

WHITE PAPER

Small Grants Programme by the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (BMZ-No. 2011 66545)

Managing Protected Areas and Sustainable Livelihood through Small Grants Programme (SGP) in Gunung Leuser National Park (Area 3) and Way Kambas National Park, Indonesia

I. Introduction

The ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) has received assistance of German Financial Cooperation to support, through a Small Grants Programme (SGP), the efforts of the ASEAN Heritage Parks (AHPs) to protect the biological diversity and improve livelihoods in and around (adjacent areas) their core zone. Indonesia and Myanmar were selected as the initial countries to pilot the SGP, followed by Viet Nam for the second phase.

In order to have a visible impact and with regard to efficiency considerations, the SGP's initial phase focuses on selected AHPs in the aforementioned countries. ACB as prime recipient of the German monies is the SGP's Executing Agency. For Indonesia, the Directorate of Biodiversity Conservation or *Direktorat Konservasi dan Keanekaragaman Hayati* (KKH) of Indonesia's Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MoEF) or *Kementerian Lingkungan Hidup dan Kehutanan* Republik Indonesia (KLHK) has the role as Implementing Agency.

Out of the seven (7) AHPs in Indonesia, Gunung Leuser National Park (GLNP) in Aceh and North Sumatra Province, and Way Kambas National Park (WKNP) in Lampung Province, were selected as two pilot sites of SGP implementation. The two (2) parks were selected due to their significant importance in terms of biodiversity and its contribution to the global environment. The parks also highlight the importance of conserving flagship species, such as, among others: Orangutan, Rhino, Sumatran Elephant, and Tiger for GLNP; while Bear, Rhino, Tapir, Sumatran Elephant, and Tiger are found in WKNP.

The SGP is intended for funding projects which contribute to the achievement of the following objectives:

- a. To improve biodiversity protection in line with the interests of the local population directly dependent on selected AHPs and adjacent areas;
- b. To improve the livelihood of local communities directly dependent on selected AHPs or adjacent areas

In the framework of the SGP, development of the Collaborative Management Plans (CMPs) for the AHPs Gunung Leuser National Park (GLNP) and Way Kambas National Park (WKNP) had been conducted in 2018. CMPs are a guiding document that was developed to supplement the existing management plans in both national parks. The CMPs were developed through the collaborative efforts with the local communities. Having said that, the CMPs are more bottom up in nature, while the official management plans are generally top down. With this condition, CMPs were structured to combine both conservation and livelihood and the involvement of communities in the parks in developing it. Thus, the interventions of SGP are based on the involvement of all relevant stakeholders from the beginning. The CMPs will provide the basis for calls and grants for interventions of SGP, and provide the baseline data for the programme's outcome and impact.

In addition to the CMPs development, a baseline gaps study was conducted in both national parks from October 2020 up to April 2021. The study intended to fill the baseline gaps on outcome and impact indicators of biodiversity and livelihood programmes that are either underway or projected to be implemented in villages that are adjacent to GLNP and WKNP. The results of the consultancy include: (a) the baseline gaps data and information on the socio-economic and biodiversity; and (b) recommended indicators that can be used as possible outcome and impact monitoring and evaluation of SGP implementation in Indonesia.

Aside from the CMPs and baseline gaps study, the SGP in Indonesia was also guided by the two Short-term International Experts (STEs) from GITEC in developing priorities of programme intervention at an output level. These two experts supported the identification of priorities especially in sustainable livelihood and ecotourism. Both experts were deployed in 2020.

This paper intends to provide a guideline for the Cycle 3 Call for Proposals (CfPs) of the SGP in Indonesia. The primary documents used as references to develop this paper were: (a) Livelihood Mission Report by Heino Hertel of GITEC; (b) Ecotourism Mission Report by Eