

Building a Just and Climate-Resilient Future: Youth Innovation for People, Nature, and Climate

THE 1ST INTERNATIONAL YOUNG ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTISTS (YES) CONFERENCE

2-3 December 2025 | Pullman Hotel, Jakarta, Indonesia | Hosted by the World Resources Institute (WRI) Indonesia

Background: Urgency to leverage the role of youth in tackling the climate crisis

The world is facing a convergence of environmental and climate crises that threaten ecosystems, livelihoods, and the well-being of current and future generations. Climate change is accelerating at an alarming pace, with global temperatures projected to exceed 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels as early as the 2030s (IPCC 2023). Biodiversity loss is occurring at unprecedented rates, placing over 1 million species at risk of extinction (IPBES 2019). Meanwhile, land degradation, air and water pollution, ocean acidification, and unsustainable resource consumption continue to erode the resilience of natural systems (IPBES 2019). These challenges are deeply interconnected and disproportionately affecting young people who face rising risks of climate-induced displacement, food insecurity, and diminishing access to sustainable jobs and livable environments. More than 698 million young people between 15 and 34 years old live in fragile and conflict-affected settings, or 67 percent of the world's young population (UNDP 2024).

Young people are not just the impacted group; they are also climate activists who amplify local aspirations and concerns through social media, public lawsuits, and other channels (UNDP 2024). Therefore, the potential of young people to drive transformative change is immense, with young researchers worldwide pioneering innovations in nature-based solutions, clean energy, sustainable food, urban development, and climate adaptation and mitigation. Despite being among the most affected, their contributions remain underrepresented in decision-making processes that shape long-term solutions. Moreover, avenues for translating scientific insights from young scientists into policy and practice remain limited.

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These conference proceedings reflect the presentations and discussions of participants and do not necessarily represent the views of WRI Indonesia or other participating institutions.

Despite having the fastest growth in researchers with a 36 percent increase between 2014 and 2018, the total number of researchers in low-income economies accounts for only 0.2 percent of the world's total researchers (UNESCO 2021). This global imbalance mirrors Indonesia's domestic challenges. In Indonesia, where over 50 percent of the population is under 35 (Statistics Indonesia 2023), the potential of the younger generation is massive. However, within Indonesia's scientific ecosystem, young researchers accounted for more than 14,000 out of approximately 216,000 researchers in 2020 (Bisri 2022). This gap is exacerbated by structural barriers, such as limited capacity-building opportunities, a lack of mentorship, restricted access to publication platforms, and minimal engagement with decision-makers. All of these barriers continue to hinder the full potential of young scientists. In this context, the role of research, particularly led by early-career scientists, has never been more critical. Yet, opportunities for them to share their work beyond academic circles remain scarce.

FIGURE 1 | Young scientists attend the 1st International YES Conference in Jakarta, Indonesia



Source: YES Conference.

About the YES Conference

Recognizing this background, the first International YES Conference was convened by the World Resources Institute (WRI) Indonesia in December 2025 in Jakarta, Indonesia. This two-day conference brought together young environmental scientists from across Indonesia and the world to present their research and connect with like-minded peers and development actors to share cross-cutting insights on building a just and climate-resilient future. This conference was designed to explore how youth-led innovations could help tackle the pressing challenges of climate change.

Building on WRI Indonesia's commitment to nurturing the next generation of sustainability leaders, this conference marks the first flagship academic event from WRI Indonesia and is part of the Young Scientist Incubation Program (Wahana Riset Indonesia) 3.0. This conference aimed to achieve five objectives, namely to

- showcase youth-led research excellence and innovations on climate change and sustainability;
- amplify the visibility and influence of research conducted by young researchers on climate and sustainability issues among strategic audiences;
- strengthen young scientists' capacity in science-policy engagement;
- foster cross-sectoral collaborations and networks on climate and resilience; and
- co-create a policy recommendations memo for decision-makers.

FIGURE 2 | Recipients of the Best Poster and Oral Presentation awards pose with their certifications at the YES Conference



Source: YES Conference.

To achieve these objectives, this conference brought together early-career or emerging scientists under 35 years old, including students, professionals, activists, and young change-makers from all environmental fields. In total, 67 young researchers presented their research across 15 parallel panels covering nine distinct topics, and 27 presented their research results through poster presentations (see Appendix A for the full agenda). All the presenters were selected from 192 submitted abstracts. The event also featured four plenary panels that served as inspirational talks delivered by speakers from government agencies, various communities, academia, key opinion leaders, and non-governmental initiatives. These sessions fostered cross-sectoral dialogue, with presenters consisted of 50 non-governmental organization (NGO) representatives, including WRI, four private sector representatives, four independent researchers, two government representatives, two professional associations, 27 Indonesian university students, eight international university students, and one high school student. In total, the conference attracted 642 public registrants.

This conference covered a wide range of issues, including pressing climate change and environmental challenges. These nine sub-themes were discussed throughout the event:

- Sustainable food systems
- Sustainable land and water
- Climate action and adaptation
- Sustainable ocean economy
- Sustainable management of coastal cities
- Transformation in energy systems
- Papua's pathways to climate resilience: lessons from its land and people
- Integrating gender equity, disability, and social inclusion (GEDSI) in resilience
- The role of youth innovation in solving the climate crisis

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Opening and keynote speeches

The conference was opened by Prof. Mari Elka Pangestu, Chair of the WRI Indonesia Board (Figure 3). In her opening remarks, Prof. Mari highlighted that young scientists are sources of transformative ideas and emphasized the importance of research in addressing increasingly complex climate challenges. She also emphasized that the ecological vulnerabilities present in various regions of Indonesia cannot be addressed without relevant and actionable science.

The opening was followed by a keynote speech from Prof. Dr. Arif Satria, Head of the National Research and Innovation Agency (Badan Riset dan Inovasi Indonesia; BRIN) (Figure 4). Amplifying Prof. Mari's key messages, Prof. Arif underlined the importance of investing in the capacity-building of young scientists and enabling them to leverage their creativity in addressing climate challenges. These opening speeches highlight how the YES Conference addresses pressing national and global challenges.

"While economic growth brings prosperity, it also creates negative impacts, such as pollution and the depletion of natural resources, which threaten the well-being of future generations. Therefore, sustainable development requires investment in human resources, particularly young people who possess the energy and creativity essential to confronting challenges like climate change."
— Prof. Dr. Arif Satria

FIGURE 3 | Prof. Mari Elka Pangestu, Chair of the WRI Indonesia Board, delivers her opening speech



Source: YES Conference.

FIGURE 4 | Prof. Dr. Arif Satria, Head of BRIN, delivers his keynote speech



Source: YES Conference.

