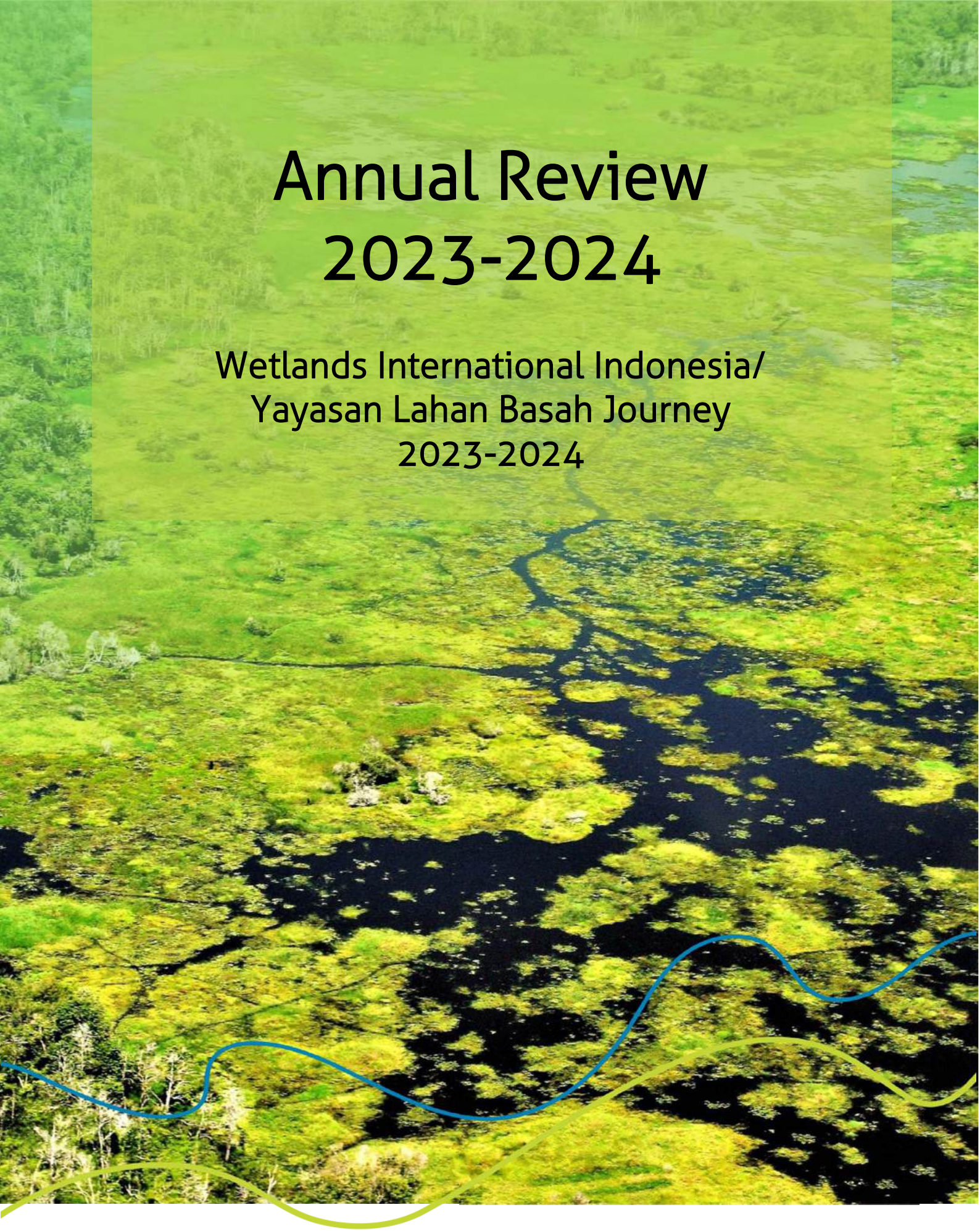
Annual Review 2023-2024

Wetlands International Indonesia/ Yayasan Lahan Basah Journey 2023-2024



Wetlands INTERNATIONAL

Annual Review 2023-2024

Wetlands International Indonesia/
Yayasan Lahan Basah Journey
2023-2024

Table of Contents

REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GOVERNING BOARD

In the past two years, the Yayasan Lahan Basah (YLBA) has succeeded in continuing its contribution to the conservation and restoration of wetlands, especially mangroves, not only at the national level, but also at the global level.

The YLBA's active role in the development of the Global Mangrove Alliance and the pioneering of the Mangrove Breakthrough global initiative as well as the development of initiative of the Peatlands Breakthrough program are some of the participations to bring global initiatives to the national level. On the other hand, our success in obtaining an award from the UN Decade on Restoration has made it possible to share our local experience related to Building with Nature into a global reference, including development of the Building with Nature Asia initiative.

Carrying out our working principle of working with the government, hand in hand with the community and working using scientific principles, we will continue our contribution to a healthier Indonesian wetland and restore damaged wetlands, guided by the Strategic Intents 2020 – 2030 of the Yayasan Lahan Basah.

Salam,

Dr. Nirarta Samadhi
Chairman Governing Board
Yayasan Lahan Basah

GOVERNING BOARD AND SUPERVISORY BOARD

Dr. Nirarta Samadhi
Chair Governing Board

Heru Prasetyo
Governing Board

Han de Groot
Governing Board

Dewa Made J. Satrawan
Supervisory Board

We are part of the Global Wetlands International Network. Yayasan Lahan Basah (YLBA)/ Wetlands International Indonesia is a non-profit organization engaged in wetland conservation and restoration. We are part of the Wetlands International network with global office in the Netherlands, and have a Global Network Partnership Agreement, which allows YLBA to become Wetlands International's representative in Indonesia and implement the principles and guidelines of the global organization at the national level. In Indonesia, we have been working since 1983 under the names "Interwader", "Asian Wetland Bureau" (1987), and "Wetlands International (1995) which is a merger of the International Waterfowl and Wetlands Research Bureau (IWRB (established in 1954 operating in Europe and Africa), Asian Wetlands Bureau (Established in 1983 operating in Asia and Oceania) and Wetlands for the Americas - WA (established in 1989 operating in the United States). In 2018 we were registered as a national organization in Indonesia, under the name Yayasan Lahan Basah (YLBA).

Ambition Lead increased action to protect and restore wetlands. We will make a real contribution to reduce the degradation of wetland ecosystem, biodiversity and support the implementation of sustainable development as well as help communities and nature to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

A vision of a World where wetlands are valued and nurtured for their beauty, the lives they support and the resources they provide.

Mission To inspire and facilitate communities to protect and restore wetlands for society and nature.

Goal Wetlands are used wisely and restored for their important role in providing well-being for humans and livelihoods for local communities, conserving biodiversity, maintaining the water cycle and mitigating climate change and its impacts.

INTRODUCTION

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullah Wabarakatuh,

With gratitude and pride, I deliver the 2023–2024 Report of the Yayasan Lahan Basah (YLBA)/Wetlands International Indonesia. This year has been a journey of dynamism and achievement, marking our commitment to continue to be at the forefront of wetland and biodiversity conservation, and ecosystem restoration.

The year 2023–2024 has been an important moment for the Yayasan Lahan Basah. We successfully went through an organizational restructuring process that not only strengthened our internal foundation, but also increased capacity and efficiency to face increasingly complex challenges. This process is part of our efforts to ensure that the organization can continue to adapt and be relevant in the local context as well as global context.

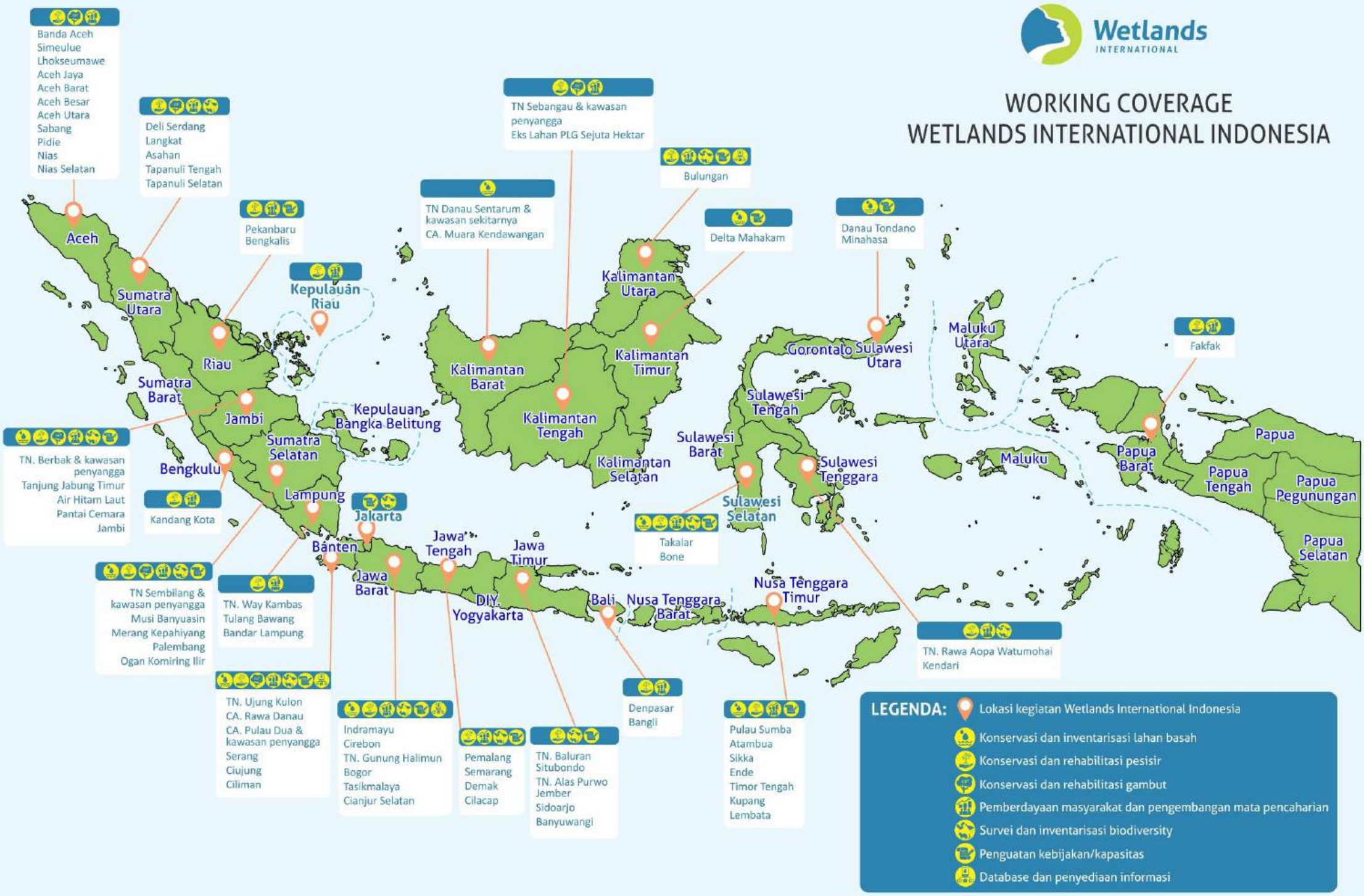
Our success this year is also marked by closer collaboration with donors and partners. Their support is a source of inspiration as well as energy for us to carry out various strategic programs and initiatives. In addition, the harmonious relationship that we continue to establish with the Government of the Republic of Indonesia is a solid foundation in implementing programs that are in line with national policies, especially in an effort to support sustainable development targets.

As part of the Wetlands International family, the Yayasan Lahan Basah continues to be committed to making significant contributions at the global level. We are not only act as a program implementer, but also as part of a network that actively shares knowledge, innovations, and solutions for wetland conservation around the world.

Finally, I would like to thank the Governing Board and the Supervisory Board and all parties who have been part of our journey during 2023-2024. Hopefully, our hard work and collaboration can continue to produce a real positive impact on the environment, society, and a better future of the earth.

Salam,

Yus Rusila Noor
Head of Office
Wetlands International Indonesia/
Yayasan Lahan Basah


Wetlands INTERNATIONAL
WORKING COVERAGE
WETLANDS INTERNATIONAL INDONESIA
Banda Aceh
Simeulue
Lhokseumawe
Aceh Jaya
Aceh Barat
Aceh Besar
Aceh Utara
Sabang
Pidie
Nias
Nias Selatan
Aceh
Deli Serdang
Langkat
Asahan
Tapanuli Tengah
Tapanuli Selatan
Sumatra Utara
Pekanbaru
Bengkalis
Kepulauan Riau
Riau
Sumatra Barat
Jambi
Kepulauan Bangka Belitung
TN. Berbak & kawasan penyangga
Tanjung Jabung Timur
Air Hitam Laut
Pantai Cemara
Jambi
Sumatra Selatan
Bengkulu
Kandang Kota
Lampung
TN Sembilang & kawasan penyangga
Musi Banyuasin
Merang Kepahiyang
Palembang
Ogan Komiring Ilir
TN. Way Kambas
Tulang Bawang
Bandar Lampung
Jakarta
Banten
Jawa Barat
Jawa Tengah
Jawa Timur
DIY. Yogyakarta
TN. Ujung Kulon
CA. Rawa Danau
CA. Pulau Dua & kawasan penyangga
Serang
Ciujung
Ciliman
Indramayu
Cirebon
TN. Gunung Halimun
Bogor
Tasikmalaya
Cianjur Selatan
Pemalang
Semarang
Demak
Cilacap
TN. Baluran
Situbondo
TN. Alas Purwo
Jember
Sidoarjo
Banyuwangi
Bali
Denpasar
Bangli
Nusa Tenggara Barat
Nusa Tenggara Timur
Pulau Sumba
Atambua
Sikka
Ende
Timor Tengah
Kupang
Lembata
TN Sebangau & kawasan penyangga
Eks Lahan PLG Sejuta Hektar
TN Danau Sentarum & kawasan sekitarnya
CA. Muara Kendawangan
Kalimantan Barat
Kalimantan Tengah
Kalimantan Utara
Kalimantan Timur
Kalimantan Selatan
Bulungan
Delta Mahakam
Takalar
Bone
Sulawesi Barat
Sulawesi Selatan
Sulawesi Tengah
Gorontalo
Sulawesi Utara
Sulawesi Tenggara
Danau Tondano
Minahasa
TN. Rawa Aopa Watumohai
Kendari
Maluku Utara
Maluku
Fakfak
Papua Barat
Papua
Papua Tengah
Papua Pegunungan
Papua Selatan
LEGENDA:
Lokasi kegiatan Wetlands International Indonesia
Konservasi dan inventarisasi lahan basah
Konservasi dan rehabilitasi pesisir
Konservasi dan rehabilitasi gambut
Pemberdayaan masyarakat dan pengembangan mata pencaharian
Survei dan inventarisasi biodiversity
Penguatan kebijakan/kapasitas
Database dan penyediaan informasi

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES 2023-2024

Journey of Yayasan Lahan Basah 2023 – 2024

The Year 2023 – 2024 marking a resurgence after the pandemic

PLANNING PROGRAMME

- Post-Pandemic Organizational Resource Development
- Mangrove Management & Restoration Development
- Coordinated Assessment of Monitoring Migratory Birds and Their Habitats
- Development of Nature-Based Solution Practices
- Peat Management & Restoration Development

PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

- Application of Wetlands as a Nature-Based Solution
- Supporting the Government of the Republic of Indonesia in Sustainable Wetland Management
- Securing and Increasing Carbon Stocks
- Securing Water and Food for Wetland Communities
- Monitoring Wetland Species
- Protection and Restoration of Wetland Habitats

COMMUNICATION

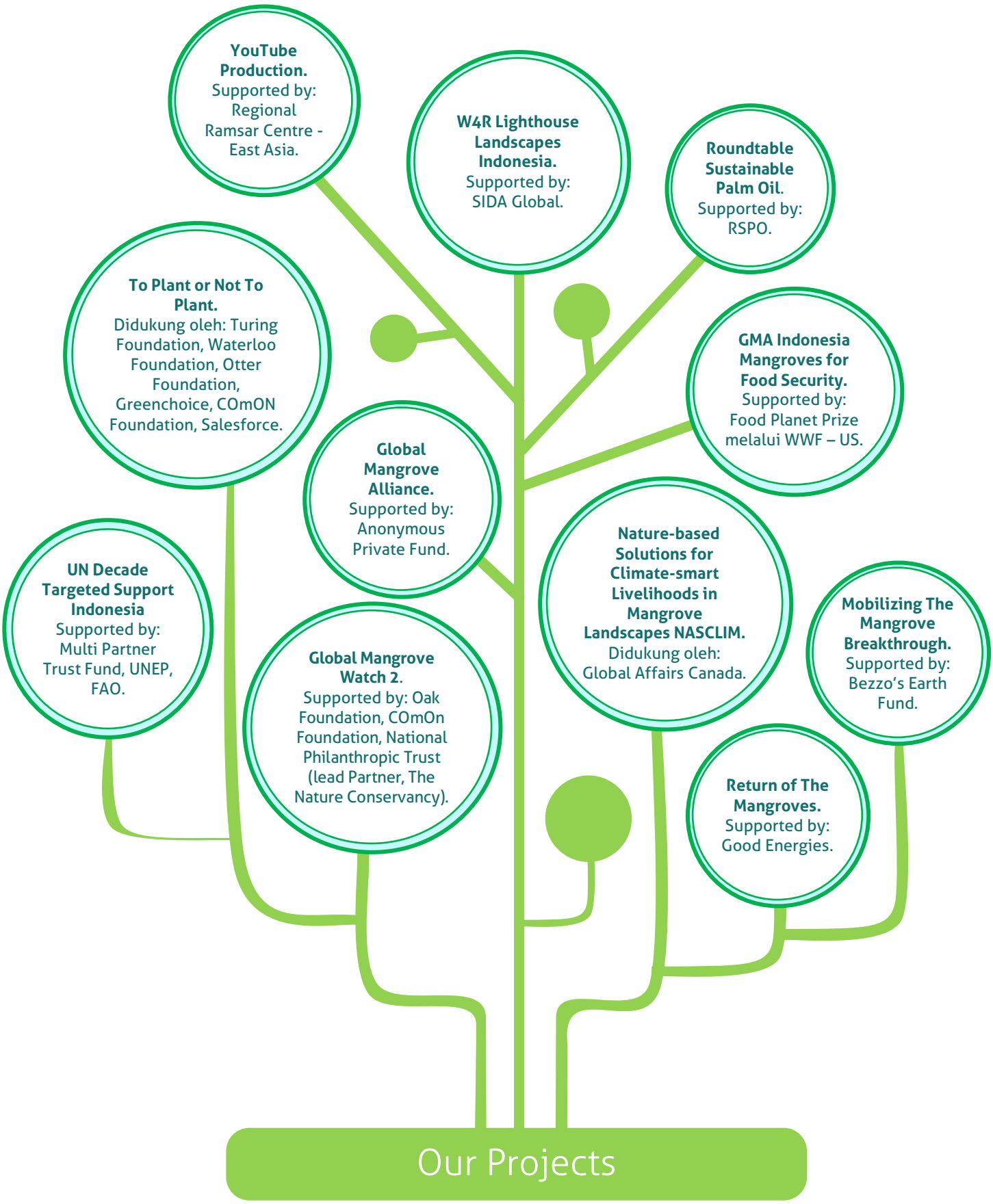
- Knowledge Management
- Communicating the Role and Importance of Wetlands through Social Media
- Supporting Organizational Capacity Building
- World Wetlands Day Commemoration
- Strengthening and Expanding the Network with Partners
- Studying and Examining the Benefits of Artificial Intelligence (AI)

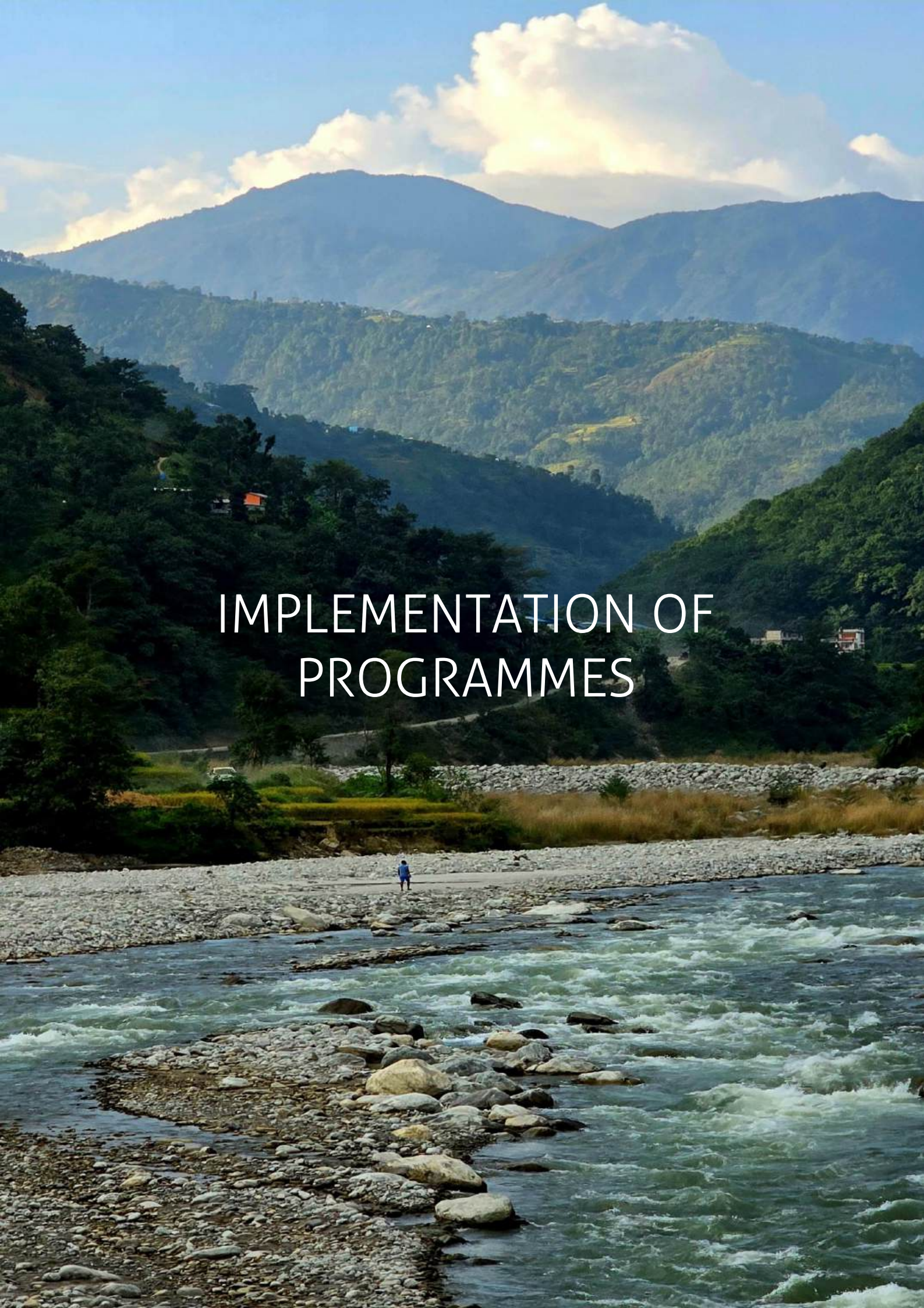
ORGANIZATIONAL MANAGEMENT

- Development and Improvement of Knowledge Management Repositories
- Organizational Rules and Guidelines
- Staff Recruitment according to Organizational Needs and Capabilities

KEUANGAN & ADMINISTRASI

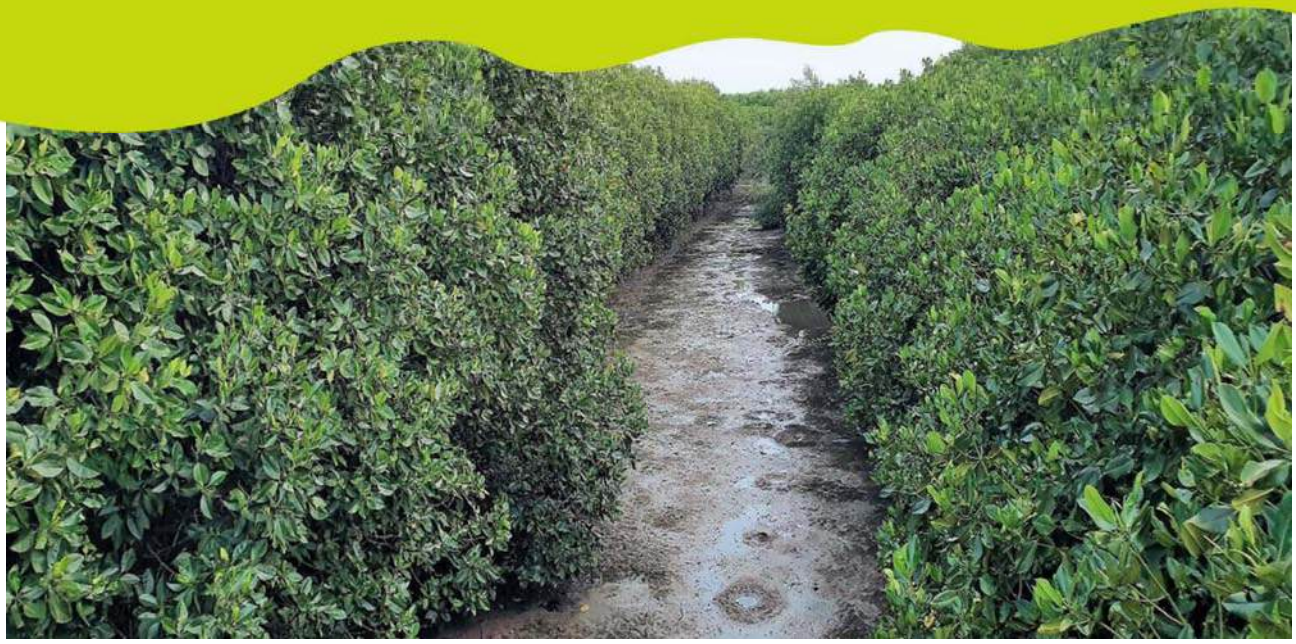
- Annual Audit
- Development of Organizational Deposit Policy


YouTube Production. Supported by: Regional Ramsar Centre - East Asia.
W4R Lighthouse Landscapes Indonesia. Supported by: SIDA Global.
Roundtable Sustainable Palm Oil. Supported by: RSPO.
To Plant or Not To Plant. Didukung oleh: Turing Foundation, Waterloo Foundation, Otter Foundation, Greenchoice, COmON Foundation, Salesforce.
GMA Indonesia Mangroves for Food Security. Supported by: Food Planet Prize melalui WWF – US.
Global Mangrove Alliance. Supported by: Anonymous Private Fund.
UN Decade Targeted Support Indonesia Supported by: Multi Partner Trust Fund, UNEP, FAO.
Nature-based Solutions for Climate-smart Livelihoods in Mangrove Landscapes NASCLIM. Didukung oleh: Global Affairs Canada.
Mobilizing The Mangrove Breakthrough. Supported by: Bezzo's Earth Fund.
Global Mangrove Watch 2. Supported by: Oak Foundation, COmOn Foundation, National Philanthropic Trust (lead Partner, The Nature Conservancy).
Return of The Mangroves. Supported by: Good Energies.
Our Projects



IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMMES

SECURING & RESTORING WETLAND HABITATS



Mangroves are one of the important wetland ecosystems that we are working on a lot during this reporting period. Mangroves are super ecosystems that have an important role in climate mitigation and adaptation, food security and biodiversity.

In its role related to climate mitigation, mangroves stand out in terms of their function as carbon stores. Mangroves absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and store it in biomass and sediment, able to store up to 5 times more carbon than terrestrial forests. This helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions and slow global warming. Experts calculate that halting ecosystem loss by 2030 will be able to curb emissions by up to 26 Mt CO_2, while restoration initiatives globally will be able to save about 635 Mt CO_2eq.

As a climate adaptation factor, mangrove roots serve as coastal natural defenders that reduce coastal erosion and protect infrastructure from storms and high waves. They also absorb excess rainwater, preventing flooding. Mangrove ecosystems, as such, can protect hundreds of millions of people living in coastal areas from large waves and hurricanes, protect against sea level rise and help stabilize coastlines from abrasion. In addition, mangroves can also trap sediments, nutrients and pollutants so that they play a role in helping to maintain water quality through a natural water purification system.

Mangroves provide breeding habitat for various species of fish, shrimp and crabs, which are a source of food for coastal communities. It is estimated that 80% of fish catches depend on mangrove ecosystems. Preventing mangrove habitat loss will secure a supply of 800 million dollars of economically important fish and shellfish each year while restoring half of the mangroves lost since 1996 will result in 25 billion dollars of economically important fish and shellfish each year (State of the Worlds Mangroves 2022). Not only for humans, but mangroves also provide habitat support for various species of flora and fauna, including various types of fish, mollusks, primates and both resident and migratory birds. Mangroves also support the health of other surroundings and mangroves can maintain the balance of the ecosystem. Thus, mangroves not only function as environmental protectors but also as important resources for food security and ecosystem sustainability. However, it is also necessary to realize that mangroves face a serious threat, no less than 25% - 30% of mangroves have been lost, and even in some areas the loss reaches 80%. Mangroves have been transformed into spaces for fisheries, agriculture and urban development or developed for the wood and charcoal industries. Excessive water use also causes coastal areas to be threatened. The loss of mangroves causes coastal protection functions and other mangrove functions to be lost. This then also highlights the importance of the involvement of key stakeholders in accordance with their authority in maintaining and managing mangrove ecosystems. Without adequate policies, especially in effective institutional governance, the sustainability of mangrove ecosystems can be threatened. The protection and management of mangrove ecosystems is an integral part of environmental regulations that highlight the importance of their spatial dimensions. Therefore, strong coordination, integration, synchronization and synergy are needed between different levels of stakeholders. The preservation of mangrove ecosystems requires the integration of ecological, socio-economic, institutional, and legal factors that are interrelated. The *co-management approach* model has been widely applied in Indonesia, especially at the site level through community empowerment. The formulation of institutional governance is needed to ensure the operational feasibility of the concept of community empowerment at all levels ecosystems, including coral reefs and seagrass beds.

There is a tendency that mangrove restoration policies and approaches in Indonesia are increasingly shifting from an orientation on 'planting' to 'no planting' which is interpreted as an ecological restoration of mangroves. The orientation of mangrove restoration is described in policies to the level of planning, implementation, and monitoring, to the budgeting system.

The orientation is starting to change but still faces various challenges. Another external challenge is the issue of land ownership, as well as in overcoming disturbance factors, both from biophysical and social aspects. At the technical level, there is still a need to increase capacity and knowledge related to understanding the principles and stages of ecological mangrove restoration, including the ecological characteristics of mangrove species, hydrological patterns, disturbance factors that prevent natural regeneration, and the design of restoration programs. The solutions to the various challenges mentioned above need to be strengthened with a more binding legal umbrella. Strengthening the legal umbrella for mangrove protection and management is urgently needed to overcome various accompanying problems that afflict the mangrove ecosystem in Indonesia, including the rate of deforestation, overlap and regulatory gaps. Sustainable protection and management of Mangrove Ecosystems is also an integral part of integrated coastal area management and overall watershed management which will strengthen coordination, integration, synchronization, and synergy between various sectors and stakeholders.

Realizing the above, between the progress and loss of natural functions of mangroves, Wetlands International Indonesia pays full attention to assisting the Government of the Republic of Indonesia in maintaining intact mangrove ecosystems and restoring degraded mangrove ecosystems

Supporting the Publication of Best Practices Guidelines for Mangrove Restoration

Within the framework of the Global Mangrove Alliance, we support the publication of *a Best Practices Guidebook for Mangrove Restoration*. This guidebook was compiled because of the impact that is beginning to be felt due to the loss of mangrove ecosystems, and the continued threat that has not decreased. This ignites a common awareness to improve the condition of mangrove ecosystems globally. Of the 1,100,000 hectares of mangroves that have been lost globally since 1996, about 818,300 hectares are considered to be still recoverable, while the rest have been lost due to urban development, abrasion, or other causes.

Although the enthusiasm to restore mangrove ecosystems is felt, unfortunately almost 80% have failed due to restoration activities that do not follow scientific principles, lack of planning, do not involve local communities, plant in inappropriate locations, or carry out planting without taking into account hydrological, nutrient and sedimentation needs.
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Sometimes restoration is the beginning of a disaster because, for example, planting in an inappropriate location, such as in a mud bed or seagrass bed.

The preparation of this guide, on the other hand, is based on the increasing awareness to carry out restoration activities carried out through the process of creating suitable biophysical conditions, so that mangroves can grow naturally and develop conducive socio-economic conditions to encourage local communities to support restoration activities sustainably.

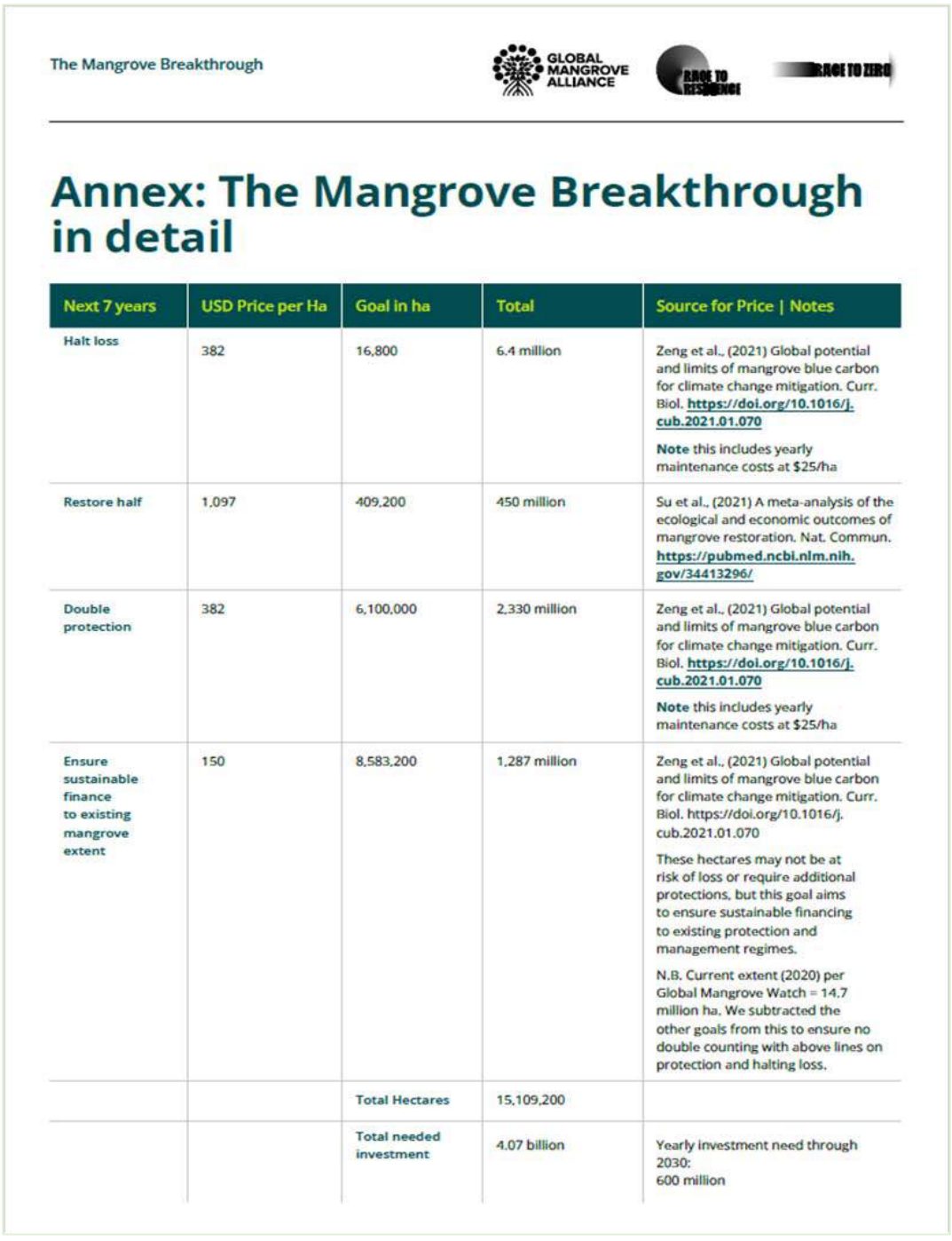
For the general public, practitioners, and coastal area managers, the guidebook will help to develop a thoughtful approach, by carrying out stages throughout the restoration activity cycle, from the feasibility study stage to the implementation and sustainable maintenance by involving local communities.

This guide is also useful for policymakers and the private sector to use as inspiration and evidence that mangrove restoration activities can be integrated into sustainable development planning processes, policy formulation related to climate change and biodiversity and sectoral planning. Using this guide, investors and development banks can use it as a guide to choose high-value propositions, reduce the risk of investment failure, and comply with environmental and social sustainability criteria, thereby increasing financing efficiency.

Project 1: Mobilizing Mangrove Breakthroughs: Prospecting Opportunities and Building Investment Pathways

Wetlands International Indonesia is trusted to carry out the scope of opportunities and build investment pathways for the development of *Mangrove Breakthrough* initiatives in Indonesia.

Support to carry out this project is provided by Bezzo's Earth Fund through the Wetlands International Global Office.



The Mangrove Breakthrough

GLOBAL MANGROVE ALLIANCE

RACE TO ZERO

Annex: The Mangrove Breakthrough in detail

Next 7 years	USD Price per Ha	Goal in ha	Total	Source for Price | Notes
Halt loss	382	16,800	6.4 million	Zeng et al., (2021) Global potential and limits of mangrove blue carbon for climate change mitigation. Curr. Biol. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cub.2021.01.070 **Note** this includes yearly maintenance costs at $25/ha
Restore half	1,097	409,200	450 million	Su et al., (2021) A meta-analysis of the ecological and economic outcomes of mangrove restoration. Nat. Commun. https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34413296/
Double protection	382	6,100,000	2,330 million	Zeng et al., (2021) Global potential and limits of mangrove blue carbon for climate change mitigation. Curr. Biol. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cub.2021.01.070 **Note** this includes yearly maintenance costs at $25/ha
Ensure sustainable finance to existing mangrove extent	150	8,583,200	1,287 million	Zeng et al., (2021) Global potential and limits of mangrove blue carbon for climate change mitigation. Curr. Biol. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cub.2021.01.070 These hectares may not be at risk of loss or require additional protections, but this goal aims to ensure sustainable financing to existing protection and management regimes. N.B. Current extent (2020) per Global Mangrove Watch = 14.7 million ha. We subtracted the other goals from this to ensure no double counting with above lines on protection and halting loss.
		Total Hectares	15,109,200	
		Total needed investment	4.07 billion	Yearly investment need through 2030: 600 million

Mangrove Breakthrough is a coalition that was officially formed during the implementation of CoP 27 of the United Nations Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), with the spearhead being the United Nations High Level Climate Champions and the Global Mangrove Alliance together with early Partners and Supporters. Until the implementation of CoP 28, Mangrove Breakthrough has received support from 27 governments and then collaborated with the Mangrove Alliance for Climate which has a membership of 23 countries, together with 57 civil actors. The coalition was formed by recognizing the important role that mangrove ecosystems play for the benefit of humans and nature, as an effective strategy to combat climate change and the biodiversity crisis as well as a nature-based solution to adapt to an increasingly changing world. This initiative was formed in recognition of the very limited availability of funding for mangrove ecosystems that have provided extraordinary benefits, where only about 1% of climate finance has been given. Mangrove Breakthrough is a kind of joint initiative by the government, the private sector and civil society to save 15 million hectares of mangroves globally by 2030, by mobilizing a joint effort to raise $4 billion in sustainable financing, in support of the Paris Agreement and the Kunming–Montreal Framework for Biodiversity globally. The initiative is supported by targeted scientific data drawn from data presented in the Global Mangrove Watch platform as well as reports on *the State of the World's Mangroves*.

