in between formal presentations.

June 11 – Opening and Introduction

The retreat started with a trip to Tasik Tengah. Some of the participants enjoyed the opportunity to canoe and motor around the lake and enjoy its birds and wildlife.





A visit to Tasik Tengah and a stop at the ranger station in RER Kampar Landscape

April Conservation Strategy and Vision 2030 (Craig Tribolet)

- Vision 2030 is a strategy for the entire APRIL company but focuses heavily on the environmental and social impacts of the company. The vision includes a commitment to achieving “Thriving Landscapes” based upon serious economic engagement with nearby villages. The entire landscape will consist of production areas and protection areas in equal proportion and would entail social-ecological corridors to enable habitat for the movement of tigers and other wildlife. The underlying concept is that production areas will pay for conservation in same landscape. Part of the strategy is that the core conservation area will be protected by a surrounding buffer ring of plantations which will discourage access by poachers and encroachers.

Welcome and introduction to the retreat – Jeff Sayer:

- Jeff introduced the purpose of the workshop focusing on three themes:
 - Reflections on landscape-scale initiatives across Indonesia
 - Learning about RER: opportunities, challenges, aspirations
 - Exploring options for greater collaboration on research and practice amongst participants.

June 12 (Day 1):

Presentations:

1. RER overview presentation (Brad Sanders)

Brad presented the history and present situation of the Restoration Concession (RER) and explained the conditions under which it operated and the opportunities and challenges that it faced. The fact that it is well funded by profits from the pulp and paper operations is a big factor in its success – there have been no fires since 2015, almost no logging and poaching and the poaching of songbirds is now greatly reduced. Rigorous studies of the wildlife are being conducted by visiting scientists and RER's own staff. FFI have made big contributions. The research on greenhouse gas emissions and sequestration are cutting-edge and of regional and international significance.

2. Vibrant Forest Landscapes presentation (James Langston and Rebecca Riggs)

Vibrant Forest Landscapes is the name of the lab at UBC that hosts the landscape team of Jeff Sayer, Intu Boedihartono, Rebecca Riggs, James Langston and our graduate students. Four of the master's students are interning with RER this year. The VFL lab focuses on:

- a. Transdisciplinary science
 - “Understanding systems from the perspective of all stakeholders is fundamental if science is going to influence outcomes”
 - Learning strategies: inductive, abductive, deductive
- b. Approaching different issues through a landscape lens (acknowledging complexity)
- c. Collaboration and learning (what are lessons learned from landscape-scale initiatives)
- d. What are considered vibrant forest landscapes? Important question to discuss – is it about capabilities and governance?

Discussion questions over break:

1. The group discussed the value of multi-stakeholder platforms and the difficulties of making them function. Who mobilizes a multi-stakeholder platform? Who initiates it, facilitates it, keeps it running?
 - This is a big question for RER which has lingered for many years (and other landscape initiatives)
 - General consensus is that KPHs do not have the capacity to be a fit-for-purpose multi-stakeholder platform facilitating coordination and collaboration in the landscape (In previous meetings the KPH was considered to be the ideal platform for facilitation)
2. Discussions:
 - It was noted that Indonesian law encourages companies to invest in social and environmental activities in their areas of operation. These investments can be offset against taxes.
 - The initiatives of APRIL to conserve peatland and its biodiversity and to provide social services in the Kampar area was noted.
 - It was noted that APRIL has the capacity to make effective investments in a diversity of social and environmental activities in its “footprint” area.

3. There was considerable debate about how national-level changes will affect forest research and governance? For example, the capital moving to Kalimantan.
 - The changed organisation of science was noted and there was considerable discussion on the emerging role of BRIN.
 - Participants discussed the performance of RER compared to other restoration landscapes in Indonesia. I.e. Ketapang in W. Kalimantan. Ketapang is subject to several different licence holders and land uses (including artisanal mining) which make it extremely difficult to develop a multi-stakeholder platform. In PT. RHOI in East Kalimantan, lack of access helps conservation (i.e. no good roads leading into Orangutan habitat). In PT. RHOI there is very good quality forest but the ecosystem restoration concession (ERC) struggles to follow government regulations. Requirements to plant trees and harvest timber and pay royalties to the government are beyond the resources available to RHOI. RHOI has failed its legal compliance test and is therefore unable to expand operations with a new ERC.

Local Traditional Dancing Performance



7 high school students from the village of Teluk Meranti performed a welcome dance for the TAB landscape retreat participants. The students then volunteered to participate in a landscape scenario visioning exercise for the Kampar Peninsula. TAB uses such visualization techniques regularly to engage local stakeholders in debates about the future that they desire – and also those futures that they would like to avoid. We use rich pictures as a way to break communication barriers, and explore local knowledge of what constitutes ‘bad and good’ landscapes and future livelihoods.

- **Landscape Scenarios**

Landscape scenarios use visualisation to discuss and learn perspectives on landscapes under different conditions (Boedhihartono, 2012). For example, best- and worst-case scenarios, future expectations of change, and the impact of different interventions. We asked participants to draw different elements of landscapes using pens/pencils. It was a simple and powerful way to prompt inclusive conversations. TAB have used landscape scenarios in many parts of Indonesia (Lombok,

Sulawesi, Maluku) and other countries (Boedhihartono et al., 2015) as part of a series of participatory activities to learn perspectives and aspirations. This approach is effective when participants are divided into small groups (i.e. men and women or fisherman and farmers) to see how different people understand a landscape. A key element of the activity is the facilitation and discussion that happens during the drawing – the process is an icebreaker that can build relationships and dive deeper into certain issues.

At Eco-Camp, we used landscape scenarios to build relationships between the high school students that were invited from Teluk Meranti and learn how the students understand their landscape. We also used landscape scenarios to learn from retreat participants about their views on the RER – what they see as a positive future. We had 4 groups take part in the activity: 2 groups were high school students and 2 groups were retreat participants. In general, the students focused on the area around their village and the retreat participants focused on RER.

