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Merang REDD Pilot Project

REDD is an abbreviation from Reducing Emission from Deforestation and Degradation. REDD started from the 2007 Bali conference of parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on climate Change. The conference called for the establishment of a mechanism for compensating the reduction in emissions from tropical deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries. It was also decided that a series of pilot projects/demonstration activities should provide the experience necessary to successfully implement such a mechanism.

Why in Merang?

In South Sumatera, the Merang Peat Swamp Forest area (MPSF) is a promising location for such a pilot project due to the still relatively intact forest cover and the large below ground carbon storage in the peat, as well as the suitable location with connections to the protected areas of Sembilang National Park in South Sumatera and Berbak National Park in Jambi.

The project area is one of the most biodiverse in the world and in the area where illegal logging is rampant. One estimate suggests within 2-5 years (without MRPP project), most of the natural forest will be illegally logged and disappeared.

The project, encompassing 24,000 hectares, is designed to address the number one cause of deforestation in Indonesia—illegal logging. It will also combat agricultural encroachment.

The project will benefit biodiversity, improve watershed quality and betterment for the surrounding villagers.

Based on proposal for the Merang REDD Pilot Project (MRPP), prepared based on support studies financed by EU-SSFFMP 2008 as references GTZ in cooperation with District and Provincial Forestry agency and Ministry of Forestry prepared a project proposal and the German Federal Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) accepted the proposal and committed to finance the MRPP project as a grant scheme up to 1,445,250 Euro, for the period of 2008-2011. The executing agency is the Ministry of Forestry Indonesia and assigned implementing agencies to conduct the project is the District Forestry agency Musi Banyuasin and Province agency South Sumatera in cooperation with the Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH Indonesia.

Partnership of:



Supported By:
Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety

Important Date

1-6 October 2009

Training on community nursery with Forest Research Agency (Litbang) and Forest Seed Agency (BPTH) at Merang and Kepayang

7 - 10 October 2009

Training on carbon inventory method for inventory crews at Merang

2nd-3rd week of October 2009

Workshop on illegal logging and fire management at Sekayu

Dear all,

With our pleasure to inform you all that the project have 2 girls during the same period.

1. the 2nd daughter of Jenny Anastasia, Secretary (birthday date : 25.09.09)

2. the 3rd daughter of Solichin, Forest & Carbon Sp (birthday date: 02.10.09)

We do hope all the babies and mothers are fine



Project area recommended by the Regent of Musi Banyuasin District is covering an area of 24,000 Ha, at the Peat Swamp Production Forests of Merang Kephayang, administratively located at the Bayung Lencir Sub District, Musi Banyuasin (MUBA) District.



Pic 1. Assesment micro finance in Mangsang



Pic. 3. Cleaned front yard of KMPH (community forest ranger) Post of Tembesu (Bina Desa),

First project activities started in October 2008. it was an advantage that SSFFMP facilitated a smooth handing over and new start of the Merang Project . Long set up times and adaptation reduced substantially. Surrounding villages in the project area already received alternative livelihood training so that they can turn away from illegal logging. Farmers are being taught new techniques to increase crop yield to limit the encroachment.



Pic 3. Dr. Karl (Backstoper) & Mr. Joko in the Bina Desa Post (taken Sept 2009)