In general, Mangrove Breakthrough collaborates with the Global Mangrove Alliance (GMA) civil network to build local capacity and develop various projects with GMA National Branches, as well as the development of systems that can be used by the Government to assist in the implementation of programs in each country. Collective action will be carried out by focusing on:

- Alarming the loss of mangroves
- Restoration of half the area of mangroves that have been lost recently
- Doubling mangrove protection globally
- Enable sustainable long-term financing for all existing mangroves

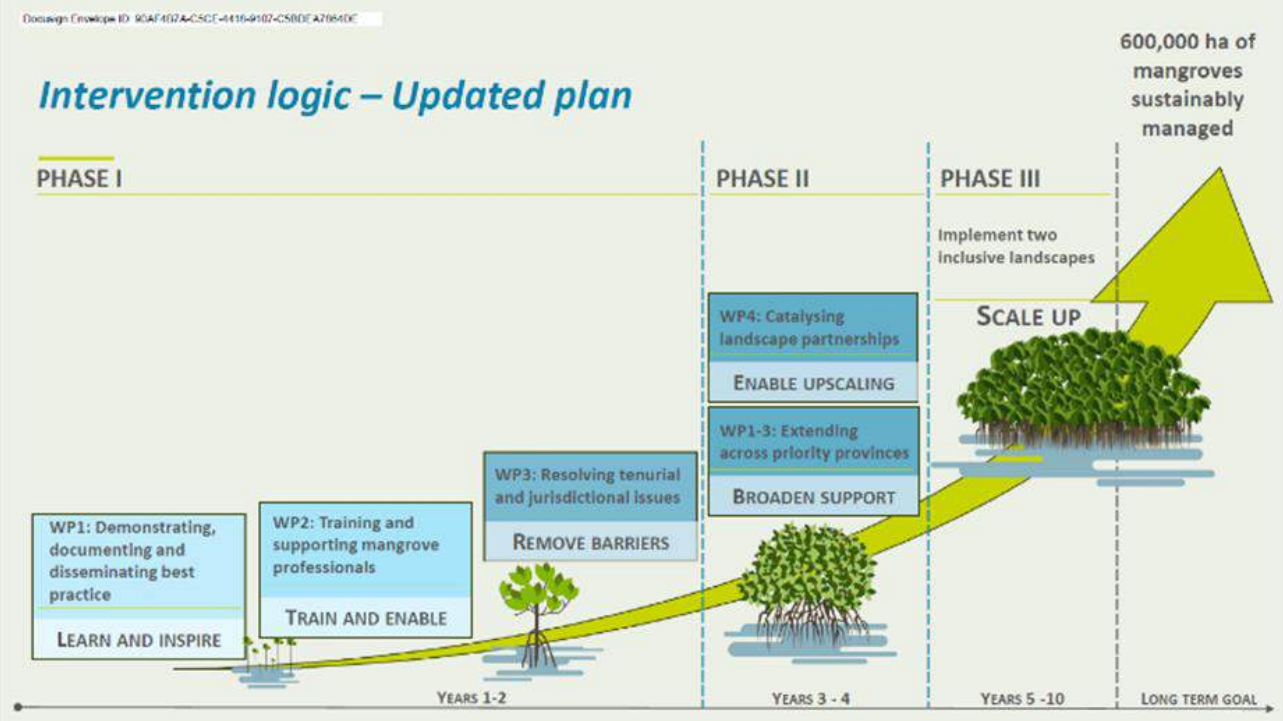
The action was carried out based on 6 principles that encourage matters related to sustainability and conservation and restoration of mangrove ecosystems that benefit biodiversity and communities, as well as promote equality:

- Nature protection and maximizing biodiversity
- Leverage information and best practices
- Strengthening society
- In line with the broader context – operating locally and contextually
- Design for sustainability
- Mobilizing high-integrity capital

In Indonesia, with support from Bezo's Earth Fund through the Global Mangrove Alliance, Wetlands International Indonesia is involved in the design and development of Mangrove Breakthrough. The grant aims to strengthen GMA Partners at national, regional and global levels to translate the ultimate goals of this initiative into action at the local level. We facilitate the country proposals/propositions of Indonesia, including a list of mangrove conservation-related works that are eligible for financing, including a blended financing model, that potential donors can consider for financing. The locally drafted and designed proposition will be a roadmap for managing and restoring mangroves at the scale proposed in Indonesia. In addition, the project in Indonesia will also develop the same proposition for 3 countries in the Asian region, which include Indonesia, the Philippines and India.

Project 2: Return of Mangroves. Enabling large-scale restoration of Mangrove Ecosystems in Indonesia.

Indonesia is the main home for the mangrove ecosystem globally. In addition to being the largest house that owns almost one-fifth of the mangrove area in the world, Indonesia also benefits from the presence of mangrove ecosystems, both in the form of economic benefits, coastal area protection and as a habitat for various types of animals and plants. However, on the other hand, the mangrove ecosystem in Indonesia is under great threat from various changes of function into fisheries cultivation, agriculture and urban development. No less than 170,000 hectares have been lost between 1996 and 2020, or if pulled back even further, about 800,000 hectares have been lost since the 1970s.



The Indonesian government has taken an ambitious step in 2020 to restore 600,000 hectares of mangrove by 2024, through the use of domestic funds and the support of the World Bank. The decision is not without challenges and criticisms that in essence state that the move will not be achieved in the short term, due to various obstacles related to current technical, political, socio-economic and institutional obstacles that will collectively or individually hinder the pace of the restoration work. Data and information show that the success of mangrove restoration is much more complicated than just planting, so that more than 80% of restoration projects in Southeast Asia have failed. Various obstacles need to be addressed first, such as land ownership problems, law enforcement, and integration between sectors. Nevertheless, we see that the commitment from the Government of the Republic of Indonesia needs to get international support.

With the support of Good Energies, channeled through the Wetlands International Global Office, in line with our ambition to examine the obstacles to the success of large-scale mangrove restoration, Wetlands International

Indonesia decided to support the ambition set forth by the Government of the Republic of Indonesia. Nevertheless, we make this ambition a long-term inspiration that can be realized if the enabling conditions are successfully organized, and available within the planned time. Building on our experience in wetland management in Indonesia over the past 40 years, the project is intended to support the Indonesian government and other Partners to address the obstacles that hinder the success of long-term mangrove restoration in Indonesia, within the available timeframe.

We divide the work ambition into 2 interrelated stages, namely the First Phase which aims to enable implementers to carry out mangrove restoration through a participatory and science-based approach, implemented for the first three years, and the Second Phase which will be implemented in the 4th – 10th year is intended to carry out large-scale mangrove restoration activities in two priority mangrove landscapes, developed and led through a Public-Private Partnership approach, involving the Government, the Private Sector, NGOs and Local Community Groups. To the extent possible, the proposed initiative will connect to the work at the wider field and national level and the overarching strategy of the Global Mangrove Alliance, which was formed in 2017, together with Conservation International, IUCN, The Nature Conservancy and WWF. (see information on Global Mangrove Alliance Chapter Indonesia).

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The work we do is divided into 4 Work Packages, in the form of 1) Demonstration, documentation, and dissemination of various best practices, 2) Training and support for professionals in the field of mangroves, 3) Reviewing land tenure and matters related to jurisdiction, and 4) Catalyzation of landscape partnerships.

At Wetlands International, we adopt a programmatic planning approach to implementing organizational strategies. This means that the proposed initiative builds on and complements other initiatives in the same region, at the national level of Indonesia and globally. In particular, this initiative builds on our other work, namely the UN-awarded Building with Nature, the Mangrove for the Future Project in the Banten Bay region, and the ongoing NASCLIM's Nature-Based Solutions Project in North and East Kalimantan (a description of each activity is provided separately in this report).

Project 3: Nature-Based Solutions for Climate-Smart Livelihoods in Mangrove Landscapes - NASCLIM

One of the main threats to mangroves in Indonesia, the largest in the world and has great potential related to climate change mitigation and adaptation, is in the form of the conversion of mangrove areas into aquaculture spaces, including ponds, especially milkfish and shrimp. Mangrove areas that have been damaged should still be restored and regenerated in an adequate time scale through a nature-based solution (NBS) approach. Through this approach, restoration is carried out by involving local communities, and with the aim of creating adequate habitat conditions so that mangroves can grow naturally and provide natural ecological functions, including their functions for coastal protection and emission reduction related to climate change. Through this approach, local communities also get the opportunity to improve their livelihoods according to the available conditions. Thus, mangrove restoration with this approach promises sustainable long-term success, and because it involves local communities, it makes it possible to replicate and scale up in other areas.

The Government of the Republic of Indonesia has conveyed its commitment to restore 600,000 hectares of mangroves by 2024, with a focus on 9 provinces. To support this commitment, the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) together with Wetlands International received support from Global Affairs Canada (GAC) to carry out mangrove restoration together with the local community in 2 provinces that have been launched by the Government of the Republic of Indonesia as the priority restoration provinces, namely in the provinces of North Kalimantan and East Kalimantan, for the next 5 years.

The emphasis in this project is on the establishment of an institutionally integrated landscape-based mangrove restoration and protection model that can be easily replicated due to its inherent profitability to the main beneficiaries.

Wetlands International Indonesia is also active in carrying out programs in the field, especially related to ecological-based mangrove restoration interventions, working with the community (including through the Coastal Field School and Women's Field School programs) using scientific approaches that have been carried out in other locations, and adapted to local conditions.

The approach taken includes nature-based solutions, which have proven to be successfully implemented in several other regions in Indonesia, especially in revitalizing fishery cultivation areas that are no longer productive. Engaging the community is vital by showcasing how the project's approach can be replicated on-site. Attracting their participation and utilizing their experience will help ensure that the initiatives implemented provide sustainable economic benefits to the community. Furthermore, a supportive policy adjustment is necessary, particularly regarding Social Forestry. This approach ensures tenure guarantees for the involved communities and resource managers, enabling them to invest in these nature-based solution initiatives. As well as improving development planning based on spatial planning that is carried out inclusively, increasing institutional capacity and coordination between sectors, and mobilizing various community-based mangrove investment initiatives for revitalization, restoration and protection of mangrove ecosystems. In the implementation of activities, the main attention is given to women's rights to adequately commensurate with the value of their assets (knowledge, social and human capital) for the productive economic management of mangrove ecosystems. Change is expected to occur by combining policy, social and technical legitimacy efforts to support the mangrove ecosystem restoration initiative. The expected project output is focused on increasing green economic growth through more effective and beneficial coordination for mangrove stakeholders at various levels, where their lifestyles will greatly affect the impact of climate change. The benefits of the project should be directed to help coastal communities increase their incomes and prevent the obstacles exacerbated by climate change. The implementation of the activity is coordinated closely with the Peat and Mangrove Restoration Agency (BRGM).

To improve the success of the intervention, the project is supported by 5 innovative institutional approaches by eroding old approaches that rely on planting activities, and directing approaches that consider ecological factors and work with the community, namely:

1. Close coordination between institutions at various levels, with an emphasis on inclusive structures based on existing structures, the creation of conditions for mutual understanding, and respect for each other's roles;
2. Inclusiveness through Community Field Schools is linked to Women's Field Schools, by involving their long-established knowledge adapted to local conditions and the potential of the natural ecosystems that grow around them;
3. Scaling, by relying less on planting targets, is more aimed at developing a comprehensive mangrove restoration model that can improve success and survival far beyond the project time itself.
4. Effective and efficient monitoring, through the use of remote imaging that can produce a more measurable measure of mangrove restoration success, so that monitoring and evaluation can run more effectively, can be used for project accountability and at the same time can be used as a lesson for more adaptive management corrective actions;
5. Sharing learning, in which the project's facilities are utilized not only to gauge how well the project is performing but also as educational resources for other provinces that the Indonesian government has identified as having a high priority for the restoration of mangrove ecosystems.

To support the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) process, Wetlands International Indonesia YLBA has prepared monitoring tools (Dashboard project tracking tools), through stages 1) preparation, determination of display concepts, 2) preparation of templates in excel, and 3) direction, technical guidance for filling, technical problem solving, and consultation continue if there are still difficulties in operation.

Consultation meeting with the GAC Environmental Specialist

NASCLIM stakeholder consultation meetings in East Kalimantan and North Kalimantan

The Canadian Ambassador to the Republic of Indonesia and Timor Leste, H.E. Jess Dutton, and his entourage visited the location of the project in East Kalimantan.

Because the project is still in its early phases of execution, activities are still being conducted at the project site to explore potential at the village level through Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) up until this reporting period. In every hamlet, the Coastal Field School (CFS) Group has already begun to take shape.

Based on scenarios developed by experts in consultation with the community and other stakeholders, this stage ensures that technical interventions in the field can proceed as planned. Additionally, it prepares demonstration plots for the implementation of the Ecological-Based Mangrove Restoration (EMR/AMA) approach, which aims to increase aquaculture production and improve people's livelihoods. Including providing women with an equal chance to take part. The EMR/AMA concept has been introduced, its impact has been analyzed and consulted with local communities, NGOs and academics, and all parties see the potential for success if implemented according to the concept that has been prepared and received support in its implementation, especially from aquaculture area owners.

All activities in the field will be accompanied by Field Facilitators, who have been placed in villages that have been agreed upon as the location of project activities. To establish communication connectivity across stakeholders, we leverage innovative communication channels and media that blend traditional and current media to strengthen the promotion of gender-sensitive sustainable mangrove management with a Nature-Based Solutions approach. To be able to produce effective and targeted communication materials, we have prepared a communication strategy document.

Project Technical Arrangement (PTA) to obtain approval from the Peat and Mangrove Restoration Agency (BRGM). With the PTA Document, the Project Team has been able to carry out mentoring activities, especially at the field level. BRGM has approved the NASCLIM Team to start activities in 4 villages in Kaltara and 2 villages in East Kalimantan.

To provide an overview of the implementation plan of the activity, Wetlands International Indonesia accompanied the Canadian Ambassador to the Republic of Indonesia and Timor Leste, HE Jess Dutton, and his entourage to visit the location of the activity in East Kalimantan.

Project 4: Planting or Not Planting?

Wetlands International Indonesia is committed to working with various parties who have concerns and mobilize efforts and investments to carry out restoration in Indonesia. One of the programs that has been implemented is the To Plant or Not to Plant program? (TPNTP) which aims to rehabilitate mangroves, at least 30,000 hectares in 10 countries (including Indonesia), support biodiversity conservation, community welfare, and reduce the impact of climate change. The program is run by seeking full support from NGO Partners, Government, Private Sector and local communities in the implementation of mangrove restoration best practices and upgrading to the landscape scale. The program is rooted in learning from the successes and failures of mangrove restoration activities in recent years, with the hope that investment in restoration activities will not be wasted.

Strategi Restorasi Mangrove Berbasis Ekologi (EMR)

One example of good mangrove restoration practices developed by experts from the IUCN Mangrove Specialist Group is the *Ecological Mangrove Restoration* (EMR) approach. This approach, which has been implemented in various parts of the world, focuses on creating habitat conditions that allow mangroves to recover naturally, which is not just focused on planting. Through the TPNTP program, Wetlands International Indonesia uses the EMR approach on a plot demonstration scale. Mangrove restoration is carried out more than just a technical intervention, but more than that, it is also a planning unit that introduces good technical practices, obtains community support, builds political momentum, and integrates the landscape as the foundation of a prosperous coastal economy. These things are the key to achieving mangrove restoration on a larger scale.

The process of upscaling or trying to influence aspects of mangrove rehabilitation at the landscape level (for example, >100,000 hectares) is one of the series in mangrove restoration. When considering the broader context or landscape, it is essential to manage and integrate three main principles: ecological, economic, and social. The process of integrating these three requires long-term efforts and will only succeed if stakeholders play their main role in the landscape-scale mangrove rehabilitation process. Finding a balance between *top-down* policies and *bottom-up* approaches that include ecosystem management and restoration is critical to success. Strategies for scaling up to the landscape level can use the "*4 returns framework*" approach based on the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030. *The framework* has five process elements, namely: 1. Landscape partnerships, 2) Shared understanding, 3) Collaborative vision and planning, 4) Action-taking, and 5) Monitoring and learning.

The process of mutual understanding of mangrove management and rehabilitation activities is carried out to obtain conditions, challenges and opportunities at the landscape level. In the process of mutual understanding, the TPNTP program facilitates various meetings and trainings at the national level to the site or village level, including discussions on the Draft Government Regulation on the Protection and Management of Mangrove Ecosystems in Bogor; *Community-based Ecological Mangrove Rehabilitation* (CBEMR) training in collaboration with *the Global Mangrove Alliance* Indonesia chapter and *the Mangrove Action Project* (MAP); workshop "Planting or Not Planting?"; *Focus Group Discussions* (FGD) at the village level; and mangrove rehabilitation training using an ecological approach by involving local communities as participants.

The vision strategy and collaborative planning are implemented by building synergy between stakeholders through information exchange and agreeing on a common understanding of mangrove rehabilitation at the landscape level. This is carried out to form commitments and set strategic steps in achieving clear targets, results, indicators and processes. The strategy is built through collaboration with ministries/ institutions at the national level, such as the Peat and Mangrove Restoration Agency (BRGM), collaboration with Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPD) at the North Kalimantan Province level, and collaboration between mangrove ecosystem management institutions.

TPNTP Workshop on Mangrove Ecosystem Restoration in North Kalimantan Province

Dialog bersama masyarakat untuk menggalang pemahaman bersama

The collaboration with BRGM involves a series of dialogues and capacity building for the local community and BRGM personnel. The dialogue focused on several key areas related to mangrove rehabilitation on a national scale. It included discussions on community capacity building for mangrove rehabilitation, training on the introduction of mangrove species, and training for creating inventories of successful mangrove rehabilitation projects. Additionally, the conversation highlighted the importance of data synergy between Global Mangrove Watch (GMW) and BRGM, which holds information regarding the distribution of mangrove ecosystems in Indonesia. Furthermore, there were discussions on soil and water conservation initiatives in collaboration with BRGM and the Ministry of Environment and Forestry. Collaboration with sub-national OPDs includes a workshop focused on harmonizing mangrove management in North Kalimantan Province, as well as a public consultation regarding the Strategic Environmental Assessment (KLHS) for the Regional Long-Term Development Plan (RPJPD) of North Kalimantan Province.

To accommodate collaboration with a wider range of parties, such as NGO partners, the private sector and academics, the *Global Mangrove Alliance* (GMA) Indonesia chapter has been formed, which consists of the Wetlands International Indonesia (WII), Yayasan Konservasi Alam Nusantara (YKAN), and Konservasi Indonesia (KI). (see more information in the GMA Chapter Indonesia section).

At the stage of taking action, stakeholders have been able to implement the concept of mangrove rehabilitation using an ecological approach by continuing to maintain a commitment to the collaboration that has been formed. Currently, several stakeholders have begun to take action to make this happen. Stakeholders have implemented various initiatives, including KPH Tarakan, which conducted training to enhance human resource capacity related to Community-based Ecological Mangrove Restoration (CBEMR). Another initiative is a landscape scale mangrove rehabilitation program with a Nature-Based Solutions approach on a larger landscape scale, namely the Nature-Based Solutions for Climate Smart Livelihoods in Mangrove Landscapes (NASCLIM) program (see more information in the NASCLIM section).

The monitoring and learning process needs to be maintained. In the "*4 Returns Framework*" this process is to measure and communicate progress that can assure the government, donors and other parties. This could include the exchange of knowledge and information, intensive dialogue and also designing new collaborative actions with a wider scope.

The lessons and recommendations obtained from efforts to expand mangrove rehabilitation to the landscape level through the TPNTP Indonesia program are the importance of multi-stakeholder collaboration from various levels ranging from sites, districts, provinces to nationally. The existence of this multi-stakeholder approach and collaboration also aims to convey the vision and mission and align the goals of each stakeholder related to the restoration of the mangrove ecosystem so that it can run well. Starting from a foundation of mutual understanding and collaboration among multiple stakeholders, we can develop mangrove rehabilitation programs on a landscape scale. These programs should be designed from the planning stage to synergize with existing and future initiatives at the project site, involving both local and national management entities as much as possible. During the implementation stage, the parties involved are directed to execute the collaboratively developed concept of ecological mangrove rehabilitation. They are also tasked with disseminating this approach to other stakeholders. The final step in scaling up at the landscape level is monitoring and learning. This process involves documenting achievements, challenges, and the overall process, which can serve as valuable lessons for enhancing mangrove rehabilitation programs, both at local sites and on a broader scale.

Implementation of mangrove ecosystem restoration through the TPNTP approach

Results of technical actions to make a hydrological channel in the EMR demonstration plot of Liagu Village, North Kalimantan

Proyek 5: Global Mangrove Alliance (GMA Chapter Indonesia)

The Global Mangrove Alliance (GMA) is an alliance that promotes the conservation and restoration of the world's mangroves. The alliance has 100+ members of organizations spread across around 30 countries, and operates in more countries. Membership includes non-governmental organizations (NGOs), research institutions, governments, and the private sector that all work together to achieve the same goal of conserving mangroves. GMA's very ambitious goal is to halt losses, double protection, and restore half of the world's mangrove forests by 2030. GMA's role in driving progress is considerable and varied, including supporting science and tracking change, supporting policies, supporting financial initiatives, implementing of training, and, through its many members, carrying out practical and effective conservation and restoration projects around the world. A sustained commitment to mangrove conservation will shape a brighter, fairer, and more sustainable future for all. The success of this alliance depends on the running of the partnership.

Some of the strategies implemented by GMA include:

- Mangrove restoration, by encouraging efforts to restore damaged mangrove ecosystems, especially in areas affected by human activities or climate change;
- Ecosystem-based management. Promote sustainable and ecosystem-based management approaches to effectively manage mangrove areas;
- Partnerships and collaborations, by developing partnerships between the private sector, government, and communities to support mangrove conservation efforts;
- Policy advocacy through the encouragement of strengthening mangrove conservation policies at the global and national levels, including efforts to integrate mangrove protection in climate change and sustainable development policies.

So far, GMA has succeeded in bringing greater attention to the importance of mangroves through various initiatives, such as mangrove restoration through various restoration and conservation projects carried out in several countries, increase funding for mangroves through fundraising to support mangrove projects in different regions of the world and increase capacity by providing training to local communities on how to manage and protect mangroves sustainably.

GMA Chapter Indonesia was formed in November 2022 and inaugurated by GMA Global in November 2023, consisting of the Yayasan Lahan Basah (YLBA) / Wetlands International Indonesia, the Konservasi Indonesia (KI), and the Yayasan Konservasi Alam (YKAN), which was then followed by the development of a work plan and alignment with the work program of the Government of Indonesia and the GMA Global program. In Indonesia, the work of the Global Mangrove Alliance is focused on policy dialogue with the government, by supporting programs and policies developed by the government, such as the mangrove rehabilitation acceleration program and mangrove protection and management policies, knowledge management, especially related to GMA tools, capacity building related to the concept of Ecological-Based Mangrove Restoration (EMR), including by facilitating the implementation of Community-Based Ecological Mangrove Restoration (CBEMR) training for various parties from all over Indonesia. GMA Indonesia Chapter also collaborates with the Indonesia Mangrove Society (IMS).

