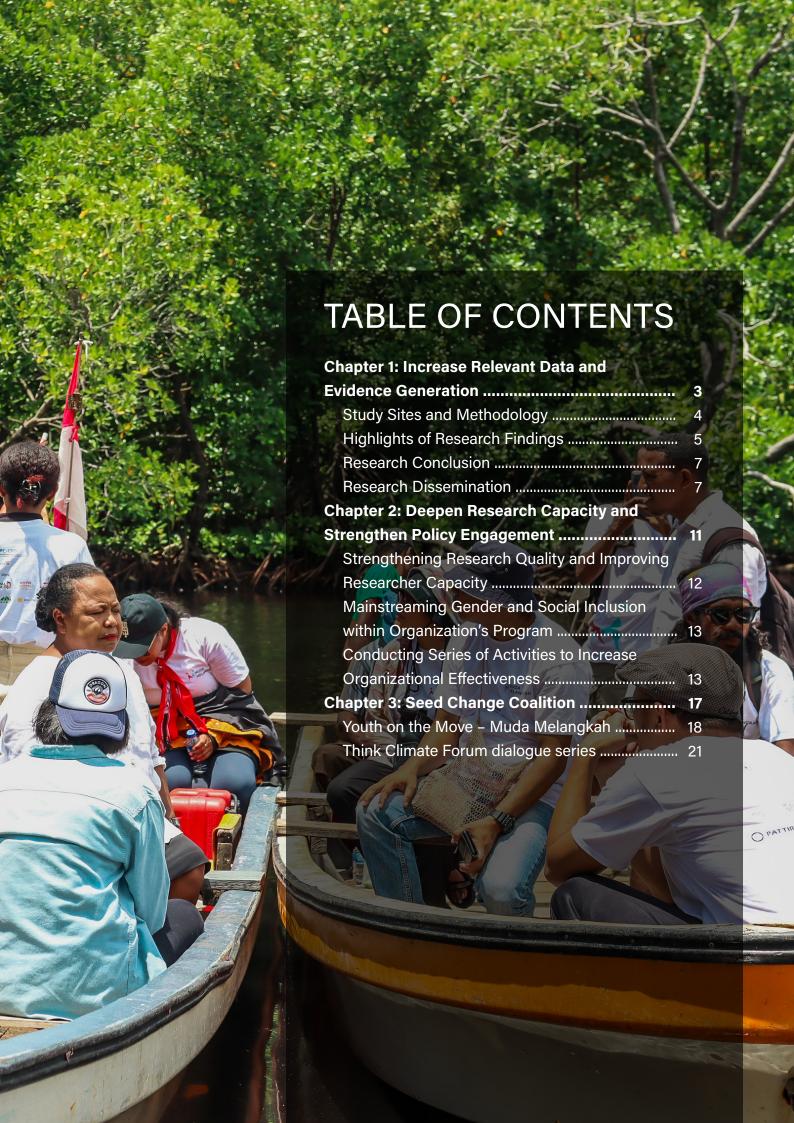
## Think Climate Indonesia Final Report









## CHAPTER 1: INCREASE RELEVANT DATA AND EVIDENCE GENERATION

IDRC helps think tanks fill data gaps and generate the evidence needed for policymaking that addresses emissions reduction in ways that are crosscutting and conscious of climate adaptation, energy equity, and poverty reduction.

#### **Study Sites and Methodology**

Indonesia faces significant food security challenges, but policies to address these challenges may come at the expense of forest ecosystems. The Social Forestry (SF) program provides a potential solution to synergize forest conservation and food security objectives in Indonesia by allowing local communities to manage and protect the local forests. However, there is limited evidence on how the synergy is realized within the SF implementation on the ground. Through IDRC's Think Climate Indonesia project, WRI Indonesia aims to fill this knowledge gap by investigating communitybased practices, efforts, and challenges in line with the pathways connecting forest conservation and food security in three SF sites in Riau, Indonesia. Relevant data are collected through stakeholder interviews, field observation, and spatial analysis and further triangulated through literature review. While SF ecosystems at the study sites provide food and income sources and help build climate resilience for the local and Indigenous communities, challenges remain in improving the value added and market access of local forest products; incentivizing forest-based food subsistence potential in line with the site-specific practices; and, in some areas, reducing the rate of forest loss. The insights from this research would inform a shift from the current food security policy discourse, which has been dominated by the idea of large-scale agricultural expansion, including in forest areas (for instance, refer to the Food Estate program).