Thematic discussion highlights and presenters' recommendations

Sustainable food systems

The YES Conference highlighted the importance of improving Indonesia's food systems by promoting sustainable, locally available, and climate-resilient protein sources in two sessions on sustainable food systems (Parallel Panels 2 and 5; see Appendix A). These panels discussed diverse issues across terrestrial and aquatic protein food systems, including local nutrition interventions in Eastern Indonesia, women's roles in shrimp-farming household resilience, climate resilience in food security policies, and climate-induced loss and damage among aquaculture farmers in Pekalongan, Central Java in Indonesia.

They also explored behavior-change strategies to support healthier diets and reduce food loss and waste, such as in households in Bandung, West Java, Indonesia; the socioeconomic implications of sustainable food consumption for Indonesia's net-zero target; hotel staff participation in surplus food donation; and global interventions for sustainable diets. These presentations showed that food system transformation requires more than policy and supply-side improvements. Such a transformation also depends on changes in everyday consumption practices, organizational behavior, consumer readiness, and institutional support to make healthier and more sustainable diets more accessible, affordable, and socially acceptable.

Building on these discussions, the conference reiterated the call for food system transformation that is sustainable, just, locally-grounded, and inclusive, shifting from a "production-first" approach to "people-centered" food system resilience. Recommendations include:

- Climate and food policies should integrate nutrition adequacy, equitable food access, and the adaptive capacity of vulnerable groups, particularly women.
- Women's roles in sustaining household food security and livelihood resilience should be better recognized, especially in communities facing climate risks, crop failure, and livelihood uncertainty.
- The importance of intergenerational knowledge sharing, such as local food practices, traditional ecological knowledge, and household coping strategies, can help strengthen food access and support more adaptive, context-specific food systems.
- Local governments were encouraged to regulate food donation from the food and beverage sector, including hotels and restaurants, to reduce food waste and improve redistribution.
- Policies supporting healthy diets should also consider affordability and price regulation to avoid widening inequality.
- In blue food systems, inclusive technological innovation, comprehensive data, and sustainable financing are essential to protect particularly small-scale fishers and aquaculture farmers from climate-induced loss and damage.

Sustainable land and water

The thematic discussion on sustainable land and water was delivered through two sessions: Parallel Panel 9 titled "Land-based emission dynamics and climate governance in Indonesia" and Parallel Panel 12 on "Sustainable land and water management, technology, and governance (see Appendix A). Across these panels, eight presenters shared research and practice-based insights from renowned institutions, such as WRI Indonesia, the Kyoto University alumni network, Wageningen University and Research, CarbonEthics, Arup Indonesia, Pantau Gambut, and IPB University. The sessions reflected the interdisciplinary nature of sustainable land and water governance, connecting climate science, remote sensing, finance, ecosystem restoration, and urban resilience.

The presentations covered a broad range of land and water sustainability issues in Indonesia. In Panel 9, young researchers discussed strategies for managing land resources. Their presentation included the consequences of peat rewetting in Central Kalimantan and wildfire-driven ozone formation, as well as innovative climate finance schemes, such as reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) finance and ridge-to-reef financing pathways in Southwest Papua.

Panel 12, meanwhile, highlighted the use of multi-sensor satellite data and machine learning to improve land cover classification, the integration of blue-green infrastructure and policy briefs for North Jakarta's resilience, the enhancement of Sentinel-2-based fire mapping for Indonesia's 2023 peatland fires, and exploring wild fungi mycoremediation as a nature-based solution for soil restoration and ecosystem resilience.

Key recommendations from these panels emphasized the following:

- The need to integrate terrestrial and marine resource planning to support synergistic and sustainable development.
- Equity, participation, and collaboration should be embedded in community climate actions, particularly to safeguard smallholders' livelihoods in sustainable land and water management.
- Strengthening governance systems is essential to align global climate commitments with national goals and local administrative and financial capacities.
- Expanding innovative, data-driven solutions to improve environmental governance, ecosystem resilience, and evidence-based climate policy.
- Establishing continuous field monitoring and long-term scientific partnerships is needed to improve drought and water-balance models and ensure that policies are grounded in real environmental data.

Climate action and adaptation

The thematic discussion on climate action and adaptation was delivered through two sessions: Parallel Panel 3 discussing the integration of climate adaptation and resilience in development planning and budgeting (Figure 5) and Parallel Panel 6 on such integration into urban transport systems, learning from Indonesia (see details in Appendix A). Across these panels, 10 young researchers from WRI Indonesia, the Indonesian Association of Geologists (IAGI) Bali, Monash University Indonesia, the International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP), and Semarang State University, as well as independent researchers and professional planning and engineering practitioners, shared a diverse range of research and practice-based insights.

The presentations explored how climate resilience can be integrated into spatial planning, infrastructure, governance, and mobility systems. Panel 3 discussed community advocacy after the 2025 Denpasar flash flood in Indonesia; green space politics in Jakarta, the capital of Indonesia; vernacular nature-based solutions for spatial justice in South Tangerang, Banten in Indonesia; nature-future balance in Hermosa Municipality, the Philippines; adaptive pathways for coastal protection in Jakarta; and post-earthquake urban development dynamics in Padang, West Sumatra in Indonesia. Panel 6 focused on mainstreaming climate resilience in the transportation masterplan of Semarang, Central Java in Indonesia and assessing the spatial vulnerability of the city's flood-affected road networks; policy literacy and civic engagement for environmentally friendly transport in Kebumen, Central Java; and participatory transport planning for Jakarta's urban slum communities.

FIGURE 5 | Young scientists deliver their presentations at Parallel Panel 3



Source: YES Conference.

Key recommendations to better integrate climate-related aspects into ongoing development practices included:

- The need to integrate climate resilience into community-based learning and local development planning, particularly through youth digital engagement that can improve literacy and encourage behavioral change.
- The importance of equitable decarbonization through low-cost, user-friendly measurement and mitigation tools that are accessible to resource-limited communities and sectors.
- Ensuring fairer climate outcomes through decision-making that combines socioeconomic datasets, crowdsourced evidence, and environmental data while adopting more collaborative governance models.
- Exploring affordable and expandable AI-based hybrid emission-control systems to reduce emissions in rapidly growing urban areas, contributing to cleaner air, lower noise levels, and improved public health.

Sustainable oceans

The thematic discussion on sustainable oceans was delivered through one plenary session and two parallel panels. The theme was first explored in Plenary Discussion 2 on “Feeding the future: Blue food, climate resilience, and social inclusion in action” (Figure 6). The session featured Rocky Pairunan, Plastic Waste and Ocean Manager at WRI Indonesia, Roikhanatun Nafi’ah, Founder and CEO at Crustea, and Heri, Founder and CEO at Kolektif, a consultancy and catalyst organization bridging the gap between global sustainability standards and local fisheries.