Knowledge management activities, which are also part of the policy dialogue activities, are carried out by introducing and sharing knowledge on the use and utilization of GMA tools for mangrove management, such as the Global Mangrove Watch (GMW), Mangrove Restoration Tracker Tool (MRTT), and best practice guidelines for mangrove restoration to the government and other stakeholders in Indonesia. The collaboration was carried out with the Indonesia Mangrove Society (IMS) in the socialization of GMA tools and Global Mangrove Watch training to support *One Map Mangrove* (National Mangrove Map).

GMA is also involved in the process of drafting the document "National Strategy for Wetland Management: Peat and Mangrove Ecosystems - In the Context of Supporting the Achievement of Sustainable Development Goals and Low-Carbon Development Towards Indonesia's Vision 2045" initiated by the National Development Planning Agency (BAPPENAS), either through meetings or in writing or reviewing documents. In collaboration with BAPPENAS, GMA Indonesia Chapter partners held the launch event of the National Wetland Management Strategy: Peat and Mangrove Ecosystems, on February 2, 2023, in Jakarta.

Launch of the National Strategy for Wetland Management: Peat and Mangrove Ecosystems

Workshop on Draft Government Regulations on the Protection and Management of Mangrove Ecosystems

In addition, it supports the finalization of the Government Regulation for the Protection and Management of Mangrove Ecosystems (led by the Ministry of Environment and Forestry), the socialization of the National Roadmap for Peat and Mangroves (led by BAPPENAS), and the development of the National Blue Carbon Action/NBCAP partnership (led by the Ministry of Commerce). This project also supports the Ministry of Communication and Tourism in socializing the new National Mangrove Working Group (KKMN) and the development of the KKMN Action Plan, supporting BRIN in the application and socialization of the Mangrove Health Index (MHI) and MonMang (Mangrove Monitoring) and supporting the MPA in implementing blue carbon policy analysis to Indonesia's NDC.

The workshop "Mangrove Ecosystem Restoration: Planting or Not Planting?" is a means to encourage the concept of EMR as one of the main options for mangrove rehabilitation in Indonesia. Coordination is carried out with the GMA global team regarding support for policy dialogue in Indonesia. One of them is through the preparation of policy *brief* materials related to implementing Bio-Rights as one of the financing mechanisms in community-based mangrove rehabilitation programs in Indonesia.

GMA Indonesia Chapter supports BRGM in the preparation of the Mangrove Rehabilitation Field School module and the Eco-Friendly Pond Field School curriculum, which will be used as a guide in the implementation of field schools by BRGM, as part of the mangrove rehabilitation program in several priority locations in Indonesia. The content includes policies and institutions for mangrove management in Indonesia, the importance of mangrove ecosystems, mangrove rehabilitation techniques without planting and with planting, and community engagement in mangrove ecosystem rehabilitation. We also promote *the Associated Mangrove Aquaculture* (AMA) approach as part of the EMR concept in the Eco-Friendly Pond Field School curriculum.

The implementation of mangrove rehabilitation and management activities in Demak Regency, Central Java Province by YLBA includes livelihoods, policies at the village level, community group management, mangrove protection, shoreline rehabilitation with sediment trap techniques, riverside rehabilitation using *the Associated Mangrove Aquaculture* (AMA) approach, and aquaculture revitalization with the application of environmentally friendly aquaculture techniques (LEISA-*Low External Input Sustainable Aquaculture*).

GMA Chapter Indonesia facilitated a visit to the project site in Demak to exchange knowledge, especially related to the implementation of EMR, for guests from 1) the Wetlands International Philippines Team and San Miguel Aero city, 2) Earth Security and Djarum Foundation, 3) students from HZ University of Applied Sciences Netherlands, 4) BRGM visited Betahwalang Village to see the learning of EMR activities, and 5) North Kalimantan and East Kalimantan stakeholders.

Global Mangrove Alliance Support Publication *the State of the World's Mangroves* 2024.

The latest world map (GMW v4.0), developed by Global Mangrove Watch, provides a six-fold increase in spatial resolution, from 25-meters to 10 meters. The report maps 147,256 km² of mangroves in 2020, adding data for six new areas. At this resolution, maps are increasingly relevant, even on a local scale, to support conservation and management. The drivers of mangrove cover change are explored in an important new study summary by FAO. For the first time, it is possible to separate important impacts. Conversion to aquaculture, oil palm plantations, and rice cultivation together account for 43% of mangrove loss between 2000 and 2020. Natural retraction, influenced by climate change, sediment shifts, and sea level rise, also has a significant impact on mangrove areas. The regional breakdown highlights a very diverse pattern of change, with human impact dominating change in Africa, Asia, and North and Central America. The IUCN Mangrove Ecosystem Red List has found that half of the world's mangrove provinces are considered threatened. This assessment is heavily influenced by past and projected future losses, but also takes into account the threat of climate change, particularly sea level rise and increased storm intensity, to mangroves. The diversity of mangrove plants receives special attention. The IUCN Mangrove Specialist Group has begun work to develop an authoritative list of mangrove taxa, with a provisional list of 82 taxa listed in this report. While there are challenges to developing the list, it is critical for future conservation and analysis, including the proposed new round of the IUCN Red List of species process.

Facilitating NGO and Private Partnership

Wetlands International Indonesia facilitated the "Assessment of the Potential of Mangrove Rehabilitation Land on the North Coast of Central Java" as a collaborative program between the IKAMaT Foundation and the Djarum Foundation

In mid-2024, a series of field trips were held to the Semarang Mangrove Center, Mangkang Wetan, Semarang City, followed by the signing of a cooperation contract between the IKAMaT Foundation (program implementer) and the Djarum Foundation (program funder).

This program was initiated by the Djarum Foundation to support mangrove conservation efforts in Central Java. This decision was influenced by information about the Building with Nature (BwN) Indonesia program, recognized as one of the World Restoration Flagships of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration.

To ensure the long-term sustainability of the BwN program, Wetlands International Indonesia has facilitated a three-party partnership involving the Demak Regency Government, the IKAMat Foundation, and the Djarum Foundation. This collaboration creates opportunities for the replication and scaling of the Building with Nature program in other areas of Central Java, as well as throughout Java and Indonesia more broadly.

Discussion on assessing the potential of mangrove rehabilitation land on the North Coast of Central Java

Field visit to Semarang Mangrove Center, Mangkang Wetan, Semarang City

Kick-off of the North Coast Mangrove Rehabilitation Land Potential Assessment program in Central Java

Signing of the agreement between Djarum Foundation and IKAMaT Foundation

WETLAND SPECIES MONITORING

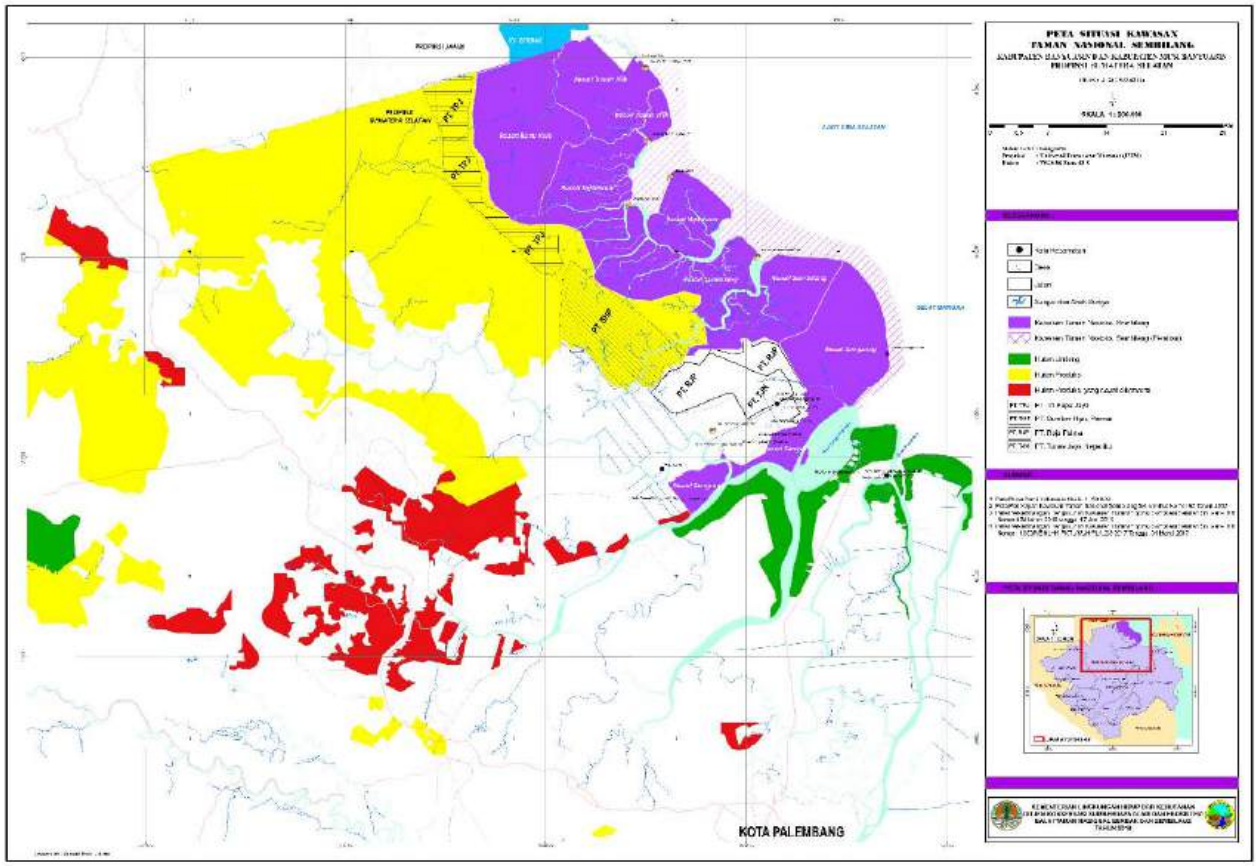
Wetland species conservation is an important part of our programme. This is in line with the global Wetlands International network policy of bringing attention to wetland biodiversity as a central theme of our concern.

Proyek 6: Implementation of the Strategic Action Program for the South China Sea and the Gulf of Thailand

In Indonesia, the National Strategy and Action Plan for Coastal Wetland Management (2004) was developed to cover management programme in all wetland ecosystems/types and by all stakeholders. The strategy emphasizes key national and international issues related to wetland management. It aims to offer valuable space and knowledge for local stakeholders—including provinces, districts, and municipalities—to create strategies tailored to the unique characteristics of wetlands in their regions. The strategy will serve as a guideline for all stakeholders at both the national and local levels regarding the wise and sustainable use of wetlands, which includes guidelines specifically for coastal wetlands in the South China Sea region.

The vision of this strategy is "Coastal wetlands that function optimally as a life support system for the welfare of present and future generations". Its mission is 1) Increase awareness, capability, and active participation of stakeholders in the management and utilization of coastal wetlands, wisely and sustainably, 2) Enhance understanding among stakeholders in the management and use of coastal wetlands, wisely and sustainably, 3) Strengthening cross-sectoral and inter-regional coordination in the management and utilization of coastal wetlands, 4) Identify and develop appropriate science and technology including indigenous knowledge in the management and utilization of coastal wetlands, and 5) Strengthening international cooperation in the management and utilization of coastal wetlands. In particular, strategies and action plans are focused on the establishment and development of modern databases, encouraging public participation, the development of policies, laws and their enforcement, strengthening institutions, education, public awareness, increasing international cooperation and networks, financial aspects, restoration and rehabilitation, and climate change control.

Wetlands International Indonesia is involved in the implementation of the Strategic Action Program which resulted in the adoption and implementation of a single estuary management plan in Sembilang National Park (387,500 ha). This includes the declaration of wetland areas with the necessary protection and management status, and the adoption of regional estuarine monitoring schemes for national implementation. Berbak – Sembilang National Park (BSNP) is a combination of Berbak National Park and Sembilang National Park which were previously separate, based on the Decree of the Ministry of Environment and Forestry No.P.07/Menlhk/Setjen/OTL.01/2016 dated February 10, 2016. Sembilang is made up of very important wetland types (such as the largest mangrove formations, freshwater swamps and peat swamps), which support the world's largest breeding colony of Wilwo (*Mycteria cinerea).* Sembilang National Park also has a large alluvial delta that serves as one of the most important habitats for migratory birds on the East Asian-Australasian Flyway/EAAF. The National Park has the most complex community of shorebirds in the world (Danielsen & Verheught, 1990) and has been recognized as an important stopover site internationally (Wetlands International, 2006). The management of Sembilang National Park always links all its implementation efforts with the Management Plan (20 years), which consists of 4 related Strategic Plans (5 years) and Annual Work Plans (annual). The 2020 – 2029 Long-Term Implementation Planning Document is available as a guide for National Park Management.



During this reporting period, some of the principles of activities that have been agreed to be implemented in 2025 include (Based on the Management Strategy of the Sembilang National Park Long-Term Management Plan 2020 – 2029/RPJP 2020-2029):

- Adoption of regional estuary monitoring schemes and their national implementation [based on the SAP results framework]

- Maintaining the mud plain (320 ha) as the main habitat for migratory waterbirds in Berbak – Sembilang National Park

The planned activity involves creating a roadmap for managing mudflat habitat as part of the Berbak – Sembilang National Park Management Plan. Another activity is the implementation of the CEPA (Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness-raising) program aimed at stakeholders, including specific targets for villages around National Parks, on the importance of mudflats as an important habitat for waterbird (migration) and sustainable management of aquatic resources. In addition, Bio-physical monitoring of mudflats and estuaries and increasing the capacity of mudflat management will be carried out, which is aimed at the Technical Staff of the National Park and students.

Asian Waterbird Census (AWC)

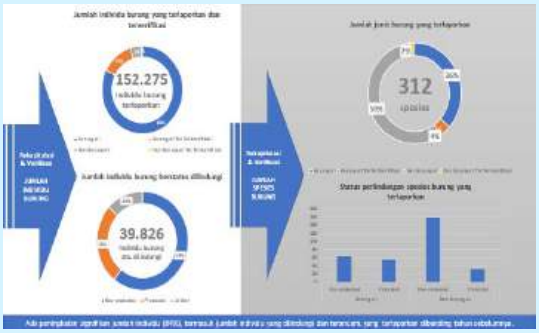
The Asian Waterbird Census (AWC) occurs annually from January to February. This voluntary initiative aims to monitor waterbird populations in wetlands and gather information about these populations each year. The data collected serves as a foundation for evaluating important wetland areas, assessing the population status and condition of the wetlands, and promoting public interest in the conservation of waterfowl and their habitats. This census is open to anyone willing to voluntarily conduct waterbird observations, including ornithologists, amateur observers, nature lovers, teachers, NGOs, civil servants or other members of the public. The location of the waterbird census can be done anywhere, both in large numbers and groups, or in small numbers, even if only one individual. Waterbirds are commonly found in wetland areas such as rice fields, rivers, lakes, swamps, coastal regions, mangrove forests, and mudflats.

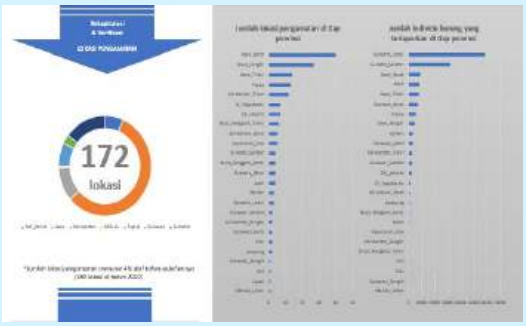
AWC is a tool for conservation efforts for waterbirds and wetlands as their habitat. The census runs in conjunction with the international census covering Africa, Europe, and the Americas, under the umbrella of the International Waterbird Census (IWC). In Indonesia, the census is coordinated jointly by the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Wetlands International Indonesia, Yayasan EKSAI, Burung Indonesia, Burungnesia, and Indonesian Seabirds. They are responsible for submitting forms, collecting forms, contacting data senders and clarifying, as well as creating national reports, which will then be sent to the International Coordinator.

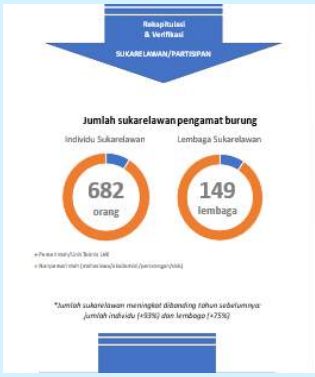
All information collected in the census is stored in a database, and then an annual international report is made, which includes the status and distribution of all types of waterbirds, maps and identification of important wetland locations. The report can be accessed by all participants who contributed their data, on the International Waterbird Census website www.iwc.wetlands.org. So far, there is still a gap in data and observation locations between various regions of Indonesia. Most of the reported cases are on the island of Java. Locations in the central to eastern parts of Indonesia are still poorly reported, so data from these regions is highly expected. In addition, there are still a lot of important habitat locations for waterbirds whose information has not been well documented and routine.

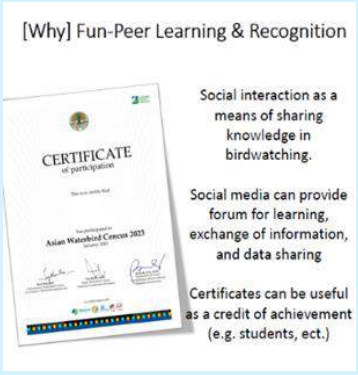
For this year, the number of reported forms and observation locations is nearly the same as in 2022, but volunteer participation has nearly doubled. This seems to be related to post-pandemic conditions, increased collaboration in implementation, and innovation of the census. The highest number of observed waterbird individuals was recorded in North Sumatra, while the highest number of observation sites and volunteers were in Java (West Java, Central Java, East Java) indicating the role and enthusiasm of volunteers in the region, but also showing an uneven observation gap in Indonesia. It was reported that the number of individual birds (including those with protected status and high threat levels) increased significantly from the previous year.

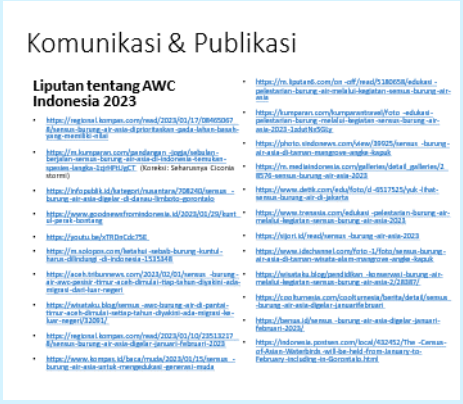
Wider cooperation is needed to be able to further increase the frequency and distribution of the census, one of which is through the National Partnership for the Conservation of Migratory Birds and Their Habitats. Providing resource support, particularly in terms of funding, for managing volunteers can significantly enhance the quality and scope of activities. This support can include appreciation and incentives, such as small grants for observation and the distribution of guidebooks. It is important to maintain and improve these efforts. Locations identified as important should be encouraged to enhance the protection and management of their areas. Further discussions are needed regarding the division of roles and cooperation mechanisms, including data processing, verification, and funding.











Flyway Strategy

Indonesia has shown its commitment to be engaged in protecting migratory waterbirds in the East Asia-Australasia (EAAF) flyway. In 2006, Indonesia proudly welcomed the inaugural meeting of the EAAF Flyway Partnership in Bogor, marking a significant step towards global cooperation and commitment to safeguarding our vital migratory bird routes. This commitment continued until then the Directorate of Biodiversity Conservation, the focal point of EAAFPartnership, hosted the issuance of the Decree of the Director General of KSDAE regarding the establishment of the National Partnership for Migratory Birds and Their Habitats, which is the umbrella for migratory waterbird protection initiatives in Indonesia.

Wetlands International Indonesia is very actively engaged, both in the implementation of the establishment of EAAFP and the KNBBH National Partnership. In retrospect, Wetlands International Indonesia started its programme in Indonesia as an organization engaged in the protection of waterbirds (migratory birds), in 1983 under the name Interwader. When it was later changed to the Asian Wetlands Bureau, we continued these efforts, including by becoming the National Coordinator of the Asian Waterbird Census (AWC), which was continued until it became a new organization as a result of the merger called Wetlands International, in 1995.

When in the last 2-3 years Wetlands International's global network decided to refocus attention on the protection of migratory waterfowl globally, we welcomed it with enthusiasm and were actively involved in the initiative to develop the *Flyway Strategy*. The organization's global ambition to work on the Asia-East Australasia flyway is to develop impactful waterbird conservation strategies and programs for the next decade (2025 – 2030). This is narrowed down to the main goal of protecting and restoring wetland habitats that have been identified as important habitats for waterfowl. The strategy emphasizes a tailored, phased, and region-specific approach that addresses different levels of institutional capacity, conservation needs, and stakeholder engagement in different flyway areas. The approach also seeks to leverage existing strengths, encourage collaboration, identify knowledge gaps and seek to fill them, and promote knowledge sharing, all aimed at maintaining migration connectivity, ecosystem health, and socio-economic benefits for communities.

We are developing a proposal to invite various parties to collaborate on implementing the agreed flyway strategy.