This study was carried out in three social forestry areas selected through several selection stages, namely Rantau Baru Traditional Forest, Sapat Village Forest and Sungai Piyai Village Forest. Selection for study locations was carried out through interviews with SF stakeholders in Riau and field observations carried out directly by the research team. The first stage began with interviewing the Head of the Social Forestry and Extension Section of Environment and Forestry Regional Agency (DLHK) Riau to

obtain general data related to the number of SF approvals, distribution of locations, SF schemes and forest product commodities being developed.

From the results of the interviews obtained, it was recorded that there were 75 SF approvals spread across all districts/cities. From this initial information, the research team then carried out further investigations by interviewing stakeholders who understand SF conditions at the site level. Interviews were conducted with three academics who have a track record of social forestry research in Riau, five Heads of Forest Management Units (Kesatuan Pengelolaan Hutan/KPH), and ten local NGOs that carry out SF assistance activities in Riau. This further investigation was carried out to find out a general picture at the site level of each SF agreement in Riau, such as the forest product commodities used, forest types, and community interactions with the forest. Six candidate study locations were then selected by considering variations in schemes, location of managed areas, and commodities cultivated. The six candidate locations are Rantau Baru Traditional Forest, Sapat Village Forest, Sungai Piyai Village Forest, Sungai Tohor Village Forest, Pulau Mandiri Community Forest, and Imbo Putui Traditional Forest.

Furthermore, observations were carried out at the six candidate study locations to obtain a complete and comprehensive picture of the actual situation at site level. The observation activity was also followed by in-depth interviews with the SF group leader and several members. From all the series of selection stages, three locations were selected to be used as study objects by considering the availability of food security pathways and beneficiary objects.

All candidate study locations were identified as having direct pathways and income pathways, except for Customary Forest (Hutan Adat/HA) Imbo Putui. The community makes customary forests a symbol of their ancestral heritage which is protected, but the community's dependence on these forest resources is starting to decrease. Based on the results of interviews with traditional stakeholders, the history of HA Imbo Putui is divided into 2

periods, namely before 1995 and after 1995.

In the first period it can be said that the indigenous people were not familiar with oil palm plants so the community only depended on fish catches, shifting cultivation and rubber plantations. During lean times, people will return to the forest to use NTFP products. In the second period, infrastructure development reached Imbo Putui, people began to recognize and plant oil palm. This has the impact of reducing the dependence of indigenous communities on forests so that farming and fishing activities begin to decrease drastically. However, there are still forms of forest use carried out by the community, such as making bamboo crafts which are the hallmark of Imbo Putui.

Meanwhile, if we look at the beneficiary objects, in Pulau Mandiri HKm and Sungai Tohor HD it was identified that there were monopolistic practices by several village elites who owned capital in the utilization of forest products. Efforts to utilize charcoal in the Pulau Mandiri Community Forest (Hutan Kemasyarakatan/HKm) and efforts to utilize sago in the Tohor River Village Forest (Hutan Desa/HD) have been carried out for generations long before the existence of social forestry. Providing approval for social forestry is only used as access to legalize the business they have been running for a long time. People are only used as workers with a monthly wage system.

### Highlights of Research Findings

With respect to local government / administration, our investigation suggests that the SF issue has limited prioritization within Riau's regional government policy. Currently, there is no specific local regulation developed regarding SF implementation in Riau, SF is not yet part of local government priority in the 2024 regional medium term development plan (RPJMN), and budget allocation is low (around 2.6% of Riau Environmental Agency's total direct spending).

- In Indonesia, <u>multiple pathways have historically emerged from community-managed forests in supporting local communities' food resilience</u>

   mainly direct, income, and agroecological pathways. It thus appears that sustainable forest management at the community level can be aligned with food resilience strengthening, especially for Indigenous People and Local Communities (IPLCs).
- Our assessment shows that 55% of surveyed households in the three selected SF sites in Riau had food security-related issues over the last year. Meanwhile, the average direct food consumption of households from adjacent forest ecosystems across the study sites overall reach 44.4% during the data collection period – suggesting that forests may provide a potential food safety net to local households, e.g., during economic hardships, covid pandemic, natural disasters.
- Local communities in the study sites have generally positive perceptions on the importance of adjacent forests to provide environmental services, e.g., resilience to erosion / abrasion, water security, microclimate regulation. The analysis result, we found seemingly contradictory evidence in one of the villages (Sungai Piyai). Despite statistically significant positive environmental perception, based on our spatial analysis there has been a steep hike of annual deforestation rate after the forest management permit was obtained presumably due to land clearing by local villagers for coconut plantation, amongst other potential drivers.
- Despite the identified forest management practices in the sites being to some extent in line with the forest-based food security pathways, we found remaining challenges in the sites, which to some extent reflect the general challenges of SF management in Riau. These include challenges in improving the value added and market access of local forest products; incentivizing forest-based food subsistence potential in line with the site-specific practices; and, in some areas, reducing the rate of forest loss. Further challenges and potential opportunities will be identified during the course of further analysis and reporting.