Moderated by Sapariah Saturi, a senior journalist at Mongabay Indonesia, the plenary framed blue food as an important entry point for connecting climate resilience, sustainable livelihoods, and social inclusion. The discussion also highlighted the systemic vulnerability to ocean resources induced by climate change, including ocean acidification, marine pollution, excessive fishing pressures, aquaculture land-use change, disruptions to fish habitat, and unpredictable weather affecting small-scale fisheries.

FIGURE 6 | Speakers at Plenary Discussion 2



Source: YES Conference.

The discussions on sustainable oceans continued in Parallel Panel 1 themed “Addressing marine plastic pollution” and Parallel Panel 4 on “Ocean inclusive climate-economy actions.” Parallel Panel 1 largely focused on how coastal and small-island communities are among the most vulnerable to marine plastics pollution. The presenting young scientists offered evidence-based insights into the potential economic losses from microplastic pollution in seagrass ecosystems and the impacts of marine debris on biodiversity and coastal communities. They also discussed circular solutions in dealing with such cases, particularly in shrimp aquaculture.

Parallel Panel 4 opened with insights from the Sustainable Ocean Plan Handbook by Amy Swift, Ocean Research Associate from WRI Global. The session continued with discussions on how to balance economic growth and environmental protection within the blue economy framework, multistakeholder marine conservation in Greece, and corporate responsibility for a just blue carbon economy in Indonesia.

These panels presented the policy gaps in addressing climate-related challenges in ocean ecosystems. The systemic vulnerability in ocean socio-ecological systems requires comprehensive data and management that are currently not comprehensively available. Indonesia's regulatory framework reveals a fundamental flaw: plastic is primarily governed as waste rather than as pollution.

The discussions led to several key recommendations:

- The need to strengthen cross-sectoral ocean governance by aligning marine, fisheries, tourism, and energy policies while embedding ecological principles and marine ecosystem health into national planning.
- Blue economy investments should be supported by long-term, legally binding corporate blue carbon financing, transparent monitoring, and fair benefit-sharing to enhance social equity and coastal resilience.
- A call for more inclusive coastal governance by ensuring women and youth have affirmative access to micro-finance, technical assistance, and blue economy programs.
- Shifting the paradigm from treating marine plastic merely as “waste” to recognizing it as “pollution,” thereby expanding responses beyond waste management toward mitigating environmental and health impacts.

FIGURE 7 | Young scientists present their insights in Parallel Panel 2



Source: YES Conference.

Sustainable cities

The discussion on sustainable cities was delivered at Parallel Panel 6 titled “Integrating climate resilience into urban transport systems: Lessons from Indonesian cities.” Moderated by Dimas Fadhil, Urban Development Senior Program Lead at WRI Indonesia, the panel brought together four presenters from independent research institutions, Semarang State University, and WRI Indonesia. The discussions reflected the importance of placing cities at the center of climate action, particularly through transport systems, land-use planning, and urban resilience strategies. By combining academic, policy, and practical perspectives, the panel highlighted how Indonesian cities must respond to climate risks while ensuring that urban mobility and development remain inclusive, accessible, and socially just.

The presentations in this thematic panel mainly explored just and climate-resilient urban transport and mobility, with an emphasis on integrating climate risk and social equity into urban and transport planning. Several problems were highlighted, including how climate risks are currently insufficiently mainstreamed into transport and urban planning. Consequently, policies often address mitigation but overlook adaptation. Further, vulnerable groups, including low-income communities, informal settlements, and persons with disabilities, are underrepresented in transport planning and decision-making processes. This is further complicated by car-oriented and fragmented transport systems, which reinforce inequality and reduce resilience during climate-related disruptions.

Key recommendations emphasized the need to mainstream climate resilience and adaptation into urban transport policies while aligning research evidence with existing planning and regulatory frameworks. As stated below, this aspect requires institutional reform in public transport planning.

“Institutional reform in public transport planning is necessary to better recognize, represent, and meaningfully involve the voices of low-income and marginalized communities.” — Fabri Santosa, Climate Modeler, WRI Indonesia

Cities should adopt co-produced, adaptive, and risk-informed land-use policies with local communities, particularly to guide safer growth in coastal areas. The panel presentations and discussions also called for equitable green and water-sensitive urban designs that protect ecological systems without displacing low-income communities. Inclusive and participatory planning should be institutionalized to ensure marginalized and vulnerable groups are meaningfully involved in transport decisions. Integrated mobility systems should be strengthened through the expansion of public transport, pedestrian infrastructure, and transit-oriented development to enhance equity and resilience.

Energy system transformation

Insights on the theme of energy system transformation were presented at Parallel Panel 10 themed “The new era of energy system planning” and Parallel Panel 13 on “Governing the energy transition in Southeast Asia.” Moderated by Caesar Kusuma, Energy Efficiency Senior Specialist, and Fajar Rozan, Industrial Park Analyst from WRI Indonesia’s energy teams, the panels brought together eight presenters from universities, research institutions, business councils, independent research, and WRI’s regional network. Discussions reflected the growing complexity of energy transitions, technological and governance challenges, and the required transformation to address such challenges.

The presentations explored both technical and governance dimensions of energy transformation. Parallel Panel 10 discussed technological innovation to decarbonize industrial wastewater treatment, urban renewable energy, and co-creation for climate-resilient electricity distribution systems. Parallel Panel 13 expanded on the theme by adding regional and management contexts, including China–Indonesia cooperation for low-carbon industrial transition, Indonesia’s Just Energy Transition Partnership in relation to ASEAN’s low-carbon vision, and the role of ESG performance and controversies in shaping a climate-resilient economy.

Drawing from diverse institutions and perspectives, the presentations highlighted that transforming energy systems requires not only cleaner technologies but also coordinated planning, financing, regulation, and social safeguards. They emphasized the need to strengthen energy-transition governance through international cooperation, harmonized regulations, technological capacity building, and support for vulnerable communities. The presenting young scientists also underlined the importance of aligning mandates, data, and planning across agencies and sectors to scale renewable energy integration within existing systems.

Further, renewable energy harvesting research and development requires stronger governmental funding and political support, while spatial planning should also be used as a regulatory framework to protect environmental well-being and safeguard communities affected by energy development. They called on the private sector to play a stronger role in effective risk mitigation, equitable incentives, and transparency to support responsible and sustainable energy transition pathways.

Leveraging the role of indigenous knowledge to foster climate resilience

The influential role of indigenous knowledge in fostering climate resilience was discussed in several YES Conference panels, with Plenary Discussion 2 exploring the role of local communities in addressing the climate challenges of ocean ecosystems. Specifically, the YES Conference convened special panels to present the local knowledge of Orang Asli Papua (OAP), or Indigenous Papuans (Figure 8). These included Plenary Discussion 3 on “Papua’s pathways to climate resilience: Lessons from its land and people” (Figure 9) and Parallel Panel 7 titled “Indigenous innovation for a resilient future in Papua.” The sessions highlighted the systemic interventions required to leverage and integrate local indigenous knowledge in decision-making to achieve locally relevant climate resilience measures.