Best Case Scenario: 4 participants (high school students) + 2 facilitators (Abby and Novi)

- Students were shy and initially hesitant to begin – difficult to establish the boundaries of the landscape. The first marker was the Kampar river.
 - The students first drew the protected forest, then agroforestry (pineapple) which they want to expand from what is currently there (cows).
 - Third they drew a shopping mall, then a bridge across the Kampar river and more and bigger roads. They added the recently renovated hospital, indicated that they aspire to have access to a university or vocational college. They felt the need for, more community housing (a fire destroyed many houses in the village recently). Others desired new structures included a high school for agriculture, and a “birds nest drink” factory for value-added processing.
 - Whilst drawing, the students attention to opportunities for more honey production, ecotourism, camping, birdwatching, and more ways to view the Bono wave (i.e. a viewing tower)



During the visualization exercise with the High School students from Teluk Meranti

Worst Case Scenario: 5 participants (high school students) + 2 facilitators (Taviana and Shintia)

- Initially they found it difficult to imagine a worst-case scenario, so facilitators guided them towards what were some negative events that have occurred in the past.
- Facilitators inferred that the students didn't understand the map (weren't able to locate their village on the map) and didn't know much about the forest. But their knowledge became apparent when the discussions moved forward. The map was not drawn from a birds-eye perspective, but from a human-eye, horizontal perspective.
- The students began with fire – the electric fire in 2015 that damaged a homestay in the village
- Bono was the next focus – for water
- In their lifetime *Pulai* trees (*Astonia Scolaris*) have declined because of its use to build surfboards for the Bono wave. Surf boards sell for 1m rupiah each. The leftovers from the trees are used to make souvenirs for tourists.
- The students recalled the 2015 fires and the need to close the school and conduct online classes
- In 2019 they observed a small dolphin in the river
- Pollution (plastic waste) in the river affected the fish and affected the village during flooding
- When the tide increases, illegal logging increases because transport opportunities arise.



Students from Teluk Meranti High School presenting their views on future scenarios for the Kampar landscape

Discussion with high school students following landscape scenarios. The students gave presentation on their visions of the future:

- One wants to attend university to study tourism and become a guide.
- What do they see as solutions to the problems? The students struggled to answer except noted the need to re-plant a *pulai* trees when cut down.
- Their perception was that fire occurs spontaneously – didn't conceive that fires were lit purposefully by people (did not link humans with fire).
- Out of the high-school students, only one had been outside of Riau, this was the fisherman group's head (Pak Bachtiar's) granddaughter.



Sunita Safitri from Teluk Meranti presented the worst case scenario for the Kampar landscape

FUTURE SCENARIOS made by High School students from Teluk Meranti:



Best case scenarios around Teluk Meranti made by the female students from Teluk Meranti High School



Worst Case scenarios around Teluk Meranti made by the female students from Teluk Meranti High School

Retreat participants Group 1: Mahendra, Nawawi, Anton, Ani, Iqbal, James

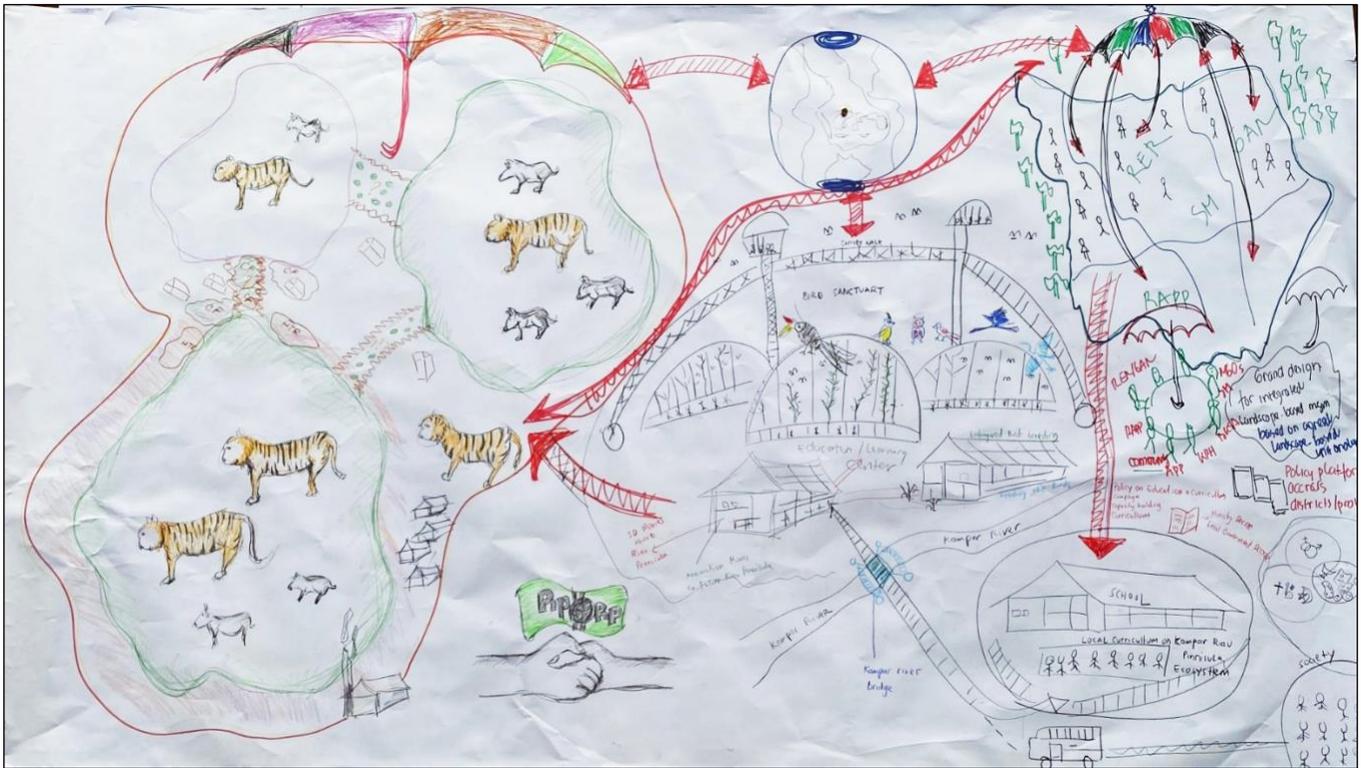
“The future we want”

- Each person began drawing images reflecting their own discipline – tigers (CI), spatial landscapes with plantations, buffer zones, corridors (FFI), education facilities (BRIN), governance (CIFOR).
- The final image was a combination of governance, education, conservation, international learning linked up through various interactions.
- Umbrellas were drawn to represent the different levels of cooperation (regional, national, multinational)
- Governance focused on multi-stakeholder platforms and multi-scalar multi-stakeholder platforms
- A handshake with the dollar sign represented equitable financial incentives that would arise due to exchange and collaboration (in response to a need to account for financial equity)
- There was strong emphasis on education – creating accessibility for students to build awareness of the environment.