#### **Research Conclusion**

Community participation in local conservation and restoration efforts help to sustain local livelihoods and offers protections against pertinent climate threats, such as abrasion and forest fires. However, challenges remain in improving the value added and market access of local forest products, incentivizing forest-based food subsistence potential in line with site-specific practices, and reducing the forest loss rate in some locations. Beyond accelerating the issuance of SF licenses, policy and institutional breakthroughs are needed to further align the conservation and food security objectives within the SF ecosystems, ensuring a meaningful contribution of the SF policy toward local community welfare, SDGs, and Indonesia's climate ambition.

#### **Research Dissemination**

For the initial stage of this project, communication and a relationship with local KPH in Riau province are established. Given the local context of our research, the results would be relevant for our dissemination strategy, especial to inform KPH's forest management planning and policies. Our fieldwork is conducted in collaboration with a Riau University team and Provincial Planning Agency (*Bappeda Riau*) in hopes of ensuring local buy-in to the research recommendations.

In addition, dissemination of our research findings beyond our stakeholders in Riau province are explained in the following:

A. The National Symposium on Indigenous People Dilemma in Indonesia in Aceh, August 25-26, 2022, organized by Syiah Kuala University. WRI joined the panel of Indigenous law expert, academics, Indigenous leaders, government stakeholders at Aceh provincial level and national level (Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Ministry of Land and Spatial Planning), and NGOs. Additionally, up to 63 researchers across Indonesia were invited to present their works related to the theme. The event was held in hybrid mode.

The dissemination of key findings from our research at this event. Overall, the role of Indigenous people and local communities in managing forests and mangroves in Indonesia – along with the benefits for local food and climate resilience, as well as the emerging challenges and opportunities. We also linked them to the larger national determined contribution (NDC) efforts of Indonesia in supporting climate change mitigation and resilience. We built an evidence-based case to emphasize the importance of formalizing tenurial rights to the carbon-rich areas, among others, and acknowledging local community capital to support sustainable management strategies.

Picture 1 | Research Analyst Rizky J. Haryanto represented WRI Indonesia in the National Symposium on Indigenous People Dilemma



- B. The analysis is presented at the International Symposium of Earth, Energy, Environmental Science and Sustainable Development (JESSD), August 27-28, 2022, organized by the University of Indonesia. The title of our paper was Synergizing Food Security with Forest Conservation: Preliminary Insights from Social Forestry Implementation in Riau, Indonesia where WRI obtained the Best Paper Award in the conference. We leveraged on the symposium to collect feedback from academics and researchers working in the environment and sustainable development field in Indonesia to help strengthen the quality of this research project. Our conference paper highlights existing practices, efforts, and challenges within Social Forestry (SF) policy in Riau in synergizing
- forest conservation and food security in Indonesia. Despite SF providing valuable pathways in connecting the two, policy and institutional breakthroughs are needed to enhance its contribution toward the SDGs and Indonesia's climate ambition. Built upon the conference, the WRI team refined the analysis and have <u>published</u> the paper through <u>IOP</u> <u>Publishing</u>.

For the dissemination of the study to broader audience, this research is also published an article for <u>WRI's Insights</u> on the <u>potential for the G20 summit to create stronger momentum on forest-based climate action.</u> We use the appointment of the Indonesia Chairmanship of the G20 in 2022 to gain momentum on the issue raised for TCI.

Picture 2 | Best Paper Category for Sustainable Development Issues



C. The insights from this study were also shared in the "Evaluation of Green Riau Program," 20 September 2023. Green Riau program (Riau Hijau) is a program initiated by Riau Provincial Government to adopt sustainable practices on a variety of aspects, such as renewable energy, circular economy, zero forest degradation, and community's resiliency towards climate change. Here, we highlighted our findings and the need

to better align community-based forest conservation efforts with the issue of food security in Riau Province. This event was strategic since it could directly share our research insights to high-ranking provincial government officials gathered in this event. The recommendation from the research offers valuable inputs for the development of the Green Riau program, especially regarding the implementation of SF in Riau.

Picture 3 | Symbolic handover of our TCI research report to Riau Provincial Government Representatives





# CHAPTER 2: DEEPEN RESEARCH CAPACITY AND STRENGTHEN POLICY ENGAGEMENT

IDRC helps think tanks strengthen and expand their research capacity to meet the demands for evidence and connect and communicate with the appropriate actors (government officials, civil society organizations, private sector companies) in evidence-to-action processes.