FIGURE 8 | WRI Indonesia Papua team and Papuan experts pose with Velix Wanggai, Chair of the Committee for the Acceleration of Papua Development (center)



Source: YES Conference.

FIGURE 9 | Katarina Yaas, Member of Majelis Rakyat (People's Assembly) of South Papua speaks at Plenary Panel 3



Source: YES Conference.

The presentations highlighted how indigenous knowledge, local innovation, and community-based practices can strengthen climate resilience in Papua. They foregrounded Papua's land, people, and cultural systems as important foundations for climate-resilient development. Parallel Panel 7 expanded this discussion through presentations on Indigenous Papuan women's local wisdom and socio-ecological resilience, economic valuation of coastal tourism areas in Raja Ampat and North Sulawesi, women-led local food systems and household waste management in Menarbu Village in West Papua, and the integration of local food potential into sustainable food systems. Central to their insights was that resilience in Papua cannot be separated from cultural identity, local livelihoods, ecological stewardship, and gendered community knowledge.

These sessions also highlighted the importance of leveraging local knowledge for awareness raising, as well as capacity acknowledgement and development. Velix Wanggai, Chair of the Committee for the Acceleration of Papua Development, encouraged researchers in his keynote speech at Plenary Panel 7 to speak about Papua issues in the global, national, and local contexts. At the same time, he emphasized the importance of such research and dissemination activities to bring the local issues of Tanah Papua to a wider community. Beyond raising awareness, localized research also highlighted the importance of acknowledging local knowledge and experiences crystallized in everyday adaptation. As stated by Rory Marwani Subaing, a speaker from Institute for Research and Capacity Building in Papua (Lembaga Pengkajian dan Penguatan Kapasitas Papua; LEKAT Papua), acknowledging local women's capacity in the terrestrial food system could provide benefits for a wider ecosystem.

"Women have immense knowledge in leveraging nature for medicine and food source that are beneficial to enhance the value of the forest itself." — Rory Marwani Subaing, Program Manager, LEKAT Papua

Key recommendations emphasized the importance of community-engaged research to capture lived realities that are often overlooked by top-down planning systems. Speakers, presenters, and participants highlighted that local wisdom, cultural context, and shared vulnerabilities should be integrated into national policy frameworks to strengthen gender safeguards, climate planning, inclusive education, and environmental conservation. Panel discussions also called for the formal recognition and support of women's contributions to climate resilience, particularly through gender-responsive planning, access to training, and livelihood opportunities. Speakers underlined that indigenous knowledge should not be treated as supplementary knowledge, but as a central foundation for inclusive and place-based climate resilience.

Tech for resilience

Discussions on tech for resilience were delivered through two sessions: Parallel Panel 8 titled "Tech for resilience" and Parallel Panel 11 on "Digital tools for climate resilience." Across both sessions, eight presentations brought together perspectives from WRI Indonesia, AKPRIND Indonesia University, Unggul Del Senior High School, Hajee Mohammad Danesh Science and Technology University, and IPB University. They highlighted the expanding role of digital innovation, artificial intelligence, earth observation, the Internet of Things, and open-access platforms in supporting climate resilience. By connecting academic research, youth innovation, and applied tools from practitioners, the panels showcased how technology could strengthen environmental governance when it is accessible, scalable, and responsive to real-world climate challenges.

The presentations explored diverse technological applications for environmental monitoring, climate planning, and resilience-building. Parallel Panel 8 discussed strategies to build a just climate resilient from the perspective of young scientists, including utilizing AI-based technologies to support smart agriculture systems and environmental management. Young researchers in this panel also highlighted the importance of utilizing mass technologies, such as social media, to integrate climate resilience, community-based learning, and local development planning. Parallel Panel 11 expanded the discussion through presentations on nature-based solution tools, Earth observation and digital tools for blue carbon asset valuation, the Agri Carbon Tracker for agricultural greenhouse gas emissions inventory and product intensity, and the development of a water risk platform in Indonesia.

The primary barrier to implementing these innovations revolves around how to make them accessible to wider, underprivileged communities. As explained by Izzuddin Prawiranegara from WRI Indonesia, it is important to ensure technological accessibility and affordability for others:

“Our challenge with technological innovation today is how to implement it for all people who may have limited access or smallholders.” — M. Izzuddin Prawiranegara, Commodity Supply Chain Decarbonization Analyst, WRI Indonesia

Young people, as the pillars for low-cost, scalable digital climate literacy and community participation, must be supported by systemic policies from the government. These panels emphasized several key recommendations:

- The need to enhance environmental decision-making through open-access information systems, scalable digital innovation, and integrated data governance.
- Digital tools should be utilized to enhance environmental management while ensuring transparency, accountability, and data quality.
- Stronger data governance frameworks are needed to apply open-data principles, expand equitable access to information, and enable sustained cross-sector collaboration.
- Interactive digital learning and youth-led engagement platforms can help embed climate resilience into local planning while encouraging behavioral change and more inclusive climate action.

Integrating GEDSI in resilience

The theme GEDSI in fostering climate resilience was discussed at Parallel Panel 14 on Integrating GEDSI in Climate Resilience Research. Moderated by Smita Tanaya, GEDSI and Ocean Research Analyst at WRI Indonesia, the panel brought together five presenters from the University of Indonesia, Padjadjaran University, Gadjah Mada University, the Sagara Cita Indonesia Foundation, and independent researchers. The discussions highlighted the importance of placing GEDSI at the center of climate resilience research and action. Connecting food systems, marine resource management, water supply, poverty, sanitation, and youth leadership, the panel emphasized that climate resilience must respond to unequal vulnerabilities and lived experiences.

The presentations explored how GEDSI perspectives can strengthen climate resilience across different sectors and communities. Young researchers on this panel emphasized participatory governance, social inclusion, and community ownership as central to climate resilience. As reflected in the statement below, they highlighted that adaptation programs may unintentionally reproduce inequality when vulnerable groups are excluded from governance and decision-making processes. They also noted that women continue to face barriers in accessing technology, governance roles, training, and climate-related decision-making despite their major contributions to environmental management.

“Green city projects can unintentionally create climate gentrification if they only benefit elites while excluding local communities.” — Aulia Izzah Azmi, independent researcher from the University of Indonesia

Considering these challenges, young scientists emphasized that climate programs should move beyond technical interventions and prioritize justice, accessibility, and empowerment for marginalized groups. The GEDSI principles, when mainstreamed across climate resilience research, planning, and implementation, serve as the basis for this recommendation. Climate policies and programs should actively recognize the differentiated vulnerabilities of women, youth, poor households, rural communities, and coastal populations. Participatory and community-based approaches are essential to ensure that climate solutions reflect local needs, knowledge, and capacities. The discussion also highlighted the importance of strengthening youth leadership, gender-inclusive governance, and equitable access to basic services, including food, water, sanitation, and coastal resources. Further, bridging research to action is also influential in achieving such a just resilience future through multi-stakeholder collaboration.