Discussion following group 1:

- Discussion focused on the need to build a multi-stakeholder forum and develop scenarios for the future of the landscape
 - Could a *Kawasan Ekosistem Esensial* (KEE) be the right avenue for building the multi-stakeholder forum?
 - Needs: oil palm certification, multi-stakeholder forum, government leadership.
 - Challenges: requires strong government support and high technical capacity for requisite approvals. If approved, will it function to achieve landscape objective?
 - Will the benefits outweigh the cost?
 - KEE would require strong engagement with Dinas Kehutanan and BKSDA
 - Several steps required before pursuing KEE as a strategy



Scenarios of Kampar landscape made by Group 1

Retreat participants Group 2: Dwi, Prayitno, Agus, Musnanda, Ali, Ario

“The future we want”

- Began drawing geographically precise map of the Kampar peninsula
- Everyone tended to agree with Craig and Brad’s concept of a production-protection landscape (Dwi thought it would be good idea to expand plantations, but the group disagreed)
- The landscape model was “production-protection-people”: key focus on APL area on the outside the plantations (along the river). In the APL area the group suggested agroforestry gardens, ecotourism, carbon credits, community forestry.
- Increased research capacity at the Eco-Camp, including field guides and rangers with good forest knowledge
- Buffer zones along APL land (in addition to plantations)



Discussion following group 2:

- The suggestion was that APRIL/RER will support communities through a community forest that would sell carbon. James raised the question “Don’t communities need wood for construction/village needs and how would this conflict with the carbon schemes?”
- Consideration of the upcoming carbon tax: the government is going to be initiating a carbon tax on emissions from companies.
 - According to Jeff, the flux tower data suggest that the natural forest emits – when we might expect that it would sequester carbon. – APRIL operations will always be a net emitter. Surprisingly the natural forest emits more methane than the plantations.
- May also be necessary to have a mixed forest for household use (for food/healthy diets)
- Would increasing efficient land allocation lead to improvements? i.e. fewer companies with larger holdings vs many companies with small-medium plantations.



Scenarios of Kampar landscape made by Group 2



Presentation on visualization activities

Overall issues:

The visualization exercise was useful in enabling participants to share thinking on landscape approaches in general and the RER in particular. The involvement of the high school students helped us to see the issues through the eyes of local people. The overall lessons related to the processes of change and the best ways of achieving MSPs to ensure that all perspectives are discussed. People clearly value the infrastructure, jobs and general economic prosperity that the mill operations bring to the area.

6pm: Participants watched the Video “Frontier Sumatra”



June 13th (Day 2)

Participants presented recent activities of their institutions

BRIN – Nawawi – director of the *Research Centre for Population*.

The new configuration of research in Indonesia was presented by Dr. Nawawi the head of the Research Center for Population at the BRIN. Many participants were interested in how BRIN will function and how they might engage with BRIN researchers and what the implications are for research funding. The detailed account of the discussion follows:

- All research institutions in Indonesia have been coalesced into a “super-giant” – BRIN (*Badan Riset dan Inovasi Nasional*) – The model is to some extent based upon the Chinese academy of science.
- BRIN will consist of 12 research institutions with 85 centers. (Nawawi’s population center is one of the 85 centers).
- BRIN has 18,000 staff of which ~9,000 are researchers.
- A set of deputies with secretaries and directors will convey BRIN’s research results to influence government policies – at central level.
- BRIN has a steering committee Ibu Megawati – has much influence, and is head of ruling party; the head of ministry of finance Sri Muliani serves on this committee.
- There is an institute for good governance, economy and community welfare – which may be ideal to link with TAB research.
- Proposals for new research must include collaborative partnerships with other BRIN institutes.
- There are several (3) institutions relevant to social-humanities, each with 7-8 research centers.
- All other institutes related to hard sciences
- Researchers can work anywhere anytime – they will be oriented to deliverables by end of year.
- Regarding the *Institute of social sciences and humanities*.
 - a. Establishing cluster- family and health, pop mobility, human resource and employment and human ecology. Focus on forestry and priorities on stunting.
 - b. Ca 120 researchers
 - c. Human population dynamics – Nawawi is studying burgeoning millennial and GenZ and aging population.
- LPDP provides funds to BRIN to manage budget. BRIN matches topics of budget to priority of government.
 - Programs for collaboration – allocates 1bn rupiah per year – for collaborative projects. Examples: Funding explorative research, large research boat, start-up entrepreneurship...
- Collaborative research – postdocs, fellowships. Stipends of ~ \$2K per month.
 - a. Plus university – undergrad, masters, and PhD. Research Degrees.
 - b. Other research funds exist for students (barista-research funds).
- Programs Themes:
 - a. Clusters – there are various – *human ecology* fits into one of the themes – and is one of the clusters.
 - b. Program 1 – is about Indonesian identity.
- Research proposals should include diversity – from outside of BRIN, and international.
 - a. Want to strengthen -and establish - international networks.
 - b. What about state universities? – makes the application look good to BRIN.
 - c. But the lead coordinator of the research should be BRIN member.
- We observe this seems to be mirroring Chinese model of priority setting, adjudicating, awards, monitoring accountability.
 - But fits with priorities which are ‘Indonesian’
- National research program (PRN) – LPDP
 - Priorities set by ministries.

Question arises – does this mean short term politics will affect the long-term research operations?