## Strengthening Research Quality and Improving Researcher Capacity

Through the duration of TCI project, we conducted several activities to improve our organizational capacity, such as research capacity and quality, organizational effectiveness, and mainstreaming GESI in research and organization. The following are the activities we conducted, some of which were done in collaboration with other TCI partners.

To strengthen the research quality and help fortify the research capacity of our partners, several trainings and webinars were organized across 2021-2022, explained in the following:

- Research capacity enhancement on doing research during a pandemic, in collaboration with <u>SMERU Institute</u>. In this training, during lockdown, participants were introduced to methods to employ their respective research during the Covid-19 pandemic. This includes topics such as research ethics, challenges in ensuring health protocol, quality assurance of the collected data, optimizing online and offline research methods, and field research project management.
- Participants across work streams joined this workshop, not only researchers and analysts, but also operational staff members. All of the participants gained new knowledge about best practices in optimizing Covid-19 protocol before, during, and after field activities are

Picture 5 | Gender Training and Workshop in Bandung 11-14 June 2022



- conducted such as establishing an C19 internal advisory panel (this is a practice applied by the workshop speakers). From researchers' side, insights were also collected on methods and tools that can be applied to assure the quality of data collected even if only enumerators are in the field, and we are not able to join them in person.
- Writing workshop to develop scientific articles that can effectively communicate and reach broad audience. This includes formulating the main idea and key message to be conveyed, understanding the target audience, and creating jargon-free sentences.
- Brown bag session with the theme "Social Forestry Governance toward Food and Climate Resilience in Indonesia." This event invited Prof. Ahmad Maryudi, Professor of Forest Policy at Gadjah Mada University as keynote speaker and the Sebijak Institute of Gadjah Mada University to present on the collected fieldwork data. Facilitated discussion sessions were organized with panelists and invitees from WRI Indonesia, as well as representatives from TCI partners e.g., Pattiro and Kemitraan.
- In April 2022, WRI collaborated with Kemitraan and the Faculty of Economics and Business, University of Indonesia to organize capacity building activities on budget tagging related to the climate and environment.

  Budget tagging itself provides a measurable system to support budget allocation in climate activities planning and program management. The knowledge is deemed relevant for WRI staff to encourage concrete actions on climate mitigation and adaptation in the form of program financing throughout their stakeholder and policy engagement activities.
- In September 2022, WRI organized climate adaptation training in collaboration with <u>Climate Change Center, Bandung Institute</u> <u>of Technology.</u> This activity aimed to strengthen the capacity of our researchers and project managers on climate adaptation and resilience, with relevant syllabus on policy and regulation, climate vulnerability assessment techniques, and project and

portfolio design. We aimed to ensure planning and implementation of climate adaptation projects are aligned with existing best practices and policy frameworks. Representatives from TCI partners also joined as participants in this training.

## Mainstreaming Gender and Social Inclusion within Organization's Program

Gender, equity, and human rights have been one of the core discussions in the development work. WRI Indonesia realizes the importance of integrating gender, equity, and human rights into their projects design and implementation on the ground and of integrating gender equity and social inclusion in WRI research and program design.

Several modules were developed to help WRI Indonesia integrate gender and social inclusion into the new proposal development and add new gender activities in some existing projects. For example, in the National Plastic Action Partnership (NPAP) were added, new gender activities to mainstream gender issues in the NPAP partnership and the implementation of NPAP's Action Roadmap. This will serve as a step-by-step guide to achieve Indonesia's national target to reduce plastic pollution by 70% in 2025.

Another example is on gender integration efforts for <u>Cities 4 Forests (C4F) project</u> in Papua where the project is currently assessing ways to integrate GESI in city-wide spatial planning. The module developed to conduct that assessment referred to the gender module that the TCI project helped develop. The gender module also helped the <u>Indigenous Program and Livelihoods (IPLC)</u> program to develop a gender safeguard in social forestry.

By the end of April 2022, the TCI project has completed the gender assessment final draft, the gender toolkit, and had delivered the GESI workshop (20 April 2022, 47 staff members participated). Gender training for project leads and HR/Ops from WRI Jakarta and regional offices of Sumatra and Papua was also

conducted. The event involved 30 participants from WRI Indonesia working across projects and regional locations. The training covers material related to GESI approaches and framework, mainstreaming GESI into program activities, and conducting GESI analysis and Monitoring Evaluation. As a result, as earlier mentioned, program leads agreed to add new gender activities into their programs (e.g. Clean Air Catalyst (CAC) and IPLC).