EAAF Flyway Strategy Development Workshop, Manila, Philippines

Promoting Local Community Knowledge on the Benefits of Wetland Animals

Wetlands International Indonesia is involved in the Socio-Cultural Group on Wetland Fauna Utilization initiated by a group of experts and practitioners in wetland management in Asia. This group was formed to document the role of wetland fauna for communities and their use in the Asian region. So far, it is known that wetland fauna has a role related to physical, cultural, religious, economic, spiritual and mythological aspects. Wetland fauna represent more than just wildlife; they carry a rich tapestry of mystery intertwined with the supernatural and societal taboos. By delving into the stories surrounding these creatures, we gain a deeper appreciation for their cultural significance and the importance of preserving their unique ecosystems. People in the interior are known to still use animal body parts to maintain health or treating family members who have health problems. Their ethnobiological knowledge has been passed down from generation to generation through oral traditions, but unfortunately, it is often not documented in writing. Recent studies indicate that ethno-biological knowledge is growing among the community but there is a tendency to be increasingly abandoned. The reason for the shrinking knowledge can refer to the fact that more and more older generations are no longer with us now, while on the other hand, young people are increasingly less interested in learning and developing it. For these and other reasons, cultural approaches have been increasingly abandoned or disregarded in the field of conservation, especially in wetlands. The group's effort here is to explore and use this treasure trove of knowledge in wetland conservation and management. This is what we call the Cultural Approach. We want to disseminate this approach as much as possible and instill in young wetland practitioners a sense of the socio-cultural values of wetland fauna. Of course, we also want to inspire, influence and motivate communities to use cultural approaches to the conservation and management of wetlands in the relevant regions.

In this context, the Socio-Cultural Group has been formed and has held its first meeting in mid-2024, to discuss and collect information related to the use of wetland fauna in the Asian region, related to social and cultural. The overall purpose of the meeting was to share practical knowledge and experience about the socio-cultural values of Wetland Fauna in the region. To achieve these goals, specific objectives are geared towards clarifying the concept of socio-cultural use (values) of wetland fauna, exploring ways to disseminate these values as much as possible, sharing partners' knowledge and practical experiences and developing consensus among partners on group activities.

At the meeting, Wetlands International Indonesia presented information about the use of milkfish by people of Chinese descent in the implementation of the Chinese New Year commemoration.

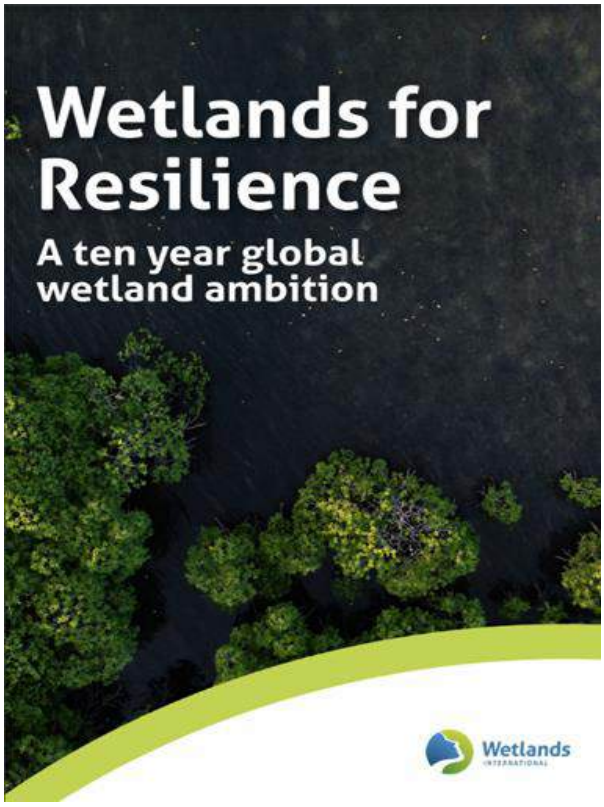
To develop future programme, we support the Ramsar Centre Japan in the development of programme related to the use of fauna in wetlands by local communities. A joint proposal will be developed to be submitted to the Keidanren Conservation Fund, in collaboration with a network of activists from the East, Southeast Asia and West Asia regions.

WATER AND FOOD SECURITY FOR WETLAND COMMUNITIES

Proyek 7: Wetlands for Resilience

The W4R (Wetlands for Resilience) program addresses the sustainable loss and degradation of wetlands and responds to a recent understanding that humanity urgently needs wetlands to be maintained and restored on a large scale to achieve the goals of climate, biodiversity and sustainable development. The program aims to examine the global influence of countries, institutions, and sectors, resulting in a shift in approaches, policies, and investments towards wetland landscape regeneration.

This initiative involves responding to and mobilizing support, developed through encouragement and dialogue with the global team of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA). Its purpose is to extract lessons and experiences from various stages of development across the global portfolio of wetland landscape programs. These insights will serve as an accelerator for wetland restoration and resilience building.



As a program, W4R aims to bring together and share global learnings and methodologies for holistic resilience building by engaging ecosystems. Additionally, we will design and implement strategies, tools, and guidelines for the Wetlands 4 Resilience (W4R) model. Our goal is to accelerate improvements in key wetland landscape regeneration programs and to promote the W4R model's approach across various sectors worldwide, facilitating wetland landscape regeneration initiatives undertaken by others.

Highlights for the program were given to 3 locations in India, Guinea Bissau and Indonesia. The W4R program in Indonesia focuses on the restoration efforts in Demak Regency, Central Java. This region has a mangrove coastline that is severely degraded, despite its previous value for biodiversity, rice farming, and coastal fisheries. Commercial fish cultivation, infrastructure development for coastal defense, and overexploitation of groundwater along the coast have resulted in the loss of mangroves, land subsidence, and significant coastal erosion, which led to devastating floods that impacted the local economy. Working in unique public-private partnerships from local to international levels – and with local communities eager to participate, Wetlands International has been driving pilot projects to build mangrove green belts to buffer against storms, stop erosion, and change approaches to sustainable aquaculture. This allows mangroves to recover and stabilize the coast, The return of biodiversity and livelihoods have been enhanced. The initiative has won various awards for innovation and has been adopted by several government and private authorities.

Our reporting revealed that various activities in Demak have promoted at least four ideas emerging from landscape restoration initiatives.:

- Inspiration. The community has hope again and feels empowered. Engineers are inspired to appreciate nature and consider the community as the strongest partner in achieving coastal rehabilitation. The solutions provided are also effectively acknowledged by governments and the global community.

- Natural. Producing restored mangroves along the coast and rivers as well as improving the biodiversity of restored mangroves

- Social. Enhancing the resilience and social cohesion of coastal communities involves building the capacity and confidence of fishermen through coastal field schools. Communities are connected to relevant networks, and their voices are increasingly heard in policy dialogues.

- Financial. Potential increase in productivity and income from aquaculture. Development of other livelihoods.

Element	Indicator	Status
1. Landscape partnership	Stakeholder map Establishment of BwN secretariat at MMAF office Technical and socio-economic measures (Bio-Rights) agreement with local community groups	In place In place In place
2. Shared understanding	System analysis Participatory Rural Appraisal	In place In place
3. Collaborative planning and landscape vision	Design and engineering plan Demak Landscape's Dream Scenario 2030 Village Mid-term Development Plan that accommodate coastal safety measures	In place In place In place
4. Action plan and effective implementation	Technical and socio-economic measures funded through Bio-Rights mechanism Greenbelt restoration, aquaculture revitalization, livelihood extensification implemented by the community groups	In place
5. Monitoring and learning	Monitoring system Demak becomes the learning center for NBS, EMR, AMA, sustainable aquaculture practice	In place Underway

Reflection on Landscape Partnership in a Case Study of Building with Nature in Demak Regency

Proyek 8: Pengawasan Mangrove Global 2

GMA is a forum for collaboration or alliance that brings together various organizations, governments, industries, and communities to achieve common goals in the preservation and restoration of mangrove ecosystems around the world. The Indonesia chapter of GMA was established in November 2022, initiated by three organizations: Wetlands International Indonesia, YKAN, and KI. The main purpose of GMA Indonesia is to foster collaboration and harmony among stakeholders, as well as to support efforts aimed at protecting and restoring mangrove ecosystems in Indonesia. The availability of good data will provide quality information and is the key to carrying out mangrove management through proper planning. (more information can be found in the Global Mangrove Alliance section).

To support mangrove data management around the world, GMA developed an openly accessible mangrove data management platform, called Global Mangrove Watch (GMW). The data and information available on the platform can be used to support mangrove conservation and restoration activities, including for the development of planning, monitoring and evaluation in addition to promoting the protection and sustainable management of mangrove ecosystems. The platform complements existing mangrove data, both developed by the government and other mangrove conservation actors. More information about Global Mangrove Watch can be read at https:// www.globalmangrovewatch.org. GMW is indispensable given the high need to use measurable data and information in managing and implementing mangrove restoration in Indonesia.

In collaboration with the Indonesia Mangrove Society (IMS), the Global Mangrove Alliance Indonesia Chapter conducted a training session titled "Introduction and Training on the Use of the Global Mangrove Watch (GMW) Platform for Monitoring and Managing Mangrove Ecosystems." This event was attended by 48 selected participants from across Indonesia, ranging from Aceh to Papua. The attendees included representatives from government agencies, researchers and academics, NGOs, community-based organizations, and the private sector. The material covered included features like mangrove distribution, degraded areas, recovery activity feasibility, and a climate policy dashboard for each country. The Mangrove Restoration Tracker Tool (MRTT) was also introduced, allowing users to monitor their mangrove restoration efforts. The GMW platform will continue to be refined so that it can be applied accurately and reliably according to the needs of parties involved in the conservation and rehabilitation of mangrove ecosystems, especially in Indonesia. The platform will continue to be developed by considering various constructive inputs from competent parties.

Proyek 9: Mangroves for Food Security

With the support of the Global Mangrove Alliance (through WWF US), Wetlands International Indonesia, on behalf of the GMA Indonesia Chapter, is responsible for developing and implementing the Mangrove for Food Security Project as well as providing logistical and operational support for this initiative. In support of GMA's ultimate goal of supporting efforts aimed at improving food availability and safety, the project is designed to generate benefits for both society and nature through three main areas of work, namely:

1. **Improving mangrove management through loss reduction, protection and rehabilitation to support livelihoods**. Well-managed mangrove forests will contribute to the food security of coastal communities by increasing the availability, quality, and diversity of food products. Preventing mangrove loss through integrated protection of intact mangroves, effectively restoring mangroves within pond areas, and promoting sustainable aquaculture practices.
2. **Strengthening the GMA Indonesia Chapter**. Maintain and enhance collaboration between members and relevant stakeholders. Engage key stakeholders, including national and sub-national governments, local communities, and the private sector, to rehabilitate, protect, sustainably use, and finance mangroves. Maintain and improve existing collaborations with provincial mangrove forums/task forces, the National Partnership for Blue Carbon, and the National Restoration Target.
3. **Align GMA programs to support mangrove policy improvements.** Enhance dialogue with key stakeholders and partners to influence policy processes, encourage the adoption of GMA tools, and support sustainable mangrove management in Indonesia. The mangrove dialogue includes protection regulations, integration of management into protected area management, ecological-based rehabilitation, integrated mangrove aquaculture approaches, community-based conservation, socialization of the Mangrove Health Index, and linking into the sustainability of financing, such as blue carbon.

We are asked to implement the proposed project within 3 years to achieve goals related to food security in the context of mangrove conservation and restoration. The selected projects are intended to demonstrate best practices and utilize GMA tools, including Global Mangrove Watch, Restoration Guidelines, Mangrove Restoration Tracking Tools, as well as other tools and information that can be found on the GMA Knowledge Hub. The tools have been designed to assist practitioners during the design and implementation phases of a project, in addition to providing a way to monitor and evaluate success. The long-term vision of this project is to provide better and more effective mangrove management support to produce ecosystem services to support sustainable use and community welfare.

The mangrove rehabilitation programs in Indonesia, implemented by various parties, will assist the Indonesian government in achieving its target for rehabilitating mangrove areas. In addition, the lessons learned from practical field experiences can be compiled into communication materials that support the policy dialogue process. This includes promoting the concept of Ecological Mangrove Restoration as an alternative approach to mangrove rehabilitation, besides traditional planting methods. Field interventions that involve community participation in developing and implementing customary laws for mangrove protection, along with other project activities, can enhance the assessment of the effectiveness of Marine Protected Areas. Wetlands International Indonesia participates in projects that will contribute directly to the "30x30" Global Biodiversity Framework conservation target, which calls for 30% of land and seas to be conserved through the establishment of protected areas (PAs) and other area-based conservation measures (OECMs). As the project will work in an area adjacent to the newly established Marine Protected Area (officially established in 2020), we will focus on improving management to be a more effective contribution to this 30x30 goal.

The broad categories of interventions to be implemented are as follows:

Mangrove rehabilitation will focus on mangrove green belts along the coast and riverbanks using an ecologically-based approach to mangrove rehabilitation. Rehabilitation techniques that will be applied include the use of sediment trap structures, land height adjustment, hydrological arrangement, mangrove-related aquaculture (AMA), and SECURE (shrimp carbon cultivation). This field-based activity targets 170 ha of rehabilitation area to contribute to improving sustainable livelihoods by applying an integrated mangrove aquaculture approach.

Protecting mangroves in coastal areas involves strengthening their status through policies at the village government level, such as village regulations and other applicable guidelines. This policy or regulation will be implemented through a community-based area management mechanism that focuses on both utilization and maintenance. Sustainable management of mangroves will also be achieved by integrating these efforts with existing protected areas, serving as an effective protection strategy.

To strengthen the local community's economy, we will implement environmentally friendly aquaculture practices. This practice will support mangrove conservation and is in line with the government's program in implementing the concept and certification of CBIB (Good Fish Farming Practices). The development of livelihood diversification will also be encouraged in the form of processing fishery products, both aquaculture and capture fisheries.

The policy dialogue is designed to be a tool to raise awareness and align GMA programs (including promoting the use of GMA tools) with policies and programs related to mangroves in Indonesia. This process is carried out through meetings, workshops, and training involving the government and other stakeholders such as universities, NGOs, the private sector, and the community.

Banten Bay Coastal Conservation

Wetlands International Indonesia continues its commitment to facilitate support for fishermen who are members of the Pulau Dua Coastal Nature Lovers Group (KPAPPD). Group members are supported to carry out pond maintenance by applying mangrove planting patterns in the pond and pond maintenance using organic patterns. Water management arrangements are implemented to enable the harvesting of natural shrimp/fish to meet daily needs.

The plantation's location, along with the mangrove restoration efforts managed by the Group, frequently attracts visitors interested in the success of these restoration activities. These visitors include representatives from government offices, private institutions both domestic and international, as well as expatriate spouses associated with offices in Jakarta. Group activities also get attention from individuals interested in supporting various initiatives implemented by the Group.

One of those interested in providing support was a Dutchman who, ten years ago, launched the "Baby Bule Mangrove Project." The couple, whose wife is pregnant, provided support for the planting of 1,000 mangrove seedlings and dedicated it to their unborn child. In 2024, his son, who has been attending school in the Netherlands, made a presentation related to the planting of mangroves that his family supports, and now it has grown to 2-3 times the height of the child's body. Receiving a warm welcome from his friends, the child's parents agreed to again provide support for implementing mangrove planting in the Banten Bay Plantation, with the title "Baby Bule Mangrove Project Phase 2".

SECURING AND INCREASING WETLAND CARBON STOCKS

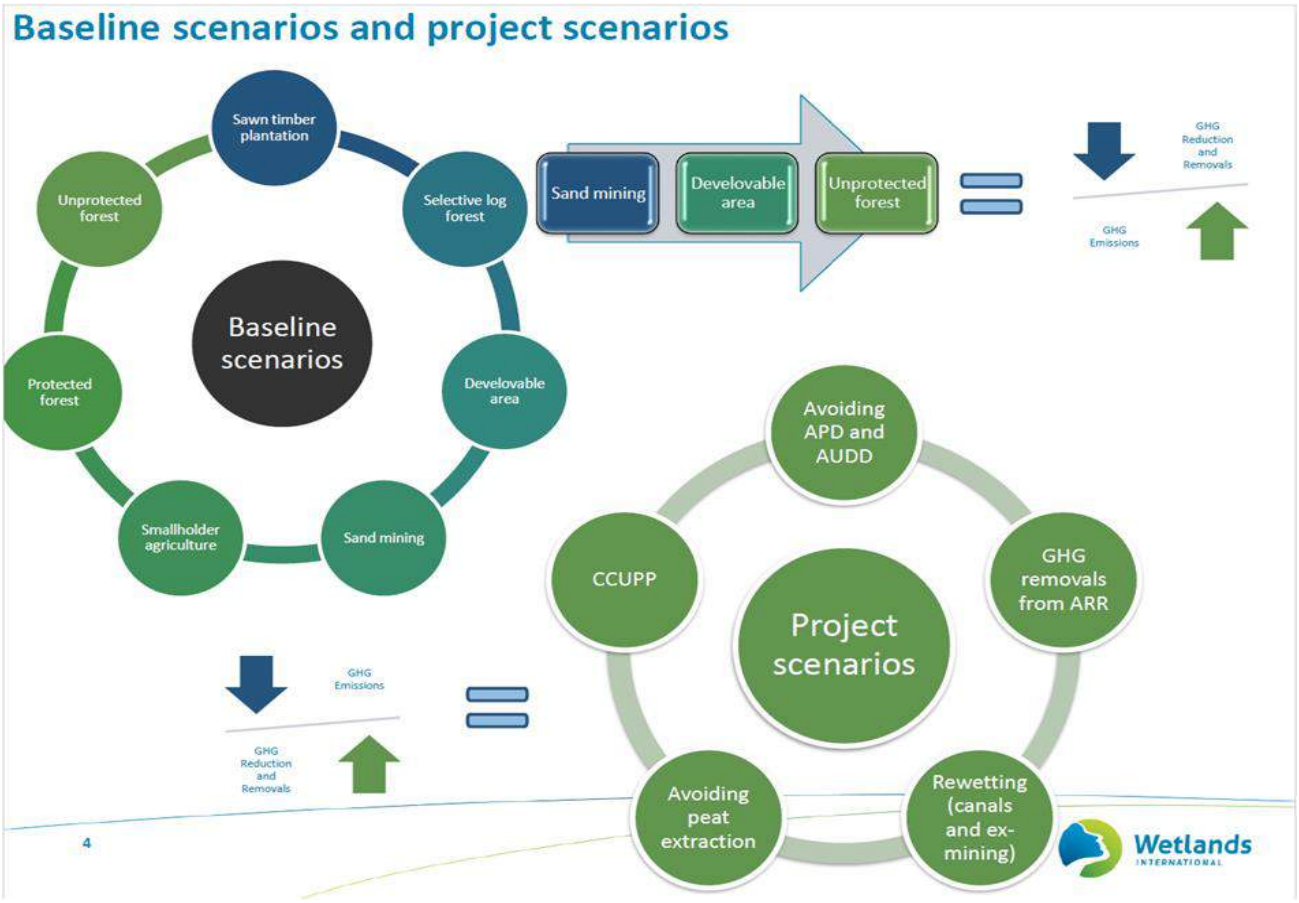
Proyek 10: Study of Carbon Potential in Badas Peatlands, Brunei

In collaboration with Wetlands International Malaysia, as a contract holder with Brunei Shell Petroleum (BSP), Wetlands International Indonesia has conducted a carbon potential study in the Badas peat dome area. The preliminary study has identified areas with high potential for the development of carbon project priorities and implementation following guidance from the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) with a REDD+ methodological framework (Version 1).

The study aims to review institutional arrangements and update financial analysis in carbon emission reduction projects as well as to provide a readjustment of the proposed project boundaries along with carbon stocks and corresponding carbon emission estimates based on a preliminary study conducted in 2018, in the Badas Peat Dome, Belait Regency, Brunei Darussalam.

The economic projection study of the VCS project consists of a series of analytical works as the scope of the research, including the identification and analysis of the role of each party as a project supporter, reviewing the strategic partnership between the project supporter, developing the project benefit sharing mechanism, identifying suppliers/vendors for the implementation of the project, analyzing and updating the financial analysis calculations including Capital Expense and Operating Costs to provide an estimate of the total value economy, analyze and update cash flow projections and financial feasibility taking into account the sensitivity analysis therein. Meanwhile, the study related to the readjustment of project boundaries aims to preserve parts where the development plan is still in the early stages.

Both studies have resulted in recommendations on the measures needed to reduce carbon emissions while improving removal, including rewetting of drained peatlands, conservation of relatively intact peatlands as well as fire mitigation, reduction of emissions from deforestation and degradation and removal of GHGs from ARR activities. The study also offers recommendations on economic feasibility, highlighting the economic benefits and risks associated with the project, as well as a projected analysis of the economy in the implementation of carbon projects.



Supporting the Indonesia Net Zero Summit

Wetlands International Indonesia supports the implementation of *the Indonesia Net-Zero Summit* (INZS), a climate conference held by the Foreign Policy Community of Indonesia (FPCI) as a joint meeting for ministers, officials, diplomats, activists, celebrities, youth, civil society, and various other groups to discuss climate issues, especially in Indonesia. This initiative is intended to gather and strengthen Indonesia's commitment to saving the nation's future from the climate crisis.

WETLAND APPLICATION AS A NATURE-BASED SOLUTION

Indonesia has intensified its climate action through nature-based solutions. This has been considered an effective solution in overcoming various environmental and economic problems, able to provide answers to problems in the long term, cost-effective and providing mutual benefits. We apply the concept of Nature-Based Solutions using our long-standing experience in working on this topic.

