



NATIONAL REPORT
DIRECTOR GENERAL OF SOCIAL FORESTRY AND
ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIP
at
Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP)
UPDATING ADAT PEOPLE AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES IN
INDONESIA 2023

- Indonesia has 1.128 ethnic and 718 languages spread across 76.655 villages in the archipelago. Its territory divided by 514 districts and 38 provinces. This wealth is a modality in developing the unitary state of the Republic of Indonesia with the national motto Bhinneka Tunggal Ika (Unity in Diversity).
- According to Indonesia's Law number 41 Year 1999 about Forestry, the existence of Adat People (Customary Law Community) and their living areas are recognized by the state as in fact it still exists and determined through local regulations. Meanwhile, the communities that are not part of Adat People will be recognized as Local Communities. In Indonesia, the government has a breakthrough program that is called Social Forestry, a national program that aims to deliver rural development and poverty alleviation for people living in forested areas.
- From 2016 to 2023, there are 131 Adat Forest Decrees that have been determined in 18 provinces and 40 districts, with a total area of approximately 244,195 hectares and involvement of 76,079 households. Particularly in 2023, there are an additional of 23 Adat Forests with extensive 90,873 hectares. The indicative area of the Adat Forest is 836,141 hectares in 16 provinces.
- Meanwhile, target of Social Forestry in Indonesia is 12.7 million hectares, located in coastal, peatland and terrestrial forest ecosystem. As of September 2023, the Government of Indonesia has succeeded in distributing 9,642 units of Social Forestry Permit which is ± 6.3 million hectares spread across all functions of forest areas managed by 1.3 million households or almost 5 million people are beneficiaries.

- The increase in the number and area of Adat Forest was influenced by cooperation between the center and regions which encouraged the issuance of Customary Law Community regional regulations and verification of Adat Forest areas in the regions. **Therefore, in Indonesia, there is no doubt that every year there is an increase in the recognition of the Adat People (Customary Law Community) and the extent of their living areas.**
- After establishing the Customary Forest, assistance needs to be provided so that local wisdom and traditional forest related knowledge can be maintained in the traditional community through multi-party collaborative work supported by State Budget, local budget, and multilateral funds as well as philanthropy. The concerns of the general public are manifested in the form of strengthening of customary forests through philanthropic funding coordinated by the Indonesian Environment Fund (IEF/BPDLH) channeling, which currently consists of 4 (four) international institutions to support 108 Adat People. Another multi-party budget is Result Based Payment reduction emission funding from Global Climate Fund and Norway.
- Furthermore, the government of Indonesia also entangles collaboration with international institutions, namely: KfW and also World Bank through the Forest Program in Sanggau West Kalimantan and Strengthening Social Forestry Project in 4 provinces in order to enhance multi-party assistance activities, such as: increasing the capacity of Local Community and Adat People, facilitating and strengthening livelihoods, and also enhance sustainable forest management.
- Contribution of Social Forestry (Forest for Local Community and Adat People) for emission reduction, we calculated the forest cover of 4,06 million hectares of Social Forestry Forest and Other Land Use (FOLU) target during 2016 until 2021 period compared the period of 2006 until 2015 as FREL (forest reference emission level). Implementation of Social Forestry can contribute 31,9 million Ton CO₂eq to increasing national carbon stocks to achieve FOLU Net Sink.
- In conclusion, the roles of community are very important in climate change mitigation through the Social Forestry program considering that once the community has social investment in designated forest for community and beneficial from that forest so that they are willing to “automatically” maintain their forest area sustainably and protect from forest fire and illegal logging.