## Conducting Series of Activities to Increase Organizational Effectiveness

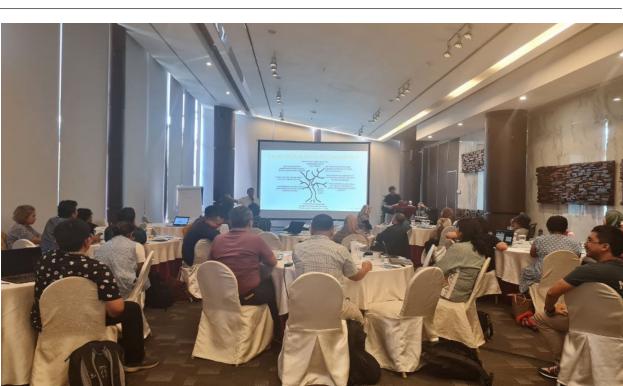
For the duration of the TCI project, we have used this opportunity to build our organizational capacity on multiple fronts/ departments:

- Procurement training. WRI Indonesia as an organization frequently uses grants for the purchase of goods and services. It is very important for the purchasing staff to carry out their duties in accordance with the organizational culture, namely by complying with donor regulations and maintaining proper procurement principles and procedures. By participating in the training, staff can get to know the organization better and align procurement with the organizational type and culture.
- Human resources certification. The training covered 3 main topics: Human Capital Management, Industrial Relations, and Remuneration Management. By participating in this training, our HR staff is better equipped to perform the many roles of HR and to update it from time to time according to the organization's needs and/ or challenges.
- Communications workshop. With a new organizational structure and new composition in WRI Indonesia's Communications team, we found the need to hold a comms team workshop to allow for team consolidation and to refine our comms workplan to support the organization's target and objectives as stated in its Country Strategy. The workshop

- was conducted in March 2022 and attended by WRI Indonesia Communication team (3 men, 6 women) members and a resource person, which consists of representatives of WRI Indonesia's Management Team, Creative Director of CARA, and CEO/Founder of Brightminds Communication. The external speakers were invited to share insights and knowledge on creative digital communication and communication trends in Indonesia. The workshop was held for two days in hybrid format with most of the participants joining offline from the WRI Indonesia office.
- Policies review for policy integration within WRI Indonesia. WRI Indonesia hired external consultant to audit existing policies and ensure the policies are consistent and prudent and to identify gaps among organization policies. This was necessary to strengthen the organization's effectiveness and comply with government regulation and policies.
- Project management training. Project management is the use of tools, knowledge, processes, and competencies to ensure successful completion of a project, and it provides opportunities to maximize resources, set goals, maintain transparency, create effective communications, and ensure risk mitigation. An NGO like WRI Indonesia, with multiple temporary projects, has its own specific uniqueness and objectives and having strong project management is crucial. It is important for the organization to equip relevant employees with project management skill and practical knowledge.

The training had 50 participants (25 men, 25 women) from across work portfolios in WRI Indonesia with the following objectives in mind:

- To enhance and strengthen capacity of employees.
- b) To capture valuable lessons to improve project management practices.
- c) To improve individual performance.



Picture 5 | Project Management Training in Bogor 20-22 June 2023





## CHAPTER 3: SEED CHANGE COALITIONS

IDRC helps to foster time-bound "coalitions of the willing" to collaborate for the purposes of identifying data needs, articulating applied policy research agendas, co-developing the knowledge needed to inform good policy frameworks, and creating the political momentum needed to drive change forward.

For the two and half years of this project, WRI has forged collaborations with many individuals and institutions with a variety of backgrounds. We had existing working relationships with some of the organizations, but we were also able to expand our network because of the TCI project.

We had some collaborative activities with other TCI organizations outside the TCI Forum Dialogue where each TCI partner took turns in hosting the event. It was a rare opportunity for us to share and learn amongst the five organizations, each with their expertise and uniqueness. The following is the list of activities we did alongside TCI partners in this period:

Name of organization	Type of collaboration	Results
Kemitraan	<ul> <li>Co-organized climate budget tagging training</li> <li>Participants in climate adaptation training</li> <li>Collaborator in Youth on the Move</li> </ul>	Kemitraan has brought topics on democracy and governance that really add value to our youth activities.  They have also given us feedback on the type of trainings that are relevant for all organizations.
Kota Kita	<ul><li>Participants in climate adaptation training</li><li>Collaborator in Youth on the Move</li></ul>	Kota Kita helped us facilitate some of the sessions and connected us with organizations that became the resource persons of the youth camp in Jakarta.
PATTIRO	<ul><li>Participants in climate adaptation training</li><li>Collaborator in Youth on the Move</li></ul>	Pattiro conducted a similar youth event in Palangkaraya, Central Kalimantan, which WRI Indonesia was also a part of.