Strengthening the role of young scientists in environmental and climate policymaking: Speakers' and presenters' recommendations

Beyond the thematic discussions, the YES Conference sought key pathways to strengthen the role of young scientists in environmental and climate policymaking. This conference positioned young researchers not only as knowledge producers but also as key actors in shaping more inclusive, evidence-based, and action-oriented environmental governance. This key recommendation emerged consistently throughout the opening remarks of Prof. Mari; the keynote speech of Prof. Arif; Plenary Panels 1 and 4; Parallel Panel 15; and various thematic discussions.

Following the opening speeches, this theme was further explored during the first plenary discussion, “Investing in our future by building research culture among young people.” The session brought together speakers from Indonesia's Ministry of Higher Education, Science, and Technology, WRI Indonesia, and Think Policy Indonesia, moderated by Dr. Maria Apriliani Gani from Bandung Institute of Technology. The discussion highlighted that strengthening the role of young scientists requires more than individual capacity building. It requires a supportive ecosystem that values research, celebrates science, and creates meaningful pathways for them to contribute to decision-making. Young scientists need equal access to data, laboratories, funding, mentorship, interdisciplinary collaboration, and international networks so that their ideas can develop into real innovations with policy and social impact.

FIGURE 10 | Expert speakers and the moderator of Plenary Discussion 1



Source: YES Conference.

The conference also featured Parallel Panel 15 on “Action research: WRI Indonesia’s research in progress,” which demonstrated how young researchers are already contributing to policy-relevant environmental research. The topics presented showed that young scientists are working at the intersection of climate commitments, regulatory change, economic transition, social equity, and environmental protection. The panel emphasized that action research should not end with academic publication but should be designed to inform governance reform, policy implementation, and community-centered solutions.

The final plenary discussion, titled “From research to action: Strengthening research contributions toward collaborative climate adaptation,” further emphasized the importance of translating research into usable policy knowledge. Speakers from government institutions, academia, WRI Indonesia, and public communication platforms discussed how research can better support collaborative climate adaptation. A central message was that young researchers must learn to understand the needs of their target audiences, whether they are policymakers, communities, businesses, journalists, or civil society organizations. Scientific findings need to be communicated clearly, strategically, and creatively through digital platforms, visual communication, public engagement, and community-based approaches.

For research institutions, universities, and funders, the collective recommendation is straightforward: build a long-term enabling ecosystem for young scientists. This includes providing stable funding, structured mentorship, interdisciplinary research teams, access to laboratories and quality datasets, and opportunities for international collaboration. Institutions should also reduce unnecessary administrative burdens that limit researchers’ time and energy for scientific work. Research careers should be supported not only through publication targets but also through recognition of policy engagement, community collaboration, public communication, and applied innovation. A strong research culture enables young scientists to take intellectual risks, collaborate across disciplines, and develop solutions relevant to society.

For young researchers, the recommendation is to strengthen the link between data, research, policy, and public communication. Young scientists should continue producing rigorous research, but they also need to make their findings accessible and useful for real-world decision-making. This means developing practical, community-rooted solutions rather than focusing only on academic papers. Researchers should identify their audiences’ needs, communicate evidence clearly, and use creative platforms to support climate literacy and public engagement. By combining scientific credibility with communication skills and social awareness, young scientists can become stronger advocates for evidence-based environmental and climate policy.

For the government, the recommendation is to become more open to scientific advice and more consistent in integrating research into policy cycles. Government institutions need to provide long-term, stable research funding rather than relying mainly on short grant cycles. They should also build accessible national data systems to support evidence-based policymaking across sectors and levels of government. Climate resilience should be advanced not only through infrastructure but also through social innovation, behavioral change, digital engagement, and inclusive local planning. Existing policy frameworks, including Indonesia’s National Action Plan for Climate Change Adaptation, can be strengthened by adopting replicable, low-cost digital engagement models that involve young people and local communities.

For industries and businesses, the recommendation is to strengthen their investment in local research capacity and youth-led innovation. Companies should collaborate with Indonesian researchers rather than rely primarily on external or foreign expertise. Businesses can support low-cost digital climate awareness models by including youth as a core pillar of outreach, innovation, and behavior change strategies. The private sector should also expand green job opportunities, including roles in research translation, sustainability communication, climate data, environmental education, and community engagement. By doing so, industries can contribute not only to technological and economic transition but also to the development of a stronger national ecosystem for climate knowledge and action.

FIGURE 11 | WRI Indonesia team members who organized the first YES Conference



Source: YES Conference.

The YES Conference emphasized that strengthening the role of young scientists is not only about preparing the next generation of researchers. It is about transforming how Indonesia produces, communicates, funds, and uses knowledge for environmental and climate policy. Young scientists need supportive institutions, responsive government systems, collaborative businesses, and inclusive public platforms. At the same time, they must continue developing rigorous, practical, interdisciplinary, and community-grounded research. The first YES Conference demonstrated that when young scientists are meaningfully supported, their work can help bridge the gap between research and action, and contribute to a more just, resilient, and evidence-based climate future.

Appendix A: YES Conference Agenda

The 1st International Young Environmental Scientists Conference

Conference Agenda Day 1 | 2 December 2025

Opening Speech | 09.00-09.15

Prof. Mari Elka Pangestu, Chair of Board, WRI Indonesia

Keynote Speech | 09.15-10.45

Prof. Dr. Arif Satria, S.P., M.Si., Head of the National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN)

Plenary Discussion 1: Investing in Our Future by Building Research Culture Among Young People | 09.30-10.45

Adi Nuryanto, S.T., M.T., Director of Science and Technology Talent Development, Ministry of Higher Education, Science, and Technology

Dr. Nirarta Samadhi, Country Director, WRI Indonesia

Andhyta F. Utami, Founder, Think Policy Indonesia

Dr. Maria Apriliani Gani, S.Farm., M.Farm., Bandung Institute of Technology (Moderator)

Alfrida Anindy, Research Assistant for Wahana Riset Indonesia, WRI Indonesia (Panel Reporter)

Parallel Panel 1: Addressing Marine Plastic Pollution | 10.55-12.20

Estimating the Potential Economic Loss from Microplastic Pollution in Indonesia's Seagrass Ecosystems

Andi Nazwa Aulia Maharani, Universitas Indonesia

Ensuring Coastal Economic Justice: Comparative Exploration on Policy Gaps in Indonesia's Marine Plastic Governance