Proyek 11: Building with Nature Asia

We envision accelerating adaptation by spurring a paradigm shift in water engineering in Asia through the creation of 15 climate-resilient landscapes along with the establishment of the Building with Nature Asia platform to mobilize public and private actors to scale up efforts to accelerate such adaptation. Through the Building with Nature Asia initiative, we aim to accelerate adaptation by integrating nature-based solutions into water-related infrastructure in Asia to build climate-resilient landscapes that benefit people and nature. Adopting Building with Nature as a socially and environmentally inclusive engineering approach will transform the engineering sector and accelerate climate change adaptation across Asia. Ultimately, this will benefit tens of millions of people and restore thousands of hectares of ecosystems along Asia's vulnerable coasts and rivers, while inspiring global adaptation and finding synergies with climate mitigation. This initiative builds the political support needed to achieve the vision to Accelerate adaptation in Asia through Building Together with Nature.

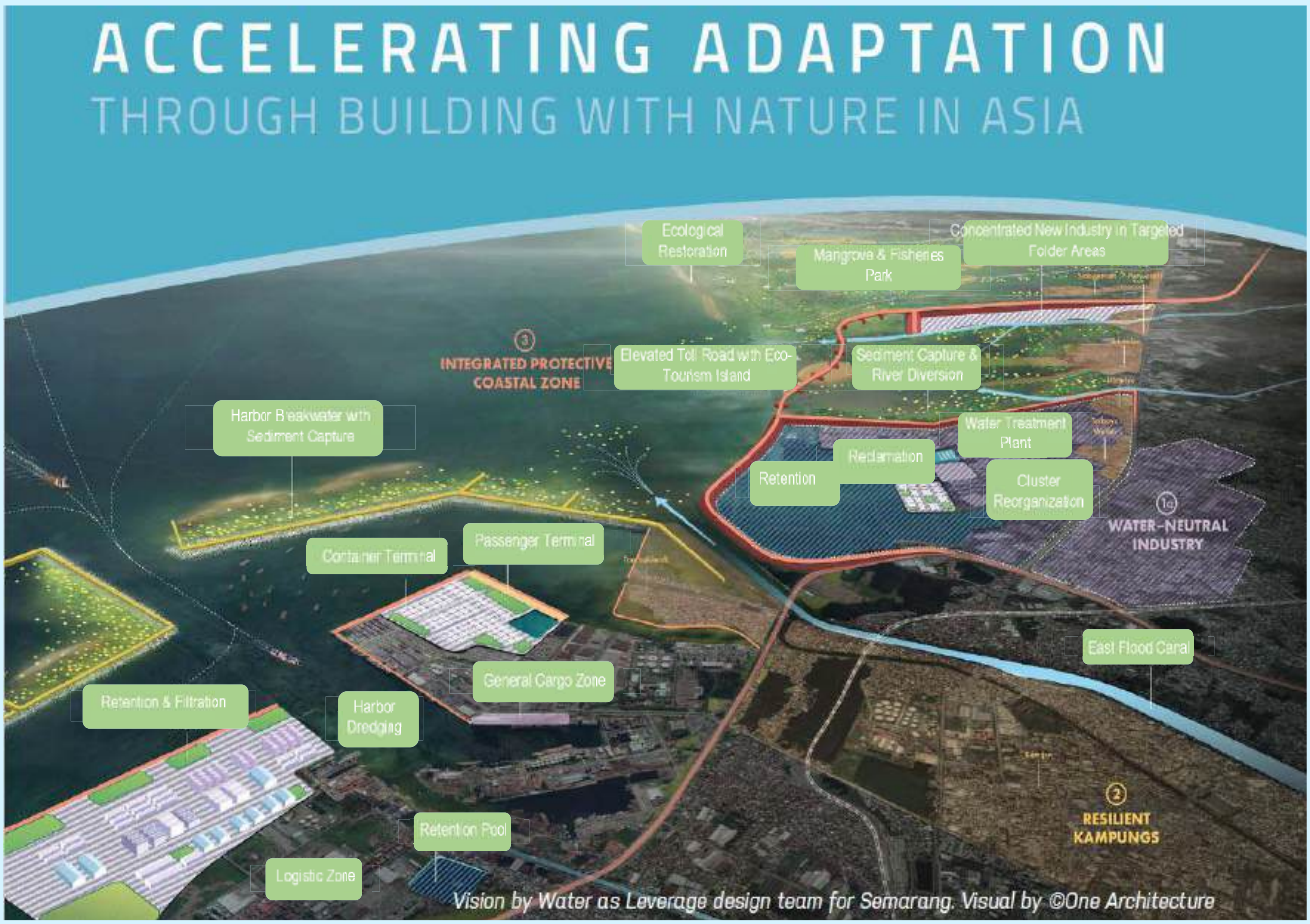
Wetlands International Indonesia is part of a coalition with the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries of the Republic of Indonesia, Wetlands International, Ecoshape and the Global Adaptation Center, bringing together leaders and experts in at least 5 Asian countries to formulate resource commitments to support the objectives of the activities as well as develop propositions to enable rapid adoption of the concept of Building with Nature in 5 climate-resilient landscapes and mobilization platform after launching the commitment.

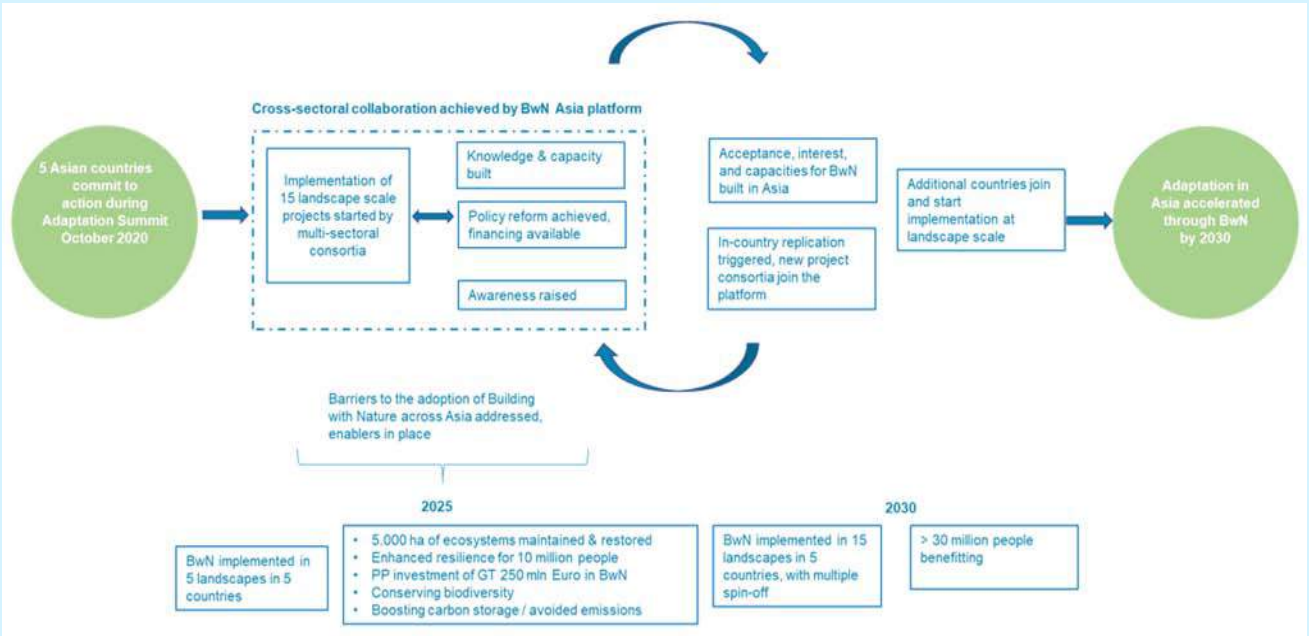
We anticipate the following real impacts within 5 years of the project, pending the implementation of the 5 landscape propositions:

1. About 10 million people are more resilient to projected climate impacts and benefit from healthy coastal ecosystems;
2. About 5,000 ha of ecosystems are conserved and 5,000 ha are restored, forming part of 100,000 ha of sustainably managed landscapes;
3. Conservation and/or restoration of key habitats that support migratory waterbirds and provide breeding grounds for fish.

Within 10 years of the project, we anticipate mobilizing further improvements through the Building with Nature platform, resulting in up to 15 climate-resilient landscapes (each inspiring further adoption) benefiting up to 30 million people and restoring ecosystems of up to 30,000 hectares.

Because Building with Nature integrates ecosystems into engineering practices, this approach intrinsically provides adaptation, mitigation, and biodiversity benefits. Climate-resilient landscapes will be placed in different environments (urban, rural, coastal, river, etc.) which will ultimately determine the number of people involved and the hectares of ecosystems restored. The scope estimate is based on our experience with landscape-scale projects.


ACCELERATING ADAPTATION
THROUGH BUILDING WITH NATURE IN ASIA
Ecological Restoration
Mangrove & Fisheries Park
Concentrated New Industry in Targeted Folder Areas
3
INTEGRATED PROTECTIVE COASTAL ZONE
Elevated Toll Road with Eco-Tourism Island
Sediment Capture & River Diversion
Harbor Breakwater with Sediment Capture
Water Treatment Plant
Reclamation
Retention
Cluster Reorganization
1c
WATER-NEUTRAL INDUSTRY
Container Terminal
Passenger Terminal
East Flood Canal
General Cargo Zone
Retention & Filtration
Harbor Dredging
2
RESILIENT KAMPUNGS
Retention Pool
Logistic Zone
Vision by Water as Leverage design team for Semarang. Visual by ©One Architecture


5 Asian countries commit to action during Adaptation Summit October 2020
Cross-sectoral collaboration achieved by BwN Asia platform
Implementation of 15 landscape scale projects started by multi-sectoral consortia
Knowledge & capacity built
Policy reform achieved, financing available
Awareness raised
Acceptance, interest, and capacities for BwN built in Asia
In-country replication triggered, new project consortia join the platform
Additional countries join and start implementation at landscape scale
Adaptation in Asia accelerated through BwN by 2030
Barriers to the adoption of Building with Nature across Asia addressed, enablers in place
2025
2030
BwN implemented in 5 landscapes in 5 countries
5,000 ha of ecosystems maintained & restored
Enhanced resilience for 10 million people
PP investment of GT 250 mln Euro in BwN
Conserving biodiversity
Boosting carbon storage / avoided emissions
BwN implemented in 15 landscapes in 5 countries, with multiple spin-off
> 30 million people benefitting

Eco-DRR Accreditation System Related to Wetlands in Asia

Wetlands International Japan implemented a project titled "The Role and Function of Wetlands for Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction in Japan and Asia", supported by the Keidanren Nature Conservation Fund, Japan. This project uses an ecosystem-based DRR (Eco-DRR) approach. The Sendai Framework for Disaster Reduction 2015-2030, which houses the Eco-DRR approach, has been adopted at the United Nations Conference on Disaster Reduction. This approach has also incorporated the concept of using ecosystem management for disaster prevention and mitigation.

This project generally aims to explore the traditional Eco-DRR (Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction) concept as it is applied in wetland management, particularly in Japan and other Asian countries. Additionally, the project will examine the effects of this approach on disaster risk reduction, disaster mitigation, and climate change adaptation. The project was carried out through information exchange and information sharing regarding the application of the Eco-DRR concept, with discussions and direct visits to various case study sites in Japan and other Asian countries. The project is expected to contribute to the recognition of wetland functions for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, as well as wetland conservation and disaster prevention in the future.

In this reporting period, visits were carried out in the wetland areas of Japan and Bangkok, Thailand, which were then followed by visits to the sites of landslides and major floods in Nepal. Wetlands International Indonesia will host the next visit, which is planned to be held in 2025.

Eco-DRR Asia Team (top) Locations in Japan, Thailand and Nepal (bottom)

Reviving *the Paludiculture Platform* in Southeast Asia

Paludiculture has been widely accepted as one of the potential approaches for peatland management and development in Indonesia. Wetlands International Indonesia has played an active role in the planning and establishment of the Paludiculture Forum (PaludiFor) in 2018 with the support of Stichting Otterfonds and Partners for Resilience Strategic Partnership (PfRSP). PaludiFor, which has obtained legality from the Ministry of Law and Human Rights, has succeeded in carrying out several activities that have been agreed upon by the Board of Directors and Members, including partnership studies with private parties and seeking funding.

The project journey to support the development of paludiculture in Southeast Asia was forced to be stopped due to the obstacles of the Covid-19 pandemic, so a restructuring of funding is needed in this reporting period. The restructuring aims to create maps related to current paludiculture practices to identify challenges and opportunities for application in other regions. It is hoped that by doing so, the possibility of developing resources to support the agreed design of activities can be explored. We plan to reactivate the Paludiculture Forum (PaludiFor), including facilitation for the development of activities and the search for funding to revive the initiatives that are PaludiFor's mandate.

OUR COMMUNICATIONS

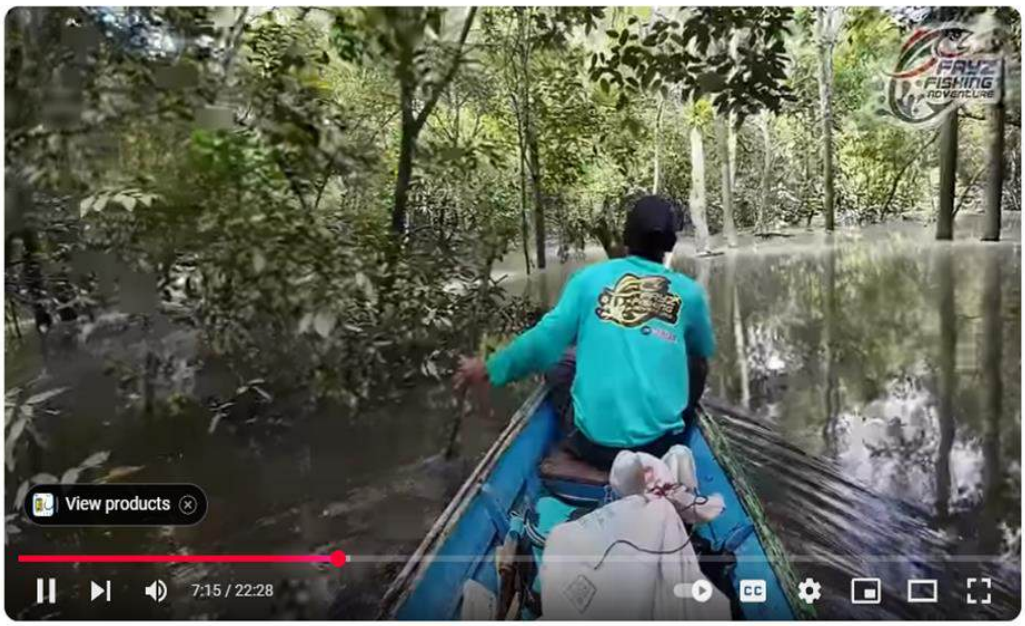
We consider communication a crucial element not only for achieving success on the ground and in policy but also for amplifying our accomplishments. By doing so, we aim to inspire others to replicate our approach.

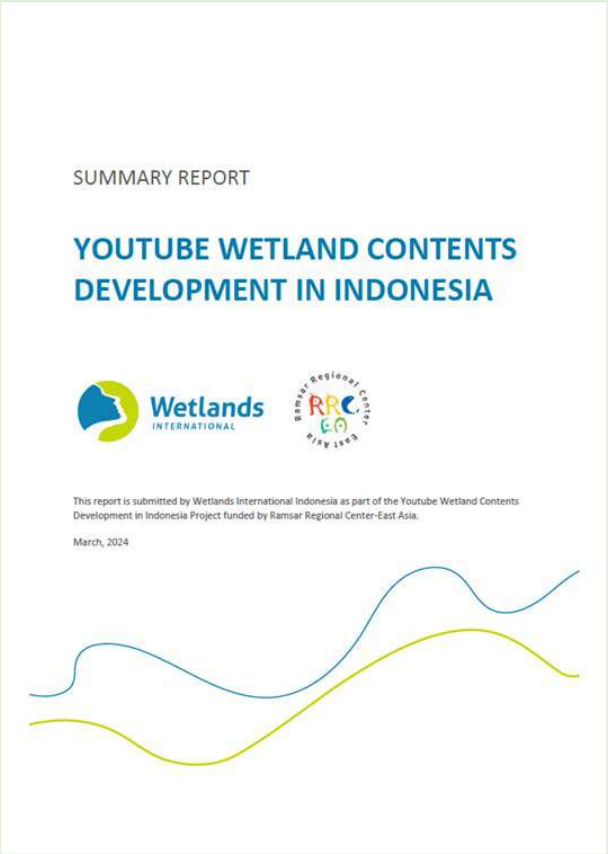
Wetland YouTube Creation

Wetlands International Indonesia has received a grant from the Ramsar Regional Centre – East Asia to implement the "YouTube Wetland Content Development in Indonesia" project. The main objective of this project is to promote sustainable wetland management and conservation in Indonesia through collaboration with YouTube creators in Indonesia to produce wetland-related videos to post on their respective YouTube channels. We have successfully executed the project and succeeded, through cooperation with 6 local YouTube creators in producing a total of 15 YouTube content with a total of **7,233,650** views (seven million two hundred and thirty-three thousand six hundred and fifty) views at the end of the project. That's 3 times more views than the initial approval of project support, and far exceeds impressions made in other countries in similar projects. These shows have also garnered a total of 2,750,000 subscribers and 10,750 comments.

In general, YouTube's Wetlands Content Development project in Indonesia has proven to have achieved the agreed goals, encouraging YouTube creators to promote wetland-related content on their YouTube channels. In addition, the project visibly provides more opportunities for YouTube viewers to learn about wetlands and support the general public by increasing their awareness of wetlands and increasing the likelihood of public understanding of the importance and function of wetlands and the need for sustainable management.

Collaborating with YouTubers from various locations and schedules presents a challenge for the Project Team. On the other hand, harmonizing the characteristics of YouTubers and the messages of wetland conservation carried by Wetlands International also requires a fairly high approach and patience. Determining how to measure campaign impact beyond just views and engagement is also a challenge that needs to be overcome.





Some of the lessons we can take from this project include:

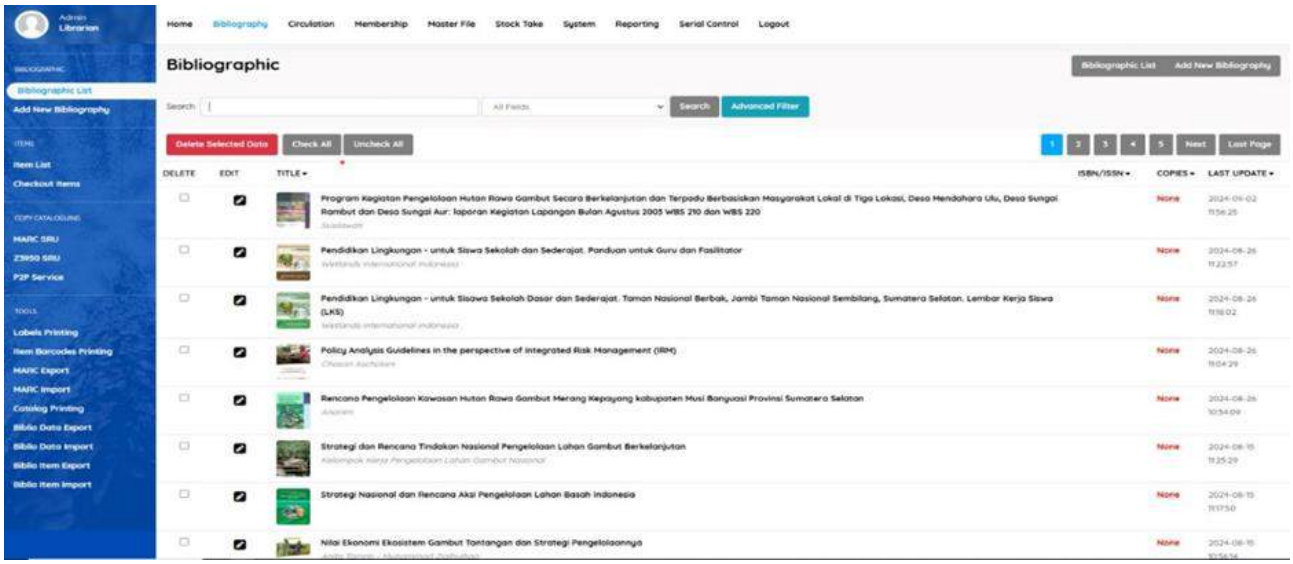
1) Creating content that inspires viewers to take action and adopt sustainable practices outside of the project period is challenging. Coordination during the development of the content plan is necessary to align with the campaign objectives. In addition, there should be an effective monitoring mechanism to measure the outcomes and impact of the program to help evaluate success and provide constructive feedback and subsequent future adjustments as needed.