#### Youth on the Move - Muda Melangkah

Muda Melangkah (Youth on the Move) is a youth mentorship program that aims to provide knowledge, guidance, resources, and assistance for youth to catalyze their local environmental and climate movements. This program gathers young people to allow them to participate actively in various discussions, workshops, and online/offline training on environmental and climate crisis issues. WRI collaborated with various partners in the event, such as Kemitraan, Kota Kita, KKI Warsi, and the Forum of Environmental Journalists in Aceh (FJL Aceh), Jurnalis Cilik, KoAksi, and many more.

Picture 7 | Muda Melangkah in Bener Meriah District, Aceh



We held the program in four provinces in the country: West Sumatra, Aceh, Papua, and Jakarta. This program has empowered over 60 participants (35 men, 25 women) in each region, providing them with knowledge and resources to champion environmental and climate causes in their respective communities.

Realizing that each province has different characteristics, we the theme and topic of each province is adjusted to better suit the challenges faced by the participants. For example, in Aceh and West Sumatra, we had social forestry and community-based forest management as the main theme of the youth camp. The program included training sessions on the climate and gender crisis, increasing organization capacity, citizen journalism training, and much more. The program also led to the development of e-books that contained articles written by the participants, published in local news outlets in their respective regions. The vision is to have these participants help to spread the potential and importance of social forestry programs by highlighting best practices of community-based forest management in respective regions.

The third youth camp was held in Jayapura, Papua, where the activity consisted of a series of trainings in writing, taking photos and videos, content creation for social media, data collection, and more. Prior to this, training sessions were also conducted online via Zoom from February-March 2023. Eight youth groups working on environmental issues participated in the activity. Focusing on the theme "The Role of Youth in Preserving Forests," this activity aims to increase the involvement of Papua's youth in advocating for and campaigning to protect forest sustainability.

The last series of Youth on the Move (7 women, 8 men) was in Jakarta between late June – early July 2023. In the capital city, the youth camp not only focused on training for creating social media content, but further strengthened the participants' knowledge and empathy towards climate impact in urban area. On the third day of the camp, we invited the participants to see, learn, and take notes on the impact of the climate crisis for a community in Cilincing – a coastal area on the north side of Jakarta. On the last day, the participants got the opportunity to share their insights in a mini exhibition held in Jakarta's historic open green space.







#### **Think Climate Forum dialogue series**

WRI Indonesia co-led the 3<sup>rd</sup> TCI Forum Dialogue in collaboration with Kemitraan and Kota Kita, raising the question of "What are the top climate issues amongst Indonesian youth during political year?" This was a continuation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> TCI Forum Dialogue, which had identified climate change issues for youth during the upcoming election year as a priority. The topic also coincided perfectly with the youth on the move activity. We invited youth activists to share their insights and thoughts towards three different urban climate problem: coastal issues, transportation, and food waste.

Other than collaborations with TCI partners, we have made strong connections with many institutions whose support is essential to further policy debate around the evaluation of the social forestry program. In some cases, this work more effective, especially with government institutions due to the flexibility we still have in comparison to have an official agreement. Meanwhile, we have also been connecting with the Food and Land Use (FOLU) coalition, as well as forest communities' development in Aceh and West Sumatra, Indonesia (IPLC - NORAD), to connect and potentially upscale the lessons learned from this research in Riau to support forest communities and local food resilience in other areas of Indonesia. The following are some of the external stakeholders identified and engaged:

Name of stakeholders	Type of collaboration	Expected result
Ministry of Forestry and Environment	Consultation and advocacy	Uptake in recommendation for policymaking process
Agency of Environment and Forestry, Riau Province	Consultation and advocacy	Uptake in recommendation for policymaking process
Forest Management Units:  Singingi Tebing Tinggi Mandah Tasik Besar Serkap	Collaborator, consultation, and advocacy	Uptake in recommendation for policymaking process
Bahtera Alam	Collaborator	Future facilitation for advocacy
Sebijak Institute	Collaborator	Policy brief
University of Riau	Collaborator	Academic paper
University of Andalas (West Sumatra)	Collaborator	Potential upscale of research and lessons learned in Riau to other areas in Indonesia
Forestry Agency, Aceh Province	Collaborator	Potential upscale of research and lessons learned in Riau to Aceh Province
Local Legislative Assembly of Bener Meriah District	Collaborator	Potential upscale of research and lessons learned in Riau to Aceh Province
University Syiah Kuala (Aceh)	Collaborator	Potential upscale of research and lessons learned in Riau to other areas in Indonesia
Environmental Journalist Forum in Aceh (FJL Aceh)	Trainer, collaborator	Facilitator and trainer for Youth on the Move in Aceh
WALHI Aceh	Collaborator	Speaker for Youth on the Move in Aceh
Leuser Conservation Forum	Collaborator	Speaker for Youth on the Move in Aceh
Mayor of Jayapura, Papua Province	Collaborator	Speaker for Youth on the Move in Papua
Papua Morning Class (Kelas Pagi Papua)	Trainer, collaborator	Facilitator and trainer for Youth on the Move in Papua
Home of Mangrove Papua (Rumah Bakau Papua)	Collaborator	Speaker for Youth on the Move in Papua