Aqwika Deviena Hermawan, The University of Edinburgh

Local Waste Governance in Small Islands: Lessons from Community-led Waste Working Groups in Central Maluku, Indonesia

Kristanto Irawan Putra, Bintari Foundation

The Missing Link: Mapping Policy Gaps in Plastic Pollution Governance in Indonesia

Herlin Edy Puspita, WRI Indonesia

Plastics in Motion: Local Circularity Pathways in Shrimp Aquaculture in Banyuwangi, Indonesia

Ni Putu Ayu Eka Sundari, WRI Indonesia

Marine Debris and Its Impacts on Biodiversity and Coastal Communities in Indonesia

Khairunisa, WRI Indonesia

Bunga Karnisa, NPAP Community Coordinator, WRI Indonesia (Moderator)

You One Lumbanraja, Research Assistant for Wahana Riset Indonesia Program, WRI Indonesia (Panel Reporter)

Parallel Panel 2: Improving Food Systems in Indonesia through Sustainably Produced and Locally Available Terrestrial and/or Aquatic Protein Sources | 10.55-12.20

Strengthening Local Food Systems through Sustainable Protein Sources: Insights from the Rote Nutrition Extension Study in Eastern Indonesia

Yulinda Nurul Aini, National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN)

Uncovering the Overlooked Significance of Women in Shrimp Farmers' Household Resilience Amidst Crop Failure

Muhammad Affan Asyraf, WRI Indonesia

Investigating Climate Resilience in Indonesia's Food Security Policies and Programs

Rafie Mohammad, the Australian National University

Climate Induced Loss and Damage
for Aquaculturists in Pekalongan, Central Java: Potential
Case for Disaster Resilience Financing
Nabiyya Perenia, Destructive Fishing Watch

*Romauli Panggabean, Environmental Economist,
WRI Indonesia (Moderator)*

*Adinda Yusra, Research Assistant for Wahana Riset
Indonesia Program, WRI Indonesia*

Parallel Panel 3: Integrating Climate Adaptation and Resilience in Development Planning and Budgeting | 10.55-12.20

From People's Voice to Advocacy: Case Study of the 2025
Flash Flood Disaster in Denpasar, Indonesia
*Ida Bagus Oka Agastya, Ikatan Ahli Geologi Indonesia
Pengurus Daerah Bali*

Green Space Politics in Jakarta
Dzaki Aribawa Darmawardana, WRI Indonesia

Beyond Parks: Vernacular Nature-based Solutions for
Spatial Justice in South Tangerang's Peri-Urban Kampung
Bimario Eka Bhaskara, Monash University Indonesia

Kalikasan At Kinabukasan: Balancing Nature and Future
(Case Study: Hermosa Municipality, the Philippines)
*Nabil Rizki Mulya Widodo, Young Professional Planner of
the International Society of City and Regional Planners
(ISOCARP)*

Pairing Integral Design and Adaptive Pathways
to Develop Resilient and Integral Coastal
Protection Solutions
Tiara Salsabila, Coastal Engineer

From Tsunami to Flood Risk: Spatial and Governance
Dynamics of Post 2009 Earthquake Urban Development
in Padang City
Angelika Fortuna, WRI Indonesia

*Farizal Arrafisena, Climate Research Analyst,
WRI Indonesia (Moderator)*

*Ainur Ridho Research Analyst for Wahana Riset Indonesia
Program, WRI Indonesia (Panel Reporter)*

Parallel Panel 4: Ocean-Inclusive Climate-Economy Actions | 13.20-14.25

Opening Speech:
Sustainable Ocean Plan Handbook
*Amy Swift, Research Analyst II, Ocean
Program, WRI Global*

Balancing Economic Growth and Environmental
Protection within the Blue Economy Framework for
Sustainable Development
*Amelia Azira, Indian Ocean Study Center,
Faculty of Law, Universitas Andalas*

SEAL Greece: A Multistakeholder Framework for Marine
Conservation and Sustainable Project Management
*Elpida Dalietou, SEAL Greece, Monk Seal Alliance,
NECCA, Humanitas Communications (online)*

Reimagining Corporate Responsibility for a Just Blue
Carbon Economy in Indonesia
Sahira Sajjadia Luthfia, Universitas Gadjah Mada
*Anang Nirwansyah, Senior Analyst for Coastal and
Marine Spatial Research, WRI Indonesia (Moderator)*

*Angelika Fortuna, Research Analyst for Wahana Riset
Indonesia Program, WRI Indonesia (Panel Reporter)*

Parallel Panel 5: Advancing Behavior Change Strategies towards Healthier Diets and/or Reduced Food Loss and Waste | 13.20-14.25

Driving Household Behavior Change for Food Waste
Reduction in Bandung, Indonesia
Hosiana Simamora, WRI Indonesia

Socioeconomic Impacts from Shifting to Sustainable
Food Consumption to Meet Indonesia's Net Zero
Emission Target
*Annuri Rossita, National Institute for Environmental
Studies (NIES) Japan*

Psychological Factors as Predictors of Hotel Staff
Behavioral Intention to Participate in Surplus Food
Donation: A Case Study in Bandung
Peter Xandya Rudyan, WRI Indonesia

From Policy to Plate: A Systematic Review of Global
Interventions and Consumer Readiness for
Sustainable Diets in Indonesia
*Muhammad Sabilal Muhajirin, FSC Certification
Facilitator, JAVLEC Indonesia Foundation, Yogyakarta,
Indonesia*

*Gina Karina, Senior Manager for Sustainable Food
System, WRI Indonesia (Moderator)*

*Ni Putu Ayu, Research Assistant for Wahana Riset
Indonesia Program, WRI Indonesia (Panel Reporter)*

Parallel Panel 6: Integrating Climate Resilience into Urban Transport Systems: Lessons from Indonesian Cities | 13.20-14.25

Mainstreaming Climate Resilience in Urban Mobility Policy: A Review of Semarang City's Transportation Masterplan

Chintya Jasmine Gunarso, Independent Researcher

Policy Literacy and Civic Engagement in Studying Citizens' Understanding of Environmentally Friendly Transportation Policies in Kebumen Regency

Dwi Hermawan, Universitas Negeri Semarang

Participatory Urban Transport Planning to Raise the Social Mobility of Urban Slum Communities in Jakarta, Indonesia

Fahri Santosa and Fachriy Mungkasa, WRI Indonesia

Mainstreaming Climate Risk in Urban Transport Policy Through an Integrated Spatial Approach for Road Network Vulnerability Assessment and Prioritization: A Tidal Flooding Case Study in Semarang City

Alfrida Ista Anindya, WRI Indonesia

Dimas Fadhil, Urban Development Senior Program Lead, WRI Indonesia (Moderator)

Afrizal Maarif, Research Analyst for Wahana Riset Indonesia Program, WRI Indonesia (Panel Reporter)

