



Merang REDD Pilot Project (MRPP)

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MRPP November Progress

It has been busy last couple weeks for MRPP team as many activities had been implemented. MRPP had brought some results last couple weeks with successful illegal logging workshop, carbon measuring field work started, MRPP made a closer relationship with MUBA parliament and had an audience with Provincial Bappeda for sharing information and communication on the project where as the result of the meeting there will be further cooperation with provincial government of mitigating global warming and carbon project.

Successful Illegal Logging Workshop

MRPP had successfully held illegal logging workshop on 2 November 2009 in Sekayu with National Speaker attending and received praised from the participant and published in the national media i.e Kompas.

There were 70 participants from all stakeholders of the project such from Ministry of Forestry, Provincial Forestry Agency, District Forestry Agency, Local Parliament, NGOs, Forestry Company, Community Representatives, Media, Police, Military Representative, District Attorney Agency.

Majority of the participants stayed on the 3 days workshop, with the second day as a field trip attempting to see first hand illegal logging activities.

Some of the results are being followed up now by MRPP team for saving the last remaining natural Peat Swamp Forest in South Sumatera or even the last remaining habitat of Tigers in South Sumatera. There is no more argument not to stop illegal logging in the forest.

Media Coverage

The workshop had been covered by National Newspaper Kompas. In one of the article, the headline was DPRD is ready to help to fight illegal logging. In the konservasi section of the newspaper, the article highlighted the destruction of the last remaining natural peat swamp forest. Another headline read "Lulu saves Merang Forest". This article informed the reader the search done Ibu.Lulu from UMU Palembang financed and directed by MRPP had exposed the process of the destruction of Merang forest by the rampaging illegal logging.

Governors' support

Another highlight for this month is that Gubernur Alex Noerdin supported MRPP project as he was speaking in Asean Green Governors Roundtable in Singapore as reported by Palembang Post and Sriwijaya Post 13 November 2009.

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Gubernur Sumsel Alex Noerdin saat menghadiri Asian Green Governors Roundtable di Singapura.

The support came to fruition as the result of collaboration between MRPP, Provincial Forestry Agency and Provincial Planning Body, Bappeda. At Bappeda's request, MRPP team visited Bappeda and provide all information to Bappeda on MRPP project. The results of the meeting was relayed to the Governor by Bappeda. All the data, information and soft copies of MRPP presentation was utilised by Governors' team in Singapore.

Next Activities

On the next MRPP newsletter, there will be a lot reports on further progress as most the team on the field and doing activities. Carbon Measurement survey team is working hard in the process at the moment. Comdev is implementing its activities. Rehabilitation team is on the ground getting seedlings of endemic trees in the forest for its tree nursery and Carbon Program Management is busy forming a district forum or body of multistakeholder following up the results of the illegal logging workshop. While ICVKM is doing the feasibility of MRPP Radio Komunitas.

Supported by:



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