Number and stories of partnerships (new or strengthened) that increase influence and support healthy, sustainable, resilient food systems and climate resilience. Include how the partnerships are evolving to increase influence and support change.

Issue	List of partnerships	Stories
Food security and climate resilience amongst forest community	Indonesia National Government:  Environmental Directorate at the Ministry of National Planning and Development  Directorate General of Climate Change Control at the Ministry of Environment and Forestry  Subnational Governments:  National Planning Agency of Riau Province  Forestry Agency of Aceh Province  Bener Meriah District, Aceh  West Sumatra Provincial Government  CSOs and Universities:  Riau University, Riau  Andalas University, Padang, West Sumatra  Muhammadiyah University, West Sumatra  KKI Warsi  KBCF  LP2M  QBAR  Bahtera Alam  Communities:  Sungai Piyai, Riau  Sapat, Riau  Rantau Baru, Riau  Nagari Pagadih, West Sumatra  Nagari Kurai, West Sumatra	This project was able to add value to existing projects especially on forest tenurial rights of customary communities by adding the element of local food security and communities' resilience towards climate change. Community's ability to manage their forest resources securely impacts local food security amidst climate change. This insight was previously overlooked by local forest authorities and Forest Agency, which were more focused on conservation than on food security, which is crucial for the well-being of forest communities.

Subnational government:			
	participation and	<ul> <li>DKI Jakarta Provincial Government</li> <li>Forestry Agency of Aceh Province</li> <li>Forestry Agency of West Sumatra Province</li> <li>The Environmental Agency City of Jayapura, Papua</li> <li>Civil society:         <ul> <li>Yayasan KotaKita, Solo</li> <li>Pattiro, Jakarta</li> <li>Kemitraan, Jakarta</li> <li>HAKA Foundation, Aceh</li> <li>Forum Jurnalis Lingkungan, Aceh</li> <li>KoAksi</li> <li>Jurnalis Cilik, Jakarta</li> <li>Rujak Center for Urban Studies, Jakarta</li> </ul> </li> <li>Around 30 youth groups consisting of 80 participants in 4 provinces were involved in</li> </ul>	the Move, provided much needed knowledge, guidance, resources, and assistance for youth, to give them more voice and space in the effort to catalyze local environmental and climate movements. This program gathers young people to allow them to participate actively in various discussions, workshops, and trainings on environmental and climate crisis issues.  We received very positive responses during the process in all provinces, not just from the participants but also from government and CSOs. Youth awareness towards climate change is something that all parties agree needs to be considered, but unfortunately these kinds of program are still limited. Similar to the previous issue, this activity has proven to add value to our existing projects. Participants, government officials, and local CSOs are hoping for

Number and stories of policies influenced/informed and how they are evolving over time.

#	Issue	Number of Policy	
1	Food security and climate resiliency	One policy recommendation for Local Government on the implementation of social forestry in Riau and West Sumatra Province	
		Research insights regarding social forestry implementation and food security have been given, which will be included in policy formulation for the acceleration of social forestry in the two provinces.	
2	IPLC group's forest tenurial security	One policy recommendation for customary forest rights in Aceh Province  The symposium on Indigenous people dilemma we conducted in Aceh involving high-level officials and reputable speakers in August 2022 received positive responses. The symposium, then followed by a study, has given important legal and scientific rationale for having customary forest rights recognized in Aceh. Alongside with Syiah Kuala University of Aceh, we submitted the study to the Ministry of Forestry and Environment. In September 2023, 10 customary forests were recognized by the state. The study was valuable for this process.	