Plenary Discussion 2: Feeding the Future: Blue Food, Climate Resilience and Social Inclusion in Action | 14.35-16.00

Rocky Pairunan, WRI Indonesia

Roikhanatun Nafi'ah, Crustea

Heri, Kolektif and Sustainable Fishery Expert

Sapariah Saturi, Senior Journalist Mongabay Indonesia (Moderator)

M. Affan Asyraf, Research Analyst for Wahana Riset Indonesia Program, WRI Indonesia (Panel Reporter)

Conference Agenda Day 2 | 3 December 2025

Plenary Discussion 3: Papua's Pathways to Climate Resilience: Lessons from its Land and People | 09.00-10.15

Keynote Speaker:

Velix Wanggai, Chair of the Committee for the Acceleration of Papua Development

Briantama Asmara, Papua Regional Program, WRI Indonesia

Dr. Ir. Agus Sumule, Universitas Papua

Katarina Mariana Yass, SE, Papuan People's Assembly (MRP) of South Papua

Rori Marwani Subaing, LEKAT Papua

Dr.rer.nat. Henderite L. Ohee, M.Si., Dean of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, Universitas Cendrawasih (Moderator)

M. Affan Asyraf, Research Analyst for Wahana Riset Indonesia Program, WRI Indonesia (Panel Reporter)

Parallel Panel 7: Indigenous Innovation for a Resilient Future in Papua | 10.25-11.25

Local Wisdom and Innovation of Indigenous Papuan Women: A Path to Socio-Ecological and Economic Resilience

Muhammad Novan Prasetya, Musamus University

Economic Valuation of Coastal Tourism Areas: A Comparative Study of Raja Ampat and North Sulawesi, Indonesia

Nabilah Luthfatur Rohmah, WRI Indonesia

Women-Led Local Food Systems and Household Waste Management for Climate Resilience in Menarbu Village, West Papua

Fayi Raihan Saleh, Yayasan Pemulih Nusantara (Muliantara)

From Dependence to Independence: Integrating Local Food Potential into a Sustainable Food System

Renta Lamria Damanik, WRI Indonesia

Johan Albert Piter Ginuny, MCD, CPS, Director, Talenta Muda Papua (Moderator)

You One, Research Assistant for Wahana Riset Indonesia Program, WRI Indonesia (Panel Reporter)

Parallel Panel 8: Tech for Resilience | 10.25-11.25

Integrating IoT and Data-Driven Monitoring to Optimize Remediation Efforts in Pesticide-Contaminated Agricultural Landscapes

Lisa Prastika Sari, Department of Environmental Engineering and Department of Electrical Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, Universitas AKPRIND Indonesia

Early Detection Model of Eutrophication-Based on Artificial Intelligence for Integrated Waste Management in Lake Toba Region

Hantari Angela Cibro, Unggul Del Senior High School

AI-Driven Hybrid Emission Control System: A CFD-Based Approach for Sustainable and Climate-Resilient Urban Development

Mizanur Rahman Howlader, Hajee Mohammad Danesh Science and Technology University (online)

Empowering Youth Climate Action through Digital Engagement: Integrating Climate Resilience into Community-Based Learning and Local Development Planning

I Putu Arisgunarta, IPB University

Izzuddin Prawiranegara, Climate and Supply Chain Sustainability Analyst, WRI Indonesia (Moderator)

Alfrida Anindya, Research Assistant for Wahana Riset Indonesia Program, WRI Indonesia (Panel Reporter)

Parallel Panel 9: Land-Based Emission Dynamics and Climate Governance in Indonesia | 10.25-11.25

Peat Rewetting Impact on CO₂, CH₄, and N₂O Emissions in Central Kalimantan Peatland, Indonesia

Ihsan Hafiyyan, WRI Indonesia

Evaluating Wildfire-Driven Ozone Formation in the Indonesian Troposphere Using GEOS-Chem: Implications for Climate Adaptation and Air Quality Management

Ratih Dwi Fardilah, M.GES, Alumna of Kyoto University, Japan

Evolving Landscape of REDD+ Finance: Global Dynamics and Lessons from Indonesia

Hasna Afifah, Wageningen University and Research

Conserving Ridge to Reef in Southwest Papua: Proposing Pathways for an Integrated and Attractive Sustainable Financing Mechanism to Support Inclusive Ridge-to-Reef Climate Change Projects

Tomi Haryadi, WRI Indonesia

Dede Sulaeman, Research Lead for Peatland Monitoring, WRI Indonesia (Moderator)

Dzaki Darmawardana, Research Assistant for Wahana Riset Indonesia Program, WRI Indonesia (Panel Reporter)

Parallel Panel 10: New Era of Energy System Planning | 11.30-12.35

Decarbonizing Industrial Wastewater Treatment: Intelligent Optimization and Electrochemical Pathways toward Net-Zero

Maulana Yusup Rosadi, Universitas Pertahanan Republik Indonesia

Technology Hybrid Motor-Piezoelectric Energy Harvesting: Solution for Intermittent Renewable Energy in Urban Areas

Dian Anggreini, Bandung Institute of Technology

Environmentally Conscious Cities: Energy Transformation through Ecoregional Planning and Carbon Trading for Sustainable Regional Development

Khoirul Falah, Independent Researcher

Cocreating Climate-Resilient Electricity Distribution Systems: Lessons from Bali's 2025 Floods.

Meily Priliani, State Electricity Company (PT PLN Persero)

Caesar Kusuma, Energy Efficiency Senior Specialist, WRI Indonesia (Moderator)

Hernand Kurniawan Research Assistant for Wahana Riset Indonesia Program, WRI Indonesia (Panel Reporter)

Parallel Panel 11: Digital Tools for Climate Resilience | 11.30-12.35

Nature-Based Solution Tools

Mila Khairunnisa, WRI Indonesia

Methodology for Agriculture GHG Emission Inventory and Product GHG Intensity Tool (Agri Carbon Tracker)

Izzuddin Prawiranegara, WRI Indonesia

Exploring Challenges and Opportunities in Water Risk Platform Development in Indonesia

Diandra Rafdi, WRI Indonesia

Leveraging Earth Observation and Digital Tools for Blue Carbon Asset Valuation: A Framework for Policy and Sustainable Management

Citra Septiani and Bibra Saleh, WRI Indonesia

Sarah Silitonga, Nature-based Solution Research Analyst, WRI Indonesia (Moderator)

Ainur Ridho, Research Analyst for Wahana Riset Indonesia Program, WRI Indonesia (Panel Reporter)

Parallel Panel 12: Sustainable Land and Water Management, Technology and Governance | 11.30-12.35

Enhancing Land Cover Classification Accuracy in Tropical Indonesian Regions Using Multi-Sensor Satellite Data and Advanced Machine Learning Techniques