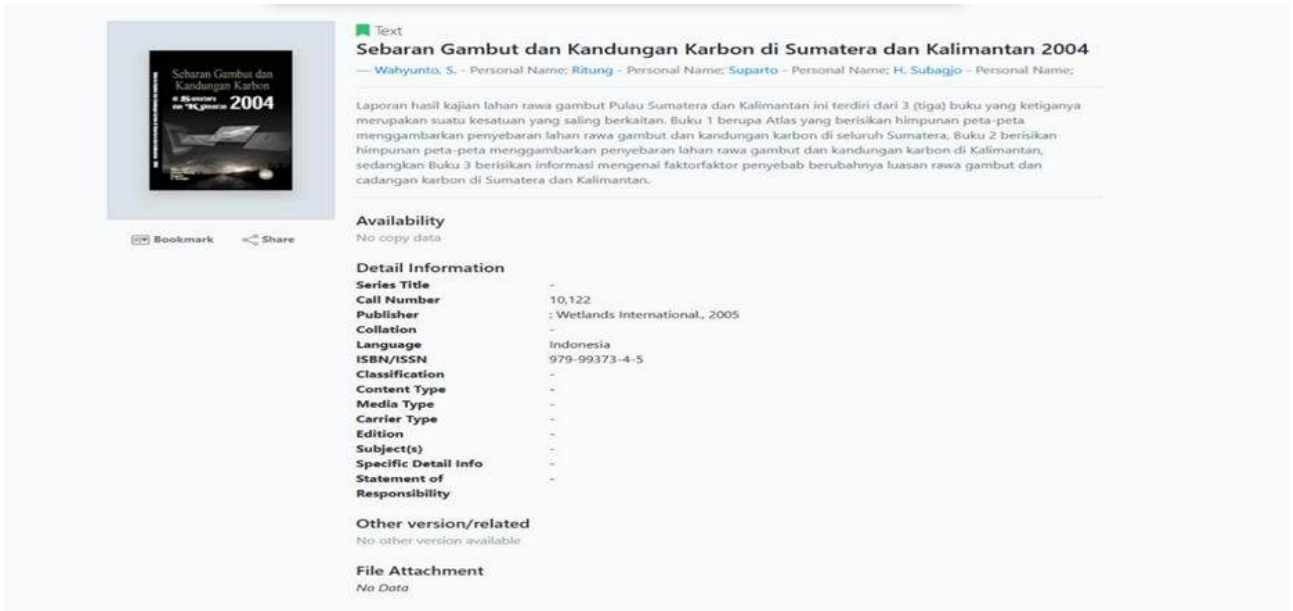
2) Collaborating with popular creators may be beneficial for exposing a wider audience to wetland-related content and consequently increasing their awareness of wetland conservation. However, because it can be very expensive, it's important to plan collaborations carefully to ensure a good return on investment. Beyond the number of customers, partnering with creators who align with the organization's values and campaign goals is essential. Additionally, it's important to maintain a balance between the campaign message and the entertainment side of the content, considering that each creator has their own style and target audience who loves the content and style for what it is. Therefore, it is important to ensure that campaigns represent diverse voices and perspectives within the environmental campaign movement.

3) Despite the challenges faced, partnering with YouTube content creators offers many benefits for environmental campaigns. By planning carefully, choosing the right creators, and addressing these potential issues, we can harness the power of social media to reach the wider community, raise awareness, and inspire action.

Knowledge Management

In this reporting period, the Communication Team assisted by interns from Universitas Brawijaya (Unibraw) Malang migrated the library to a website-based digital library. This digital library was built to help users who need references about wetlands in Indonesia and the world, without having to physically come to our office in Bogor. Thus, this library can be reached from anywhere. So far, we have re-recorded a total of 654 book titles and reports on the results of YLBA activities that have been available in the Digital Library Information System. There is still a lot of work to be done to be able to fully migrate, because this digital library system is still in the process of developing metadata for thousands of books or reports that must be inputted. It is hoped that in the future, with web-based features, users can enjoy literacy without constraints, can be accessed from anywhere using various commonly used devices, including smartphones.





World Wetlands Day Celebration

February 2 deserves to be an important day because it has been designated as World Wetlands Day, and recognized by the United Nations as an "International Day". This day is commemorated every year to mark the signing of international cooperation agreements to protect wetlands globally and to recall the important role and function of wetlands in the global environment. In her message to commemorate World Wetlands Day 2023, Dr. Musonda Mumba, Secretary General of the Ramsar Convention (the Global Convention on Wetlands - Indonesia has ratified since 1991), invited all parties to be part of solving problems by influencing change. In more detail, the Secretary General emphasized the need for all of us to take concrete steps in the form of making real choices to reduce the adverse impacts of our activities that affect wetlands, voicing the need to educate and encourage others to be involved in wetland rescue and restoration, as well as carrying out real activities and participating in wetland restoration efforts locally. This message is very relevant to the big theme of this year's Wetlands Day celebration, namely *It's Time for Wetlands Restoration*. This is in line with the designation of 2020-2030 as the Decade of Ecosystem Restoration by the United Nations world body, which essentially invites all parties to rethink and change how humans treat nature as well as take concrete action to restore vulnerable ecosystems, such as wetlands, that have been damaged. The theme of restoration, especially wetlands, has a very appropriate momentum because currently almost 90% of the world's wetlands have been damaged since the 1700s or even 35% of them have been lost since 1970. This means that wetlands are losing three times faster than forest ecosystems.

Indonesia itself has ratified the international convention related to wetlands, the Ramsar Convention, since 1991 through the Presidential Decree of the Republic of Indonesia No. 48 of 1991. As the owner of the world's largest tropical peatlands and mangroves, Indonesia has made various efforts to maintain and restore wetlands, and has since gained world recognition. Finally, at the end of last year, Indonesia was recorded as one of the first 10 initiatives in the world whose restoration initiatives were recognized by the United Nations Agency. The Building with Nature initiative initiated by the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, the Ministry of Public Works and Housing, as well as a consortium of organizations from Indonesia and the Netherlands, including Wetlands International Indonesia, was implemented in Demak Regency - Central Java, has been recognized as "*World Restoration Flagships represent the most ambitious, promising, and inspiring examples of ecosystem restoration*" by the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration.

Some of the activities to commemorate World Wetlands Day held in Indonesia include:

- The commemoration of World Wetland Day in the Banten region was carried out by observing waterbirds and planting mangroves in the fish pond areas in collaboration with the Provincial Forestry Office, members of the Pulau Dua Coastal Nature Lovers Group (KPAPPD) and the community around Sawah Luhur Village, Banten.

- The commemoration of World Wetlands Day in Jambi Province was facilitated by the Directorate General of KSDAE, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, as the Administrative Authority of the Ramsar Convention. Berbak National Park is the first wetland site in Indonesia to be registered with the Ramsar Secretariat in 1991. The site is an important habitat for migratory waterbirds, species diversity, genetic resources and unique ecosystems. The richness of mangroves and peatlands in Berbak National Parks also plays an important role in controlling the global climate. The Berbak Sembilang National Park, as an ecosystem unit, requires the enhancement of the surrounding buffer area, including the

prompt ratification of the Draft Regional Regulation on Social Forestry by the Jambi Provincial Government. Jambi Province plans a green economic growth programme.

- The training on Drainage Assessment Procedures in Peatlands was held at an oil palm plantation site in the Sampit area, Central Kalimantan, attended by participants from representatives of oil palm plantation companies and the RSPO Secretariat. Measuring changes in peat water height is crucial for understanding the wet and dry conditions of peatland. This knowledge can help prevent fire events in these areas and enable communities and plantation workers to prepare more effectively.

Launch of the National Strategy Document for Wetland Management in Indonesia: Peat and Mangrove Ecosystems to Support the Achievement of Low Carbon Development, Sustainable Development Goals and Indonesia's Vision 2045. Wetlands International Indonesia actively participates in the preparation of this National Strategy document by providing input related to the importance of the conservation and restoration of mangroves and peatlands in Indonesia. We provide various examples of the implementation of mangrove and peat restoration in collaboration with the local community, in collaboration with the (regional) government and using scientific foundations.

Wetland Conservation News (WKLB)

To communicate the importance and function of wetlands to the general community, we are committed to continuing to publish the Wetland Conservation News periodically. We invite our partner writers to share their articles in WKLB media, in addition to news and articles from our staff.

To provide more comfortable services to readers and to reach a wider audience, we are moving from printed media to digital media, without reducing the weight and quality of the article and news.

Wetland Conservation News has been a medium to connect organizations with the community of readers for at least the last 3 decades. We have obtained feedback that WKLB is used as a teaching material in several universities making wetlands one of the topics of discussion. We are also happy to observe that WKLB has been used as a reading resource in several Wetland Information Centers and libraries, both within the UPT KLHK and in several NGO offices. We are committed to continuing the publication of WKLB by expecting readers' contributions.

Interact through social media

Our social media Facebook Fan Page https://www.facebook.com/wetlandsinternationalIndonesia/ and Instagram @yayasanlahanbasah become our greeting place to inform various news and information about wetlands in Indonesia and the world.

Knowledge Documentation Publications

As a science-based organization, we are dedicated to documenting the various approaches and methodologies we use to provide solutions for problems related to the protection, restoration, and sustainable use of wetlands. We have published various publications, in the form of print and digital publications.

Supporting Capacity Building & Facilitating Knowledge Exchange

Discussion with University of British Columbia students on the economic impact of Associated Mangrove Aquaculture

The story of our work journey related to Building with Nature has attracted various institutions from the country, regional and global regions to visit our work area in Demak, Central Java. Wetlands International Indonesia, Community Group partners and the Demak Regency Government facilitated a visit from San Miguel Aerocity Inc., the Philippines. The team's arrival in Indonesia began with a meeting with the Indonesian Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, then continued with the Demak Regency government The Philippine team met directly with the BwN Indonesia Community Group to get a direct picture of the efforts implemented by the Demak Community to face various threats of damage to wetland ecosystems in their environment, including the Building with Nature initiative.

Pelatihan pengukuran tinggi muka air gambut

Sesi pelatihan pengukuran ketinggian muka air gambut di lapangan

Wetlands International and the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) developed a drainage assessment guide. This assessment is used to predict the natural time period that oil palm plantations can operate on peatlands based on a hydrological approach. In addition, this assessment must be carried out by all RSPO member oil palm plantations operating on peatlands before replanting. The threshold of two planting cycles before the last natural drainage limit is reached is a stipulation in this guideline. Oil palm plantation companies are required to stop cultivation and rehabilitate peatlands when they reach this threshold. This drainage assessment can be one of the approaches to answer the principle of sustainability based on environmental and economic perspectives in peatland ecosystems. The drainage assessment has been disseminated by RSPO member oil palm plantations since the end of 2022 through online training, and field training. Wetlands International Indonesia became the instructor in the training. All participants are employees of RSPO member oil palm plantations operating in Indonesia and Malaysia.

Training on the use of drones to support work in the field

Training of Trainer Updating Ramsar Site Information Sheet

Wetlands International Indonesia participated in the Training of Trainer for the Updating of Ramsar Site Information Sheet organized by the Ramsar Regional Centre – East Asia (PRC-EA) in Suncheon City, South Korea. The training, which was attended by 7 experts and wetland practitioners from 6 countries (China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Mongolia and Viet Nam), aimed to increase participants' understanding of the Ramsar Site Designation Guidebook and the Ramsar Site Information Sheet (RIS) Update, discuss common challenges in completing RIS, and participants are ready to apply the recommendations of the guidebook as trainers for similar activities. TOT participants were then appointed to share the results of the training as group facilitators in the Regional Training Workshop held following the ToT, and will be included in the PRC-EA wetland expert list as future trainers.

The Regional Training was attended by 22 National Ramsar Focal Points and RIS compilers from 13 countries in East, Southeast and South Asia, designed based on the RRC-EA guidebook "Ramsar Site Designation and Ramsar Site Information Sheet Update". The Regional Training aims to provide an overview of the Ramsar Convention and its tools, promote a better understanding of the Ramsar Site Information Sheet (RIS) guidelines provided by the Convention, instruct participants on how to complete and update the RIS, and discuss the priority needs of the Parties to the Ramsar Convention in East, Southeast and South Asia.

Wetlands International Indonesia welcomes the inauguration of Dr. Dewi Elfidasari as Professor of Biological Sciences, Biology Study Program, Faculty of Science and Technology, Al Azhar University Indonesia. Prof. Dr. Dewi Elfidasari, S.Si., M.Si. was involved in various studies on waterbird population dynamics in Banten Bay, managed by Wetlands International Indonesia. Congratulations Prof. Fifi.

GIS Training India

Salira Vidyan, Technical Officer of Spatial Information, Wetlands International Indonesia was invited as an Instructor by Wetlands International India to share knowledge at the Workshop Developing a Programme for Peatlands in India which took place from 14 – 15 February 2024 in New Delhi, India. Salira shared his experience related to peatland mapping and management practices that have been carried out in Indonesia. Discussions were held together with members of the Government, Academics, and NGOs who agreed to become a working group and continue collaboration in supporting the mapping and management of new peatlands that will begin in India.

Visits were made to Lake Khecheopalri, Sikkim and Kochi, Kerala for one week, to identify the potential existence of peatlands by taking several soil samples.

Mangrove Conservation and Restoration Conference in Abu Dhabi, Uni Arab Emirate

Wetlands International Indonesia attended The First International Mangrove Conservation and Restoration Conference (IMCRC), Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates on December 10-12, 2024. The inaugural conference, organized by the Abu Dhabi Environment Agency (EAD) and the Abu Dhabi Mangrove Initiative (ADMI), aims to help develop innovative solutions for mangrove restoration, promote science-based restoration and contribute to mitigating the impacts of climate change. At the event, Wetlands International Indonesia, represented by Apri Susanto Astra, presented the Building with Nature Indonesia which was held in Demak, Central Java in 2015-2021. Instead of building hard structures, the program encourages the use of permeable structures to restore sedimentary balance, allowing mangroves to regenerate naturally, while collaborating closely with local communities and using Wetlands International's Bio-Rights financing mechanisms to support sustainable livelihoods, including eco-friendly aquaculture solutions.

10th Asian Wetlands Symposium, Manila, Philippines

From November 25 to 28, 2024, Wetlands International (WI) Indonesia participated in the 10th Asian Wetlands Symposium with the theme "Wetland-based Solutions" in Manila, Philippines. The symposium aims to mainstream wetland conservation and wise use in all sectors of society as a contribution to the implementation of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and its strategic plan, the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and action-oriented global targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. This meeting provides opportunities for diverse target groups such as decision-makers and policy makers, academics, researchers, wetland managers and practitioners, youth and non-governmental organizations to share and learn from shared knowledge and practical experience on conservation, sustainable management and wise use of wetlands in Asia. WI Indonesia Delegation, Yus Rusila Noor, presented in Session 2 - Land Restoration with the theme of "Building with Nature Indonesia: Restoring the coastline and inspiring action on a large scale". In addition, Yus also presented BWN's approach at the side event organized by WI Japan, as well as leading one of the symposium topics on biodiversity.

The symposium was organized by the Society for the Conservation of Philippine Wetlands Inc. (SCPW), Ramsar Regional Center – East Asia (PRC-EA), and Ramsar Center Japan (RCJ) in collaboration with the Japan Wetland Society and Wetlands International – Japan.

SUPPORTING THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA IN SUSTAINABLE WETLAND MANAGEMENT

Focal Point Ramsar CEPA NGO Indonesia

The Head of Office of Wetlands International Indonesia is designated as the focal point for Ramsar CEPA NGO Indonesia. In this position, Wetlands International Indonesia is actively involved in supporting the Government of Indonesia in various initiatives and obligations as a Party to the Ramsar Convention, including the preparation of the National Report, filling out the Ramsar Information Sheet (RIS), resource persons for various trainings (Bimtek) and supporting the Indonesian delegation in the Conference of Party (CoP) meetings.

Head of Office Wetlands International Indonesia with the Secretary General of Ramsar Convention, Dr. Musonda Mumba (red shawl), and senior wetland practitioners from various countries.

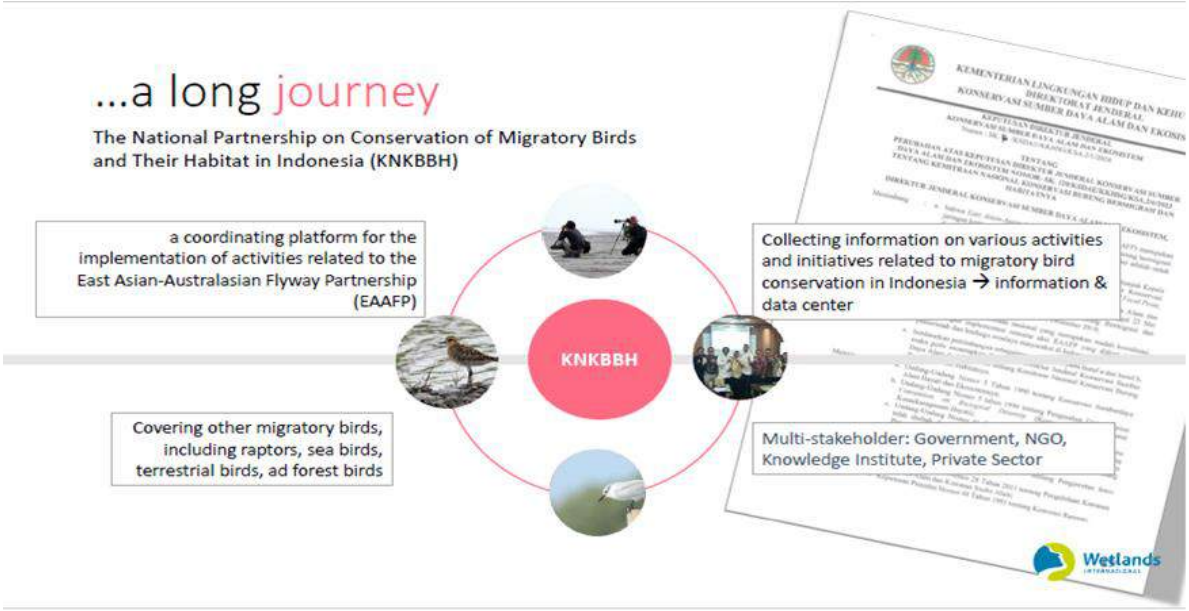
Wetlands International Indonesia delegation participated in CoP Ramsar.

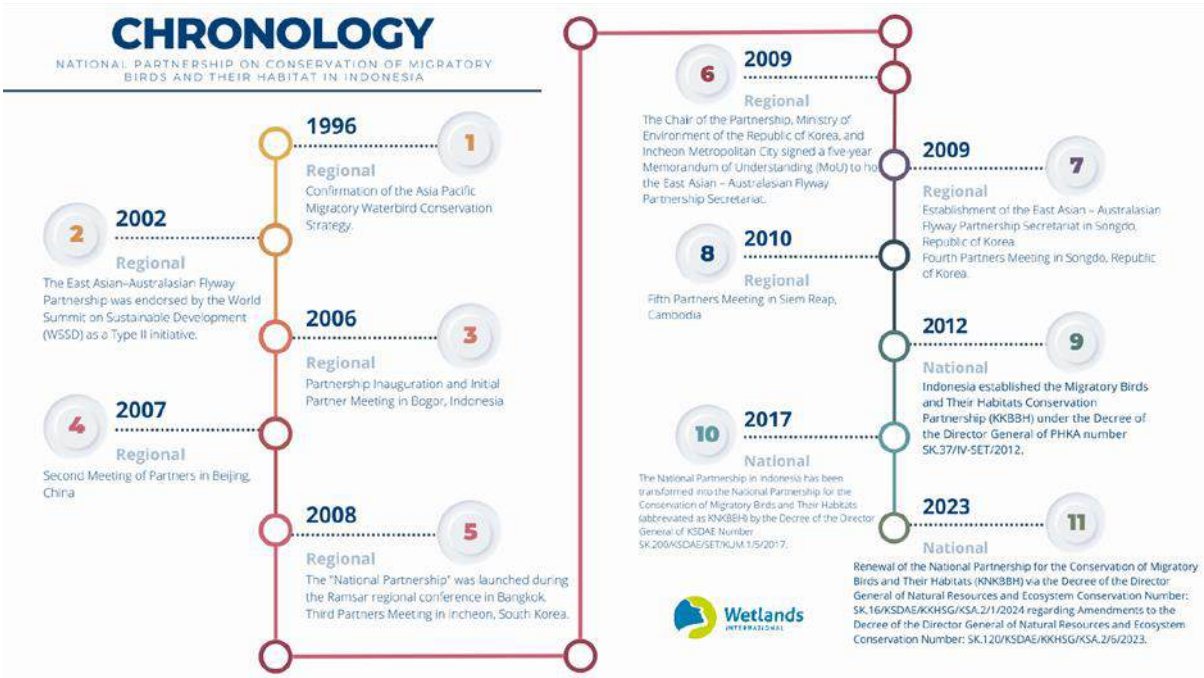
Preparation of the Ramsar Convention National Report, coordinated by the Ministry of Environment and Forestry.

Wetlands International Indonesia became a Resource Person at the socialization of filling out the Ramsar Information Sheet (RIS), held by BPPE and attended by 103 participants from UPTs throughout Indonesia.