#### Number and stories that we, our partners, and/or equity seeking groups' contributions

WRI Indonesia has established a collaboration with local partners from Riau (Sebijak Institute) and Sumatera Barat (LP2M and QBAR) to support the study of "The Role of Social Forestry towards Food Security in Riau and Sumatera Barat." The study aims to provide a better understanding of how the efforts of forest conservation, through social forestry policy, can strengthen local food systems. In support of this study, a systematic literature study regarding communitybased forest management in Indonesia was also conducted. The study concluded that maintaining forest resources through community management provides various pathways (direct, indirect, and agroecological) that can support the food security of the local communities. We used the framework from the systematic literature study as a theoretical framework for our study in Riau and Sumatera Barat.

The study in Riau was conducted by Sebijak Institute in 2022, in the Village Forest of Sapat, Village Forest of Sungai Piyai, and Customary Forest of Rantau Baru. The findings found that the role of forest ecosystems in supporting local food security is quite significant. This is seen based on the level of utilization and community's dependence on the forest resources. In those three places, the forest resources contribute directly by providing food access for daily consumption and diversifying livelihoods that helps to increase household income. From the results of this study, we have approached the village government and regional government to continue maintaining active community participation in managing and utilizing forest resources sustainably. This study also inspired us to carry out further research in Sapat Village regarding the mangrove ecosystem and its contribution to the local food system and

livelihood through Global Ocean Account Partnership (GOAP).

The study in West Sumatera, we partnered with Lembaga Pengkajian dan Pemberdayaan Masyarakat (LP2M) and Qbar. As of August 2023, the team has conducted scoping studies in five social forestry sites across the districts in West Sumatera. Working closely with our regional office - WRI Regional Sumatera Barat - and the village & regional government, LP2M and QBAR have finished conducting their scoping studies to understand the dynamics and intricacies of forest conservation and food security in West Sumatera. In September, the team has already conducted training for local enumerators in three study areas and will conduct the field research until early October. One thing that made this study different compared to the study in Riau is the participatory action research. From our learning processes in Riau, The target was to involve the local community in West Sumatera throughout the research process to ensure valuable knowledge exchanges and participation. We hope that this project will become the first step of meaningful collaboration between local communities and key stakeholders in Sumatera Barat for forest conservation and food security efforts.

Extent to which the project is addressing/ addressed **GEI considerations** and any key lessons, challenges, modifications to the GEI approach, or insights

As mentioned previously in this report, the output from this project has benefited WRI Indonesia beyond the TCI project alone. It has helped us to mainstream gender and social inclusion into the new developed proposals and add new gender activities to existing projects. The gender equity and social inclusion toolkit and trainings have given us the necessary know how and guidelines that need to to consider when implementing projects across our portfolios.

For example, in the national plastic action partnership to (NPAP), we added new gender activities to mainstream gender issues in the NPAP partnership and the implementation of NPAP's Action Roadmap. This will serve as a step-by-step guide to achieve Indonesia's national target to reduce plastic pollution by 70% in 2025.

Another example is on gender integration effort for cities for forest (C4F) project in Papua, where the project is currently assessing ways to integrate gender equity and social inclusion (GESI) in city-wide spatial planning. The module they are developing to conduct this assessment is referring to the gender module that the TCI project has helped to develop.

The gender module developed has also helped the Indigenous Program and Livelihoods (IPLC) program to develop a safeguard for social forestry in Aceh, Jambi, West Sumatra, and Central Kalimantan. In this project we have facilitated IPLC in getting access to manage their surrounding forest and developing their livelihoods to reap benefit from forest resources in a sustainable

manner. From this process, there are two important lessons learned that could be relevant to other projects:

The first lesson is that internalizing GESI to IPLC goes beyond merely adding women and youth to forest communities. It is more about ensuring that the formation process is inclusive of those in the village who may lack access to information or forest resources. This is because, admittedly, some group formation practices occurred through appointments prior to the existence of this project. From assessment findings, given its historical background, women have been quite courageous in expressing their opinions or criticisms. However, even when involving them in projects activities, we still need to tap into areas related to their daily lives. Therefore the second lesson is about the importance of a localized gender narrative approach, embrace of local cultural values, and engagment of key women and youth who were vocal in entering these groups to internalizing GESI in communities.

More about our work with the communities could be accessed in this <u>video</u>.

<sup>\*</sup> Innovations refer to technologies, methods, and processes resulting from IDRC-supported research to tackle specific issues/problems. Solutions can be understood as improved, alternative, or new ways of doing or organizing something. When it does achieve this result, "innovation" becomes an outcome.

 $<sup>{\</sup>bf Examples~of~innovations~that~illustrate~what~innovations~could~be~(purposefully~broad):}$ 

Technology: seeds, post-management machinery, vaccines;

Policy innovation: new policy recommendations, norms, regulations;

Process/Method/Best practices: farm management practices, innovative business venture approaches, changes in practice resulting from a policy directive.

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