Centre for collaborative research

- a. Needs at least 3 research centers, 1bn rupiah per project/year.
 - b. Either scheme for public, or partnership with industry.
- Priorities in Nawawi’s and Ali’s focus
 - a. Population, livelihood and governance change – in the area of Indonesia’s new capital city
 - b. Landscape governance and social-ecological systems.

Pak Musnanda (Nanda) – TNC – landscape assessment in East Kalimantan

Pak Nanda presented the use of the Conservation by Design approach of The Nature Conservancy as it has been applied in East Kalimantan. He reflected on the methodology and on the problems of getting CbyD adopted by the provincial administration. The presentation explored the issues around the use of the KEE concept in Indonesia and reported on success in getting provincial support for KEE.

- TNC has studied options for KEE in east Kalimantan
 - Present area to KLHK
 - Protect ecosystems outside protected areas – OECMs?
 - Classify typology of natural ecosystem – scoring system – layer of settlements/threats – they prioritize the area farther from the threats/settlements.
 - HCV KEE was defined by using province wide landscape assessment drawing on data from CIFOR and TNC. Most data are secondary. TNC did some primary data collection particularly on orangutan habitat.
 - Collaborating using camera trap/soundscape with Edward Game - possible example of methodology
- 1 example: in Berau - Work with Acacia plantation, Oil Palm plantation, Lembaga Adat, NGO. Most of the area is production forest. Some APL, very little protected forest (HL).
 - Does not match the RTRW – landscape boundaries set by the assessment – KEE.
- 12 possible other-ones identified. Issued by decree
- Pilot Stage – it is first necessary to reach agreement amongst stakeholders, then approach governors, who issue decrees.
- Speaking with KSDA, national, province level, to establish indicative map
- New example: using the TNC “Development by Design” methodology.
 - 35 % total area must not be subject to change – doesn’t matter jurisdiction (HL, APL, etc.)
 - Colorado scientists partnering with this. Joe Kaisike.
 - Scoping, using evidence to influence spatial planning process (RTRW and RPJM - – pledge to become green province – climate reduction targets & REDD. Governor climate taskforce.
 - Hierarchy of mitigation.
- Avoid, minimize -> restore-> offset
 - Overlaying different impact layers.
- HCV, human modification index.
- Nighttime light indicator for human presence.
 - Initial proposal was 640,000 ha, settled on allocating 417,000 ha of HCV in APL land at province level.
 - Can use these lands for Hutan Desa, participatory use with locals. Using Global Landsat data in Colorado to do participatory mapping – with spatial planning.

Mahendra – FFI – sites

Pak Mahendra reported on FFI landscape activities in several provinces and their use of the KEE concept in securing conservation outside protected areas. COVID had halted or delayed progress on much of FFI's fieldwork in the past three years.

- Prioritize forest patrols – monitoring megafauna – primarily tigers
- Tiger protection and conservation units.
- Utilizing SMART patrols.
- Also pursuing biodiversity surveys – using camera and audio trapping.
- Supporting community forestry to navigate processes and empower them.
- Institutional recognition to geopark (national – to international biosphere reserve). Example in the south Sulawesi karst landscape – ridge to reef
- Want to superimpose KEE over the landscape. Progress halted during COVID.
 - Challenge – too many landscape schemes in the same landscape.
 - But a bit of redundancy – achieves resilience, awareness.
- Is there no limitation on area size for KEE?
- National initiative for trees – too much focus on animals – lacking information on threatened tree/flora.
- Inventory and verification of high biodiversity outside KSA/KPA (konservasi sumber daya alam dan ekosistem – Kawasan pelestarian alam-KPA and Taman Buru -TB) areas.
 - Desktop study – Dwi said will be challenging for KLHK to deal with all other ministries.
 - What is purpose? Find land for swapping – reporting for SDGs, CBD COP.
 - Any link to OECM?
 - Inventory of data.
- InVer targets (inventory and verification) targets.

Ani Nawir CIFOR – integrated watershed management projects

- Dr Ani reported on the landscape work of CIFOR and ICRAF and their attempts to get landscape scale conservation and development adopted by BAPPENAS and provincial authorities.

- CIFOR is engaged across many projects with numerous partners
 - With NGOs to enhance research capacity – for their evidence-based campaigns.
 - Kapuas Hulu – biodiversity upstream conservation – IKI project.
 - Teak smallholder production.
 - Etc.
- Policies and regulations always changing – high transaction costs, need to manage local resiliency in institutional coordination.
- ‘grand strategies using BAPPENAS across levels of government’
- Nice regulatory and process-related diagram of policy analysis as strategy to influence for ‘integrated management’ across levels
- Bright spot of an ecotourism benefit sharing model in Jogjakarta
- Ikea wants to engage in processed rattan from sustainable sources– this could change things.

Pak Agus Kastanya – Maluku seascape and landscape change

Pak Agus gave an overview of the problems facing the small islands of Maluku and the pressures of new developments of estate crops, mines, infrastructure in the Wallacea region especially.

- Climate change specific issues to Maluku – across sectors (agriculture, health, etc.)
- IUFRO framework for small island integrated management.
- Seascape erosion issues
 - Issues of scale of maps – who is in charge: the Ministry of Marine affairs and fisheries or KLHK
- Mobilizing knowledge, mitigation and adaptation strategies/roadmaps/plans into the 2030 plan

Pak Anton Ario– CI (Yayasan Konservasi Cakrawala Indonesia) – Working in Sundaland landscape