Daniel Adrian, CarbonEthics

From Sinking to Resilient: Integrating Blue-Green Infrastructure and Policy Briefs for Sustainable Land and Water Management in North Jakarta

Atikah Eria Putri, ARUP Indonesia

The Sentinel-2 Protocol: Enhancing Cloud-Based Machine Learning for Accurate and Small-Scale Fire Mapping (Case: 2023 Peatland Fires in Indonesia)

Juma Maulana, Pantau Gambut

Potential of Wild Fungi Mycoremediation as a Foundational Nature-Based Solution for Soil Restoration and Ecosystem Resilience

Birrbik Faza Muhammad, IPB University

Benita Nathania, Forest Monitoring Senior Program Lead, WRI Indonesia (Moderator)

Angelika Fortuna, Research Analyst for Wahana Riset Indonesia Program, WRI Indonesia (Panel Reporter)

Parallel Panel 13: Governing the Energy Transition in Southeast Asia | 13.35-14.40

Managing Technological and Policy Risks in China-Indonesia Energy Cooperation: Toward Shared Mechanisms for a Low-Carbon Industrial Transition

Yajing Xin, WRI China

Refining Indonesia's Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP): Aligning National Action with ASEAN's Vision for a Just and Low-Carbon Future

Weilie Winaldy Sugianlie, Indonesian Business Council (IBC)

Navigating the Energy Trilemma: Indonesia's Policy Response to Marine Air Pollution

Dikara Maitri Pradipta Alkarisya, Universitas Gadjah Mada

Reputation at Risk: ESG Performance, Controversies, and the Path Toward a Climate-Resilient Economy in Southeast Asia

A. Alifya Ariyandini, Universitas Indonesia

Fajar Rozan, Industrial Park Analyst, WRI Indonesia (Moderator)

Dzaki Darmawardana, Research Assistant for Wahana Riset Indonesia Program, WRI Indonesia (Panel Reporter)

Parallel Panel 14: Integrating GEDSI in Climate Resilience Research | 13.35-14.40

Youth-Led Dialogic Action for Just and Climate-Resilient Urban Food Systems: Insights from Jakarta
Aulia Izzah Azmi, Independent Researcher from the University of Indonesia

Gender-Inclusive Marine Resource Management as a Pathway to Climate-resilient Coastal Communities in Developing Country
Dwi Rahayu Nurmiati, Padjadjaran University

Community-Based Climate Adaptation in Rural Water Supply Systems: Lessons from Indonesia
Rioneli Ghaudenson, Civil Engineering Doctoral Program, Department of Civil Engineering, University of Indonesia

Natural Disasters, Environmental Awareness, and Vulnerability among Poor Households in Indonesia
Naufal Mohamad Firdausyan, Department of Economics, Faculty of Economics and Business, Universitas Gadjah Mada

Youth-Driven Action for Climate-Resilient Sanitation
Cindy Dwi Islami, Sagara Cita Indonesia Foundation (YSC Indonesia)

Smita Tanaya, GEDSI and Ocean Research Analyst, WRI Indonesia (Moderator)

Ni Putu Ayu, Research Assistant for Wahana Riset Indonesia Program, WRI Indonesia (Panel Reporter)

Parallel Panel 15: Action Research: WRI Indonesia's Research in Progress | 13.35-14.40

The Importance of Harmonizing Sectoral Governance to Strengthen Blue Carbon Ecosystems' Contribution to National Climate Commitments
Azwar Najib, WRI Indonesia

Unlocking Subnational Access to Forest-based Climate Finance: Optimizing Results-Based Payments to Build a Robust Subnational REDD+ Architecture
Mila Khairunnisa, WRI Indonesia

Pathway to Compliance: Assessing the Readiness of Indonesia's Palm Oil Industry for the European Union Deforestation Regulation
Shofia Saleh, WRI Indonesia

Exploring the Broader Socio-Economic Implications of Jakarta's LEZ Policy on the City's Urban Poor Residents
Mutiara Kurniasari, WRI Indonesia

Rizkiana Sidqiyatul Hamdani, Research and Data Integrity Lead, WRI Indonesia (Moderator)

Adinda Yusra, Research Assistant for Wahana Riset Indonesia Program, WRI Indonesia (Panel Reporter)

Plenary Discussion 4: From Research to Action: Strengthening Research Contributions towards Collaborative Climate Adaptation | 16.00-17.00

Dr. Ir. Nani Hendiarti, M.Sc, Coordinating Ministry of Food Affairs

Prof. Ir. Puji Lestari, Ph.D., Bandung Institute of Technology

Dr. Arief Wijaya, Managing Director, WRI Indonesia

Jerhemy Owen, Environmental Content Creator

Rizky Wibisono, Climate Economy Analyst, WRI Indonesia (Moderator)

Afrizal Maarif, Research Analyst for Wahana Riset Indonesia Program, WRI Indonesia (Panel Reporter)

Closing Ceremony and Awarding | 17.00-17.30

Report from YES Committee:
Ahmad Dhiaulhaq, WRI Indonesia
Co-created Policy Recommendation from YES Conference

Closing remarks:
Dr. Nirarta Samadhi, WRI Indonesia

Appendix B: YES Conference 2025 Committee

YES Conference 2025 Committee

Steering Committee

Dr Nirarta Samadhi	Egi Suarga
Dr Arief Wijaya	I Made Vikannanda
Tomi Haryadi	Clorinda Wibowo
Rocky Pairunan	

Organizing Committee

Head of Committee	Secretary	Scientific Team
Dr Ahmad Dhiaulhaq	Jejek Dari Santoso	Dr Rizkiana Sidqiyatul Hamdani

Reviewer

Dr. Stella Hutagalung	Carolina Astri
Dr. Muhammad Rizki	Dede Sulaeman
Dr. Anang Nirwansyah	Daniyah Az Zahra
Shofia Saleh	Farijzal Arrafisena
Citra Septiani	Hendrika Wulandari Samosir
Arya Putra	Romauli Panggabean
Briantama Asmara	Sri Noor Chalidah

Moderator

Bunga Karnisa	Benita Nathania
Romauli Panggabean	Fajar Rozan
Farijzal Arrafisena	Smita Tanaya
Anang Nirwansyah	Rizkiana Sidqiyatul Hamdani
Gina Karina	Dede Sulaeman
Dimas N. Fadhil	Caesar Bayu Kusuma
Izzuddin Prawiranegara	Sarah Silitonga

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About WRI Indonesia

WRI Indonesia is an independent research organization dedicated to advancing Indonesia's socioeconomic development in an inclusive and sustainable way. Our work is focused on six main areas: forests, climate, energy, cities and transportation, governance, and oceans. We turn big ideas into action at the nexus of environment, economic opportunity, and human well-being.



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