National Flyway Partnership

Wetlands International will continue its role in the National Partnership for Flyway in Indonesia, coordinated by the Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MoEF). We will continue our role as Steering Member, Partnership Chair and member of the CEPA working group. As the Co-Manager of the annual Asian Waterbirds Census, we will continue to promote AWC activities which take place regularly at the beginning of each year. The data obtained from the AWC census will be used as policy determination material by the Ministry of Forestry. This will be aligned with the Republic of Indonesia's membership in the East Asia – Australasia Flyway Partnership (EAAFP).

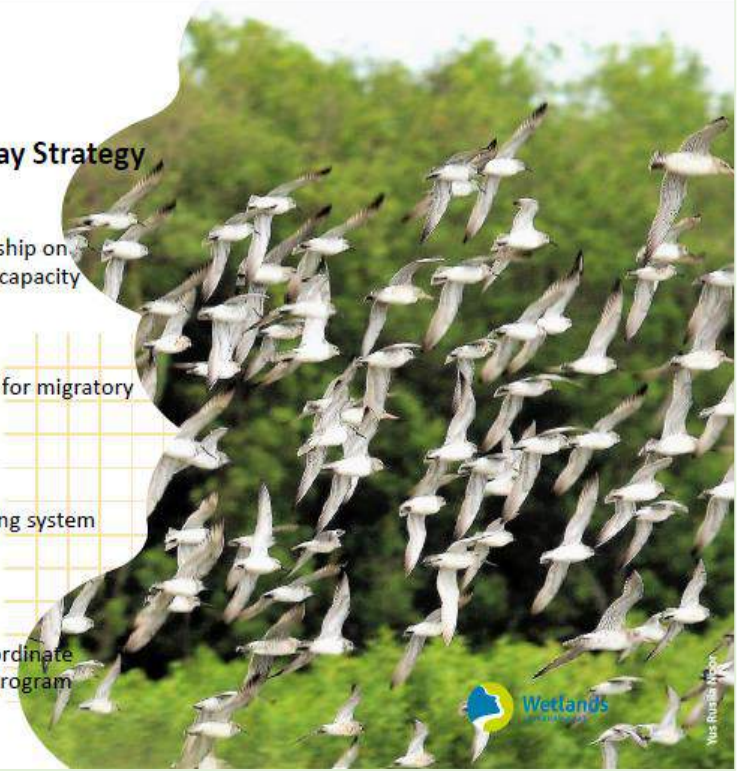




… what next

Alignment of National Plan into Flyway Strategy

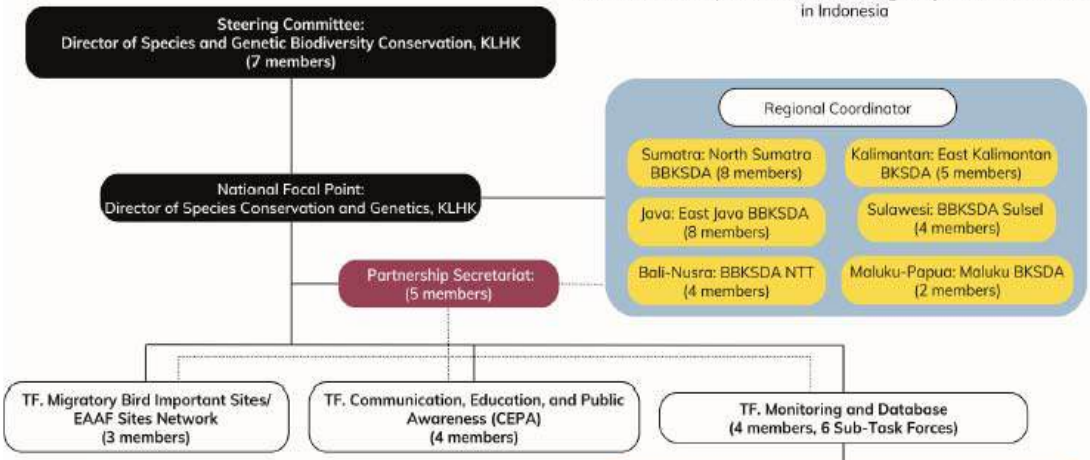
- Strengthen the National Partnership on waterbird monitoring, including capacity building
- Additional Flyway Network Sites for migratory waterbirds in Indonesia
- Coordinate Indonesia's monitoring system and broader data use
- Ensure funding availability to coordinate AWC and other migratory birds program



[Enabling environment]

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

National Partnership on Conservation of Migratory Birds and Their Habitat in Indonesia



The decree of the Director General of Natural Resources and Ecosystem Conservation, Ministry of Environment and Forestry. KNKBBH has 71 members from various elements of government, universities, practitioners, Local-National NGOs. YLBA/WII serves as the Secretariat Chair and one of the Steering Committee and CEPA task force members

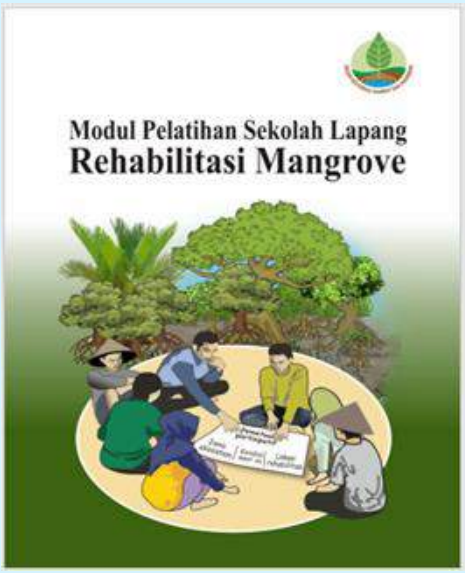
18 *Asian Waterbird Census Indonesia*

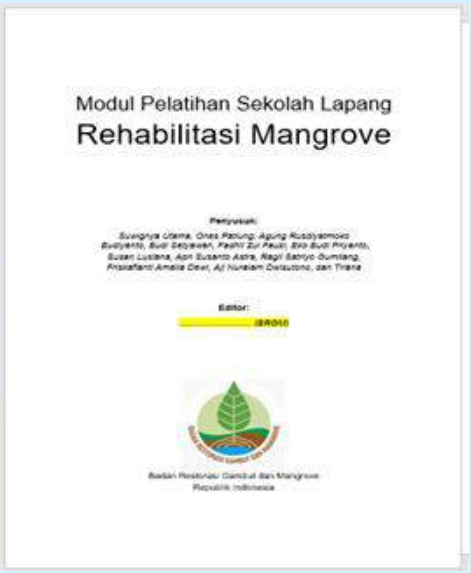
Wetlands

Peat and Mangrove Restoration Agency (BRGM)

Wetlands International Indonesia has established a very close partnership with the Peat and Mangrove Restoration Agency (BRGM). The partnership has even been established since the beginning of the establishment of the Peat Restoration Agency (BRG) based on Presidential Regulation (Perpres) Number 1 of 2016. We support and assist BRGM in the implementation of training and development of technical guidance related to the management and protection of mangrove ecosystems. This training and development of technical guidance is one way to introduce the EMR approach to the TPNTP program to the government. In addition, after completing the technical guidance on mangrove rehabilitation, the Field Officers are expected to increase their capacity in terms of coordination, administration, technical, and other materials and be able to implement mangrove rehabilitation activities following the technical and scientific rules that have been given during the training.

BADAN RESTORASI GAMBUT DAN MANGROVE
REPUBLIK INDONESIA





Input for Indonesian President-elect 2024–2029

Through the Foreign Policy Community of Indonesia (FPCI) Climate Unit, Wetlands International Indonesia provides oral and written input to the Team of President-elect and Vice President-elect Government for 2024 – 2029 regarding policies related to the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands in Indonesia. The input items provided include, 1) In the preparation of the Cabinet, appoint ministerial-level officials who have the authority and mandate to coordinate and manage wetland ecosystems, especially mangroves and peatlands. Special institutions that deal with peat and mangrove management/restoration should continue to be maintained; 2) To strengthen the coordination and implementation of mangrove management and restoration, in the first 100 days of the Cabinet's work program, the Government Regulation on the Protection and Management of Mangrove Ecosystems need to be ratified; 3) National Strategy for Wetland Management: Peat and Mangrove Ecosystems (which have been prepared in coordination by the Ministry of National Development Planning/Bappenas) are internalized into the 2025-2045 RPJPN and 2025-2029 RPJMN; 4) The Land Subsidence Working Group under the coordination of the Coordinating Ministry of Maritime and Investment is maintained and strengthened by obtaining a legal umbrella at the level of the Presidential Regulation. (Written input documents are available).

Input on the Environmentally Sound Development Framework to the People's Consultative Assembly

To provide input in the framework of environmentally sound development, including in development planning and supervision, Wetlands International Indonesia provides input directly to the People's Consultative Assembly (MPR). Input in the form of a presentation at the Focus Group Discussion "Wetlands: Exploring the Potential of Our Natural Resources Wealth" highlighted the condition of wetlands in Indonesia, management challenges and management approaches that emphasized the importance of collaborating with the Government (Regional), collaborating with local communities and the importance of using science as the basis for policy-making and development directions. Because it coincides with the celebration of World Wetlands Day, input is also directed to the importance of recognizing and protecting wetlands as a support for human life.

ORGANIZATIONAL MANAGEMENT

To effectively implement our organization's operations in a focused and measurable way, while aligning with global developments, external factors, and relevant laws and regulations in the Republic of Indonesia, we are committed to being a learning organization. This involves updating and improving various regulations, guidelines, and standard operating procedures. In the financial sector, we continue to maintain and refine standard rules as necessary. Additionally, we are revising our policies on financial deposits and reserves. Regarding personnel, we have enhanced the Staff Engagement Allocation Standards to better guide the allocation of time for current employees and to assess the need for adding new staff members.

Digitizing data and information has been implemented to enhance knowledge management and support decision-making within the organization. The internal promotion of SharePoint aims to facilitate access to information and shared knowledge. At the project level, we are actively developing dashboards to monitor the progress of project activities, enabling us to quickly identify when immediate support or improvements are necessary.

Staff Recruitment to Achieve Organizational Goals

The "Wetlands International Indonesia Strategic Intents 2020 - 2030" outlines a clear direction for our efforts in fulfilling the organization's vision and mission. A key component in achieving these goals is having sufficient human resources to meet the demands of program development and project implementation. Together, we can effectively address the various targets and challenges that we have collectively agreed upon. During this reporting period, we successfully recruited for two key positions: Head of Programme and Coordinator of Communication. Filling these roles is expected to provide essential direction and leadership to help us navigate the challenges we face, as well as to capitalize on the opportunities that have been previously identified. In the area of technical implementation, we have recruited additional staff to support our project initiatives. This includes five Community Development Facilitators who will be stationed at project sites in East Kalimantan and North Kalimantan. Additionally, we are bringing on several consultants specializing in Aquaculture, Landscape Restoration, and Socio-Economics.

We have also identified further personnel requirements to enhance our achievement of Strategic Intents for 2020-2030, particularly concerning the development of organizational resources in alignment with our capabilities. We plan to add these positions in the upcoming reporting period.

GENERAL PLAN 2025 – 2026

We see numerous opportunities ahead in the coming years. We are committed to maintaining our collaborative approach, which includes partnering with regional governments, engaging with local communities, and employing a scientific basis for our work. Our primary focus will remain on the conservation, restoration, and sustainable use of mangroves. We aim to complete various ongoing projects while scaling up our efforts and incorporating more comprehensive approaches. We also hope to secure support for programme through the Green Climate Fund, in collaboration with our partners.

Land and peat forest conservation efforts, which have not been widely implemented during the reporting period, will be intensified in the coming year. This may include the implementation of the Western Pacific Sustainable Peatland Management project, revitalizing the Paludiculture Platform in Southeast Asia, and developing key initiatives related to the Peatlands Breakthrough.

Biodiversity conservation will be a key focus of our program for next year. We will continue our collaboration with the Ministry of Forestry and our NGO partners to coordinate the Asian Waterbirds Census for 2025 and 2026. In addition to supporting the National Partnership for Migratory Birds and Their Habitats, Wetlands International is actively involved in developing the Flyway Strategy programme for East Asia–Australasia flyway through a network of Wetlands International offices in the region. We will also continue to provide active support for initiatives under the East Asia–Australasia Flyway Partnership.

We will continue to support various national initiatives in which we have played a significant role, such as the National Land Subsidence Working Group, the Paludiculture Forum, and the Indonesia Mangrove Society.

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As the focal point of the CEPA NGO Ramsar Convention in Indonesia, we will coordinate and facilitate the annual commemoration of World Wetlands Day in collaboration with our partners. Together with the Ministry of Forestry, particularly the BPPE Directorate, we will support the Government of the Republic of Indonesia in implementing the Ramsar Convention, which includes assisting with Indonesia's participation in the Ramsar CoP.

Internally, we will focus on organizational development, including the recruitment of additional staff to enhance the areas of Rivers, Lakes, and Peatlands, which have not yet been fully developed. We are designing a plan to add staff for Resource Development, which will be implemented alongside efforts to expand our network coverage at the sub-national, national, regional, and global levels.

THANK YOU!

Our journey during 2023-2024 is certainly guided by His will, supported by parties and individuals who significantly contribute to the achievement of our planned work together.

We would like to express our gratitude to the Chairman and Members of **the Governing Board and Supervisory Board** who continue to provide direction and support to always be based on the agreed Strategic Intents guidelines.

We receive funding support from **donors**, most of which are channeled through our **Global Office** in the Netherlands. We receive funding from **Oak Foundation, National Philanthropic Trust (Global Mangrove Watch 2); SIDA Global (Wetlands for Resilience - W4R Inception Indonesia & W4R Lighthouse Landscapes Indonesia), Turing Foundation, Waterloo Foundation, Otter Foundation, Greenchoice, COmON Foundation, Salesforce (To Plant or Not To Plant), Anonymous Private Fund (Global Mangrove Alliance), Regional Ramsar Centre - East Asia** (YouTube Production), RSPO (**Roundtable Sustainable Palm Oil), WWF-US (GMA Chapter Indonesia - Mangroves for Food Security), Global Affairs Canada (Nature-based Solutions for Climate-smart Livelihoods in Mangrove Landscapes – NASCLIM), Bezzo's Earth Fund (Mobilizing The Mangrove Breakthrough), Good Energies (Return of The Mangroves), Ramsar Center Japan (Asian Wetlands Symposium).**

We work in Indonesia through close cooperation with various Government agencies **of the Republic of Indonesia**: Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MoEF), Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (KKP), National Development Planning Agency (Bappenas), Peat and Mangrove Restoration Agency (BRGM), Ministry of Finance. In the field, we work with **Regional Government**: North Kalimantan Provincial Government, East Kalimantan Provincial Government, Banten Provincial Government, Demak Regency Government, Bulungan Regency Government, and Kutai Kartanegara Regency.

Together with **our Partners** we design and carry out programme: Global Green Growth Indonesia, Konservasi Indonesia, Yayasan Konservasi Alam Nusantara, Kemitraan, CIFOR ICRAF, SNV, Child Fund, IKAMAT. Thank you also to the members of the Indonesian Conservation Communication Forum: Burung Indonesia, Greenpeace Indonesia, Konservasi Indonesia, Yayasan Konservasi Alam Nusantara, Yayasan Kehati, World Resource Institute Indonesia, WWF Indonesia, and Wildlife Conservation Society. The Citizen Science programme is developed in collaboration with Burung Indonesia, Burungnesia, Indonesian Seabirds, and the Eksai Foundation.

Our close friends in the field are, of course, members of **the Assisted Community Group** who have jointly recognized and identified various problems at the project site, conducted discussions to find the most likely solutions to be implemented, carried out activities and at the same time monitored and evaluated. We also received a lot of help from Citizen Science volunteers who provided data and information, especially related to the Asian Waterbird Census.

The most important part of our organization's journey is the **Staff** who have worked with exceptionally high dedication throughout the year to plan, execute and evaluate the various initiatives we work on. Every step, every effort, and every sweat shed is an extraordinary commitment and integrity. Staff are not only part of the team, but also the backbone that maintains continuity and incremental steps to move from a time of uncertainty. This year may be full of challenges, but thanks to hard work and an unyielding spirit, we are able to get through it brilliantly. Thank you for giving your best, building a collaborative and supportive environment. Hopefully this spirit will continue to inspire us to achieve greater things in the future.

Staff Yayasan Lahan Basah/ Wetlands International Indonesia

Aji Nuralam Dwisutono
Technical Officer Rehabilitation

Ali Mustain
Community Fasilitator

Andi Darmawansyah
Technical Officer Fisheries & Aquaculture

Angelina Fransiska
Finance Officer

Anggita Kalistaningsih
Secretary

Apri Sutanto Astra
Programme Coordinator Coasts & Deltas

Dimas Alfred Prasetia
Technical Officer Hidrology

Dody Permadi
Knowledge Management Officer

Ehdra Beta Marsan
Technical Officer Landscape

Eko Budi Priyanto
Programme Coordinator Wetlands Conservation & Rehabilitation

Friskafianti Amalia Dewi
Technical Officer Monitoring & Evaluation

Firman Abadi Ali Topan
Community Facilitator

Hidayat Sunarsyah
Maintenance Officer

Iyan Subyandi
HR & Admin Officer

Joni Trio Wibowo
Head of Programme

Karyoso
Community Facilitator

Kuswantoro
Community Facilitator

Lusiana Nurissiyadah
Head of Finance & Operation

M. Sahlan
Community Facilitator

Nono Sutisno
Information & Technology Officer

Nor Hayati
Community Facilitator

Ragil Satriyo Gumilang
Policy Officer

Salira Vidyan
Technical Officer Spatial Information

Sasmito
Coordinator Community Facilitator

Triana
Publication Officer

Urip Triyanto
Community Facilitator

Wahyu Adam
Domestic Officer

Woro Yuniati
Programme Coordinator Communication

Yudianto Putra
Technical Officer Socio Economic

Yulia Santi
Office Support Officer

Yus Rusila Noor
Head of Office

Yusuf Ramdan
Domestic Officer

Financial Audit 2023-2024

Wetlands International Indonesia
Statement of Financial Position
Balance Sheet

as at 31 December 2023

Audited

Particulars	2023
ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	19.112.661.775
Current investment	22.045.200.000
Project receivables	4.746.627.256
Prepaid expenses	679.304.520
Other receivables	0
Office Equipment	328.575.000
Total	**46.912.368.551**
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
Account due to projects	935.988.621
Tax payable	0
Accrued expenses	12.033.700
Post-employment benefits liabilities	0
Unrestricted funds	48.546.138.578
Restricted funds - temporary	(2.581.792.348)
Total	**46.912.368.551**

Wetlands International Indonesia
Financial Information

Statement of Activities, as at 31 December 2023

Audited

Changes in Net Assets - Temporary Restricted Funds

Particulars	2023
Incoming Resources	
Grants from sponsors	3.640.175.344
Total	**3.640.175.344**
Resources Expended	
Salary / Professional fees/Employee benefits	2.400.917.722
Civil Works	110.400.000
Training, meetings and Workshops	346.810.201
Sub contract expenses	694.103.216
Transportation and traveling	669.737.606
Publications, off supplies and awareness materials	373.476.710
Miscellaneous expenses	81.497.280
	759.475.689
Total	**5.436.418.414**
Total Changes in Net Assets – Temporary Restricted Funds	**(1.796.243.070)**
Reclassification from Net Assets – Temporary Restricted Fund to Net Assets - Unrestricted Funds	(5.088.197.062)
Net Assets – Temporary Restricted Funds at Beginning of Year	4.302.647.784
NET ASSETS – TEMPORARY RESTRICTED FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	**(2.581.792.348)**

Changes in Net Assets - Unrestricted Funds

Particulars	2023
Incoming Resources	
Other income resources	1.555.314.907
Total	**1.555.314.907**
Resources Expended	
Salaries and Benefits in kind	2.929.713.842
Employee benefits	325.200.096
Professional fees (auditor, actuaria)	74.636.400
Office Rental	150.000.000
Office supplies and materials	263.438.803
Training and workshop,reporting	104.390.410
Service and maintenance	15.361.984
Entertainment and donations	0
Communication	54.205.904
Transportation and travel	73.201.433
Depreciation	8.425.000
Bank charges	53.136.366
Miscellaneous expenses	37.413.493
Total	**4.089.123.731**
Total Changes in Net Assets - Unrestricted Funds	**(2.533.808.824)**
Currency Exchange Gain	(345.936.662)
Increase in Unrestricted Funds Net Assets for The Y	(2.879.745.486)
Reclassification from Net Assets – Temporary Restricted Funds to Net Assets – Unrestricted Funds	5.088.197.062
Net Assets – Unrestricted Funds at Beginning of Year	46.337.687.002
NET ASSETS - UNRESTRICTED FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	**48.546.138.578**

Published by Wetlands International Indonesia/
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Photos:
Aji Nuralam Dwisutono: *2-3, 28, 31, 32*
Apri Sutanto Astra: *67*
Dody Permadi: *44*
Karyoso: *27*
Ragil Satriyo Gumilang: *34*
Salira Vidyan: *67*
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WII Photos – *22, 25, 26, 33, 45, 61, 64, 65, 68, 69, 70, 75, 81, 84* Yus Rusila Noor – Front & Back *Cover, 6, 11, 12, 14, 23, 37, 39, 41 (bottom), 46, 47 (top), 48, 51, 54, 55, 56, 77, 79, 80*

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