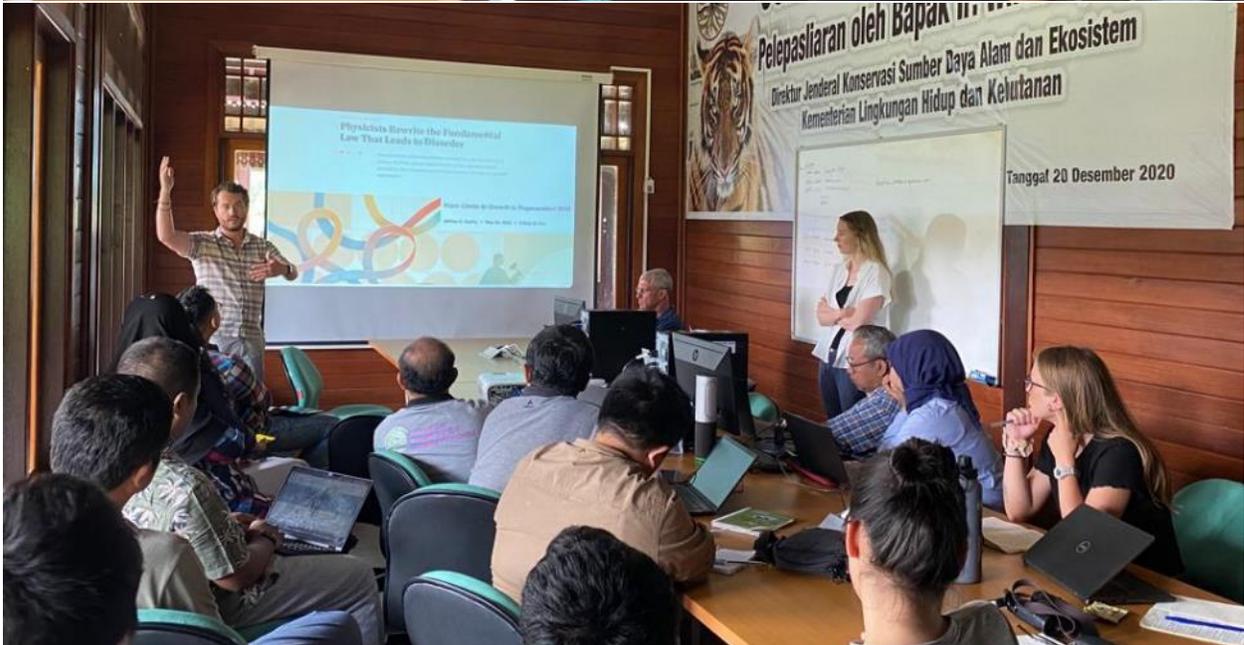
Pak Anton reported on the work of CI in North Sumatra and the attempts to improve spatial planning and to attain the ambitious conservation targets for the province of 41% conserved.

- Science, policy, partnership, sustainability (pillars of work)
- Start with biophysical assessment for ‘Environmentally Sensitive Areas’
 - These are places where if something happens there is a bigger impact on humans and nature than in other areas.
- Government goals – protect 41% of north Sumatra landscape
 - 555,000 forests managed through Social Forestry
- CI set a goal of 500,000 ha to be conserved by 2030
- 90% peatland already converted to palm oil in North Sumatra.
- Claims that there is a lack of science informing decisions (both availability and uptake)
- Spatial planning conflicts
- Lack of landscape level performance monitoring.
- Low productivity, poor practices, limited access to information for capital investment.
- CI aims to support various programs – notably to improve KPH functionality.
- Java – sensitive areas on mountains which have been deforested.
 - Community based ecosystem (forest) restoration on previously agricultural mountainous slopes
 - ‘green wall program’
 - Gave instrumental examples of why watershed protection is important – not just making ‘sign boards’ – demonstrate the benefits by taking action for watershed conservation.
 - Rare biodiversity worth conserving those highlands.
- Important note: didn’t want to pursue KEE because government worried about the tone of that type of jurisdiction – rather – trying to change behavior.

Ario Sambodo – Restorasi habitat orangutan Indonesia – BOS – PT Rhoi

Pak Ario described the successful attempts of Pt Rhoi to establish a release area for Orangutans in East Kalimantan. The area comprises approximately 80,000 ha and is natural forest with a great deal of biodiversity beyond Orangutans. The work has been well documented and now provides a valuable sanctuary for a diversity of species. A series on Netflix is available on the life of these Orang Utans in their school and new life in the restoration area: “Orang Utan Jungle School”.

- Process for rehabilitating the orangutan habitat!
- Rhoi developed by BOS to manage suitable release area – scheme or ERC or IUPHHK-RE
- BOS has been looking for suitable areas for 10 years.
- IUPHHK-RE – Bos not allowed to apply, so Rhoi formed.
- Rhoi able to find places for release – what are these institutional arrangements?
- Monitoring after the release. Published books on the other biodiversity – birds, mammals, amphibians.
- Swiflet harvesting in natural karst caves – the nests sell at a premium price compared to the those from more ‘production oriented’ walet houses around the RER and other settled places.
- Closest villages to PT Rhoi – 100 km away. Limited human access helps efforts to conserve some keystone species (like RER with their tigers and primates).
- But also pursuing some ‘corridor integrated planning’ to enable Orangutans and other species to move.



Landscape retreat at the RER Eco-Camp Kampar

Field trip to 3 locations – Participants split into 3 groups for a short visit to nearby villages to gain information on local livelihoods and issues face by local people.

1. Tanjung Pandak – outside concession.
2. Dusun Sanggar – inside RAPP concession – people settled prior to RAPP getting concession. Lives have improved since RAPP. But there are land disputes as the land where they live is legally allocated to RAPP. KLHK will not allow RAPP to simply give up the land to its occupants – only KLHK is allowed to do this. The leader of the household was a Melayu logger from West Kalimantan who moved to Kampar in 1993 to work for a logging company – he married a Melayu lady from a nearby village in 1990. He now operates two profitable swiftlet houses, a small rubber plantation, he bottles honey harvested from the swamp forests by other local people and also supervises workers in the nearby RAPP

rubber estate. His daughter has trained as a midwife in Kerinci and he now plans to open a clinic where she will practice at his house in the RAPP HTI.

3. Dusun Sanggar. 200 families in 2007. Only 84 families left. When people leave their land, often because they have been compensated by RAPP plantations are established by RAPP. People consolidated near canal. Developed many bird-houses – maybe 20-30. (2&3 are different households). The bird's nests can be harvested every 18 days and depending upon the quality can be sold for over Rp 1 million per Kg. The birds' food is assured by scattering over-ripe fruit around the bird houses – mainly pineapples and bananas – which attract flying insects – maybe Drosophila. Bird house owners claim that the swiftlets always feed close to the houses and do not travel far into the forests – maybe less than 500 meters.
4. Visited carbon flux tower near Corina's 'the tiger' release pen. The tower is a \$1.25 million investment opened in recent years. It has surprised the scientists by showing that the natural forest that surrounds it is still emitting CO₂ – it had been expected to be sequestering – the question is whether this is because of recent climate variation or whether some other explanation needs to be sought. This tower is also showing that the natural forest emits twice as much methane as the plantations. It was noted that these studies require long-periods of data collection in order to assess the underlying trends in emissions and sequestration.



Visit to the communities around the RER Eco-Camp



Visiting the bird's nest house and discussing with communities on their livelihoods

June 14th (day 3)

Breakout group discussion on Large Investments/Spatial Development Initiatives (as they relate to development & conservation impacts)

- **FBI reports** (from Mahendra) about their experiences with RER and with HOLCIM (cement mining company) in West Kalimantan

- HOLCIM – respects international (ISO) standards and safeguards
- Asked FBI to Facilitate assessment – preliminary.
 - Base Social Impact Assessments under HCV protocols 5&6 (which are more akin to basic needs)
- Experience in Kerinci National Park – part of group of world heritage parks (including Leuser) – geothermal powerplant proposed inside the national park.
 - FBI reported to government that the powerplant should not intrude into the high conservation value ecosystem inside the national park, but government prioritized the investment and approved its development.
- Omnibus law is said to allow investors to bypass need for feasibility studies – environmental and social license does not need to be secured with local FPIC, so building infrastructure is now much easier.
 - “If you get concession from a ministry (i.e. mining) this can overrule local environmental and social impact assessment needs”.
- Different ministries still have different maps – in spite of the “one map” policy. Taman National office in KLHK, but mining has equivalent power and if the investment matches national strategy, it will often be approved.
- These licenses have nothing to do with local government.
- Permission can be obtained locally only for artisanal scale – which begs the question about which scale, and which governing bodies are best for managing the resource.

- **BRIN** – Pak Nawawi reports about the difficulties with dealing with extractive industries, and the way government manages local indigenous peoples and local communities. The particular case of interest was mining in Halmahera as it relates to the indigenous people- the *Togutil* and their ‘sedentary’ *Tobelo Dalam* neighbours.

- In Halmahera – nickel, gold – becoming the second largest center of mining after Freeport.
- BRIN assisted in the government management of conflict by facilitating the release of local indigenous from prison.
 - Togutil had been accused of involvement of death of some local hunters – so government blamed them, needed a face to put on the problem.
- Togutil people are nomadic hunter/gatherers.
- Expansion of the mine is fast and having a large impact.
- Now new province called North Maluku – Sofifi is the capital (used to be Ternate).
- Governors (provincial heads) ‘don’t recognise the indigenous people’ unless they have identity cards and have become sedentary. One Governor attempted to recognize the Togutil as an ethnic minority, and once tried to give them identity cards – but the Togutil all gave the same name – so this didn’t work.
- As a result, there was a project by government to settle the people –
 - Government built houses. Togutil people didn’t like the houses – the ‘noise when it rained’ was scary. So, they abandoned them.
- It takes 8 days walking to find this tribe – and rumor has it a *bule* lives among them since one of the wars.
- Togutil do engage with cash economy – buy and sell things like salt and tobacco. Sell hunter-gatherer products – but apparently not rare and endangered species for illicit markets.
- No policy to accommodate their relationship with the national park, the mining company, is trying to settle issues.
- The management of the indigenous peoples were led by “Good intentions” – but has had limited success.
- Conclusions from BRIN – there is dire need for some boundary agents and research. These problems are located far from the central government – which include problems with Language barriers, physical barriers, and mental barriers.
 - Why did the Bupati accept the settlement program?
 - See this through a lens of political economy – in order to get seats in the parliament – need more people with identity cards, qualify more seats in elections for the political parties.

During the discussion on large investments and Spatial development initiatives we identified some knowledge gaps: including the need for baselines on the history mining expansion. Mahendra of FFI was keen and able to document the environmental impact over years. There is already some interaction between BRIN and the *Tobelo Dalam* people and can use their relationships to build some participatory mapping - but we don't know the behaviors and interests and patterns of the Togutil peoples. We agree that this deserves research to understand development trajectories for the indigenous and local communities alongside the extractive industries.

We commented on wider impacts – even the transmigrant villages who derived their livelihoods from farming and fishing. They are also affected by the mining. Therein, questions arise about how to make Indonesia's resources/assets work for Indonesians – and how to do this equitably. We have researched alternative pathways on the interaction of small and large-scale mining in North Sulawesi – does this help us begin to frame how to understand the large changes in Halmahera? How can BRIN and our associations – academic and Civil Society Organizations like TAB and our connections with operations like RER inform how to manage assets for vibrant forest small island land and seascapes.

The new situations are of higher concern considering the recently passed Omnibus laws which de-regulate the economy. The original investors of the large nickel mine were French, now the door is open to everyone, and especially Chinese investors that fall in-line with the national strategic intent. These new investments are driving infrastructure development in ports. The degradation on the small islands may come with a kind of 'permanence' to them as many of these small north Maluku islands are so 'vulnerable' to shocks, including those presented by climate change. But local governments receive indirect economic benefits – they are now completely dependent on this spillover from mining, the multiplier effect is high. Tax and land-royalties exist (but these go to the min of finance and are not trickling down). The mining types differ – gold has a retribution compensation to the state which would be different to cement, etc.– which go towards ministry of mining. Corporate taxes go towards the Ministry of Finance. Ministry of Finance is meant to allocate the funds to the local governments – general allocation funds (not specific) – can lead to inefficiency – not getting invested properly into education (human capital) or local conservation (natural capital). Ibu Dwi observed that the Kabupaten obtains their funds from Ministry of Finance but there is a 'melting of the ice-cube effect' as it gets passed along the multiple levels of government. It was claimed that no regulations stipulate local reinvestment of these asset gains.

We also observe that the Omnibus law eliminated the need for 51% ownership of mining operations to be Indonesian. We are interested in the linkages between increased Mining investments leveraging Foreign Direct Investment as it relates to enabling China's Belt and Road Initiative. The 51% Indonesian ownership rules allowed for accountability of revenues, without it, revenues are opaquer. Where is the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative in Indonesia? Indonesian mining arms of government have an MOU with Australia, but not with China about achieving accountability. Corporations investing in Indonesian extractive industries may not be paying their tax in Indonesia.

Elon Musk is investing in battery production – nickel mining is supporting battery production. There is the perception according to organizations in Indonesia that Chinese investment is not as environmentally respectful as others. Ibu Dwi and Pak Mahendra gave examples.

What financial mechanisms exist to support sustainable development? We discussed the New Green Climate Fund (~100 Million US Dollars). There are structural difficulties (bottlenecks) in the dispersal. They only release money if official program is in state budget. Money can only be spent if co-funded with local government – so local governments need to reallocate budgets (or find budgets to co-fund). Throughout COVID, the government has changed budget allocations – toward healthcare and economic improvement (it seems environment is not considered as part of what influences human health and economics?)

We explored carbon payment mechanisms. There is need for a structure to measure and manage, carbon projects (whether PES, or even at community forest levels). The only ministry with carbon financial authority– is Ministry of Finance – 2015-2016. The Green fund money is stuck – UNDP – needs to see that Indonesia has a good structure to utilize it (assumption is that UNDP will setup the infrastructure to send the money around Indonesia).

What is Indonesia's relationship with China? Infrastructure development currently 'depends' on China according to our understanding. So if anything is to change, Bappenas must mainstream it into national planning, which must include a refocusing on the natural environment as a vital pillar to the other aspects of human wellbeing. How can we frame environment as vital to health and economy? Right now, the budget deficits present too much of an urgency to take a slower, long-term environmentally conscious approach to reconciling the debt to China (we were told approximately 400Bn USD, as a result of COVID support and other investments).

We asked what NGOs can help link eastern Indonesia with policy makers, and enable eastern Indonesia to have seats at the table to deliberate on national strategies affecting their land. FFI have done some environmental impact assessments, but trade unions have also been effective; they have achieved fair firing practices – contractual obligations that are more labour friendly (i.e. some notice before being fired!) WalHi is a rather antagonistic organization which has done some research on mining – along the lines of Greenpeace. The sense from our group is that these were not successful or helpful ways of engaging with the sector and government.

If extractive industries are built into Indonesia's national strategy (KSN Kawasan strategis nasional, national strategic area,), they get the 'red carpet' – a warm welcome for foreign direct investment – incentives include reduced red-tape, for example: no impact assessments). This national strategy mechanism falls under new version of the NawaCita vision through 2045. One example includes Honda moving to Indonesia. On the one hand it was good for jobs, but on the other, it is managed by central government and prevents examination of revenue and operating costs and benefits. "No examination allowed" – transparency at national level is not satisfactory according to Ibu Dwi.

Are there examples of mining concessions that work? After the passing of the omnibus law – conservation organizations lost hope, but put faith in KEE (ecosystem essential)– in south Sulawesi. Wallacea has numerous biodiversity hotspots – KEE in North Maluku could be the model for integrated development which slows down the extraction and degradation, allowing space for conservation. But this need pressure building on the KLHK. Community mining is increasing alongside the big formal investments. An example in South Sulawesi – is where a KEE was established, and it scared off Chinese Cement Mining investors – who saw it as too much of a risk.

According to Mahendra the Chinese company arrived to develop a cement factory, found out that it exists in a KEE, and left.

We think about the Political Ecology of heroes and villains built into how these large investments, and how KEEs become decreed and utilized. Behavior and influence of people, individuals, and the networks that influence these individuals, is equally, if not more important than any 'process and regulatory system'. An example is the Lapindo mud – the owner of company was the head of a political ruling party.

The questions of carefully managed resource questions arose – via the case of Russian investments in east java – where they bought land from the community at a high price. People became rich, but displaced. For oil rich lands. "Money did not change the life of the people". So, it's about responsible asset transformation – it requires human capital. Freeport – has lots of lessons we can learn from. There were lots of problems from which people learned and gained human capital. One lesson - need taxes that go into well-maintained checks and balances which reinvest assets. RER is a bright-spot. Very profitable – manages assets well – relationship with people is positive and changing – and adapting.

Companies should account for the carbon assets which contribute to NDCs, benefitting the company, the country, the IPCC for global examples of leaderships. APRIL – relationship with FFI is healthy – does not try to greenwash FFIs. Anderson Tanoto is a good leader – Anderson has well-informed vision and surrounds himself by good people that advise upon difficult strategies.

Group reflection on the Ecosystems of SMEs

There was a valuable discussion on the role of Small and Medium Forest Industries and the policies that favored their success. It was noted that SMFEs can contribute to local development and in some situations, they can provide more local benefits than large industries. SMFEs mainly prosper in association with larger industries and together the small and large industries contribute to an ecosystem of enterprises that needs to be nurtured.

- Develop baseline data
 - Through regulation
- Need a full inventory of land-base and value chains
 - Scenarios
 - Needs based approach – tenure? Management rights?
 - Sustainable income.
- What are the relationships that exist?
 - Relationships between patron-client, buyers.
- Landscape lens to understand how enterprise interacts with other things in the landscape.
- A lot of strategies, trial and error.
 - Brad wants clean and clear HTI concession by the government
 - In this case not possible – people living here
 - Companies interested in communities prosper – people benefit from HTI.

Breakout Group Discussion on Decision-Making and Local Governance

A group reflected on local decision making and how local governance determines how landscapes evolve.

- Differences between indigenous hereditary vs elected systems
- Gender
- Land tenure – need common entry point
 - Forest fires bring many people to the table
- Actor network analysis to understand decision-maker *power structures*
 - How to gather information about use of land – boundaries.
- Other communities – pressure on land – how do governance structures manage that problem.

Breakout Group Discussion Biodiversity

The group discussed the opportunities and obstacles to the use of KEE and similar mechanisms to conserve biodiversity and ecosystem values outside traditional protected area. The group drafted a simple policy brief to represent its conclusions on the current situation with KEEs. Many conservation organizations are working on KEE and 23 now exist in Indonesia in various stages of formalization. There is general agreement that the approach is important but there are still questions about how the areas will be designated and managed.

Indicative Policy brief for KEE - *Kawasan Ekosistem Esensial* as a result of the breakout group discussion:

Indonesia has a rich system of protected areas. 522 National parks, Wildlife reserves are strategically located throughout the country. But still much of Indonesia's biodiversity is not protected in these areas and many species persist in areas that are used by people. At a political level and amongst civil society there is diminishing appetite to add to the list of totally protected areas – in several cases indigenous people and local communities (IPLC) are reclaiming land that lies within the conventional protected areas and their land claims are receiving civil society support. To respond to this situation the BKSDAE has developed policies for *Kawasan Ekosistem Esensial* (KEE) and conservation NGOs have now initiated 23 KEE in different parts of Indonesia. TNC, CI, FFI, RHOI have all invested in working with KEE. TAB and Samdhana have explored KEE options in Pulau Boano in Maluku and Tambraw in West Papua respectively. These initiatives are in their early stages but some lessons are emerging. KEE are being promoted to deal with very diverse situations – they are all different. The way in which they will be operationalized will therefore also be different.

- Role KEE will play for OECM
 - Multi-stakeholders
 - Several management units (spatial)
- No regulations yet at ministry level
- Needs to be long term – but run NGO budget project terms.
- Gap related to biodiversity – expensive.
- Metrics?
 - High initial cost – switching to more automated costs without high expertise required
 - What is the response to data – to judge decisions and how quickly.
- A lot of biodiversity exists in traditional protected areas but need to tackle problem of encroachment
 - Money being paid to farmers to use hedgerows, ponds, biodiversity friendly use.
 - In biodiversity it won't work for now. too much fluidity in the system. Systems to pay
 - Investing into carbon industry – but biodiversity people not doing this yet.
 - Except you can claim premium price for things.
 - People may care about biodiversity – but in abstract ways. How to make skin in game with price.
 - Can there be a snowball effect on KEEs – as a bright spot where this can work.
- If COP decides the 30x30 then needs the KEEs to work – so a big challenge.

At present the **discussions around the establishment of a KEE are providing a platform for multi-stakeholder discussions about conservation and development in the KEE landscape.**

KEE will never be subject to the management approaches used for conventional protected areas. It appears more likely that their **management will be based on management plans developed independently for each KEE.** Policies and regulations for KEE will be established by the BKSDAE but day to day management and application of regulations will be the responsibility of the provincial forestry office – *Dinas Kehutanan Propinsi*.

Management plans will make explicit the values for which the KEE is being established. In the case of the TAB initiative on Pulau Boano the key objective will be to protect the highly endangered, endemic Boano monarch (*kehicap*). Other values may also benefit but interference with the livelihoods of the people living in the areas will be minimized.

This suggests that the aim must be to establish absolute clarity on the reasons why a KEE is needed. **This will require an inventory of values. It will also require an understanding of the threats to the core KEE value and an understanding or how conservation of that value might be in conflict with the development goals of the communities.**

All other regulation will be determined by the BKSDA or local PEMDA or Perda.

It will be necessary to **monitor progress in achieving the KEE objectives. Are the values for which the KEE was established being effectively conserved?** This might be a role for the local BKSDAE staff but it might also be a role for the conservation organization that is promoting the KEE. Monitoring data should be carefully curated and be made available to all people concerned with the area.

KEE may be vulnerable to threats. For instance, **if the KEE is promoted by an external conservation organization and this organization eventually leaves the area then the KEE may fail.** Thought needs to be given to the permanence of the KEE.

Most KEE will require some funding for communications, monitoring and possibly for protection measures. Compensation for local communities may be needed. Not enough thought has yet been given to how such funds might be obtained, who might manage them and what might be done to ensure sustainability of funding.

It will be important to monitor the performance of these KEE initiatives and to learn from the challenges that they face. KEE have the potential to be formalized as OECMs and to become a significant mechanism for allowing Indonesia to achieve its CBD commitments but evidence for how they perform in conserving biodiversity and enabling improved local livelihoods will be needed.

Post breakout discussion remarks in plenary:

Examples of some failures of all breakout groups intersecting.

- Siak regency re-zoned a wildlife refuge into national park. Economics have to balance out in favor of biodiversity – the government isn't going to manage other ways.
- Sebangau was mismanaged, first a rice field, then a park.
- Indonesia's big island models may not work on small islands – Indonesia needs to market itself as this high endemism/high risk.
- Ideas floating around in FSC about *certifying landscapes* – 50% must be conserved. How would KEE link with this and the OECM idea? It mirrors more of the RER and APRIL production-protection landscape.

Hike to Serkap River, followed by boat ride out

1. Notable biodiversity observed
 - a. 5 species of hornbills
 - b. 3 species of kingfishers
 - c. 3 species of primates

Presentation on Corina's rehabilitation, release and monitoring: lessons learned

Prayitno presented the release of Corina into RER Kampar landscape. A monitoring system using GPS collar was put in place. This provided a great way to learn about the life and behaviour of the Sumatran tiger and its relation to land uses on the Kampar. It seems Corina prefers to hunt in a more open area (plantation area) rather than natural forests. But this could also be because the tracker / GPS detection does not able to follow on a dense forest area, could be of unstable signal due to the thick canopy.



Corina seen by the children around Kampar Landscape

Link to the Presentation during the Landscape Retreat

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1pQd_S1pQp6Ugm01qX5t4oCejADoiFH-p?usp=sharing

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For more information on Tanah Air Beta:
www.tanahairbeta.org

More photos from the Landscape Retreat:



Preparation to go to Eco-Camp





Discussions at all time at the RER Eco-Camp



Group photo at Eco-Camp



Visit to the canal



Visit of the Carbon Flux tower



On the way back to Pekanbaru



With the 4 UBC MIF students doing internship at RER Kampar Landscape



The UBC MIF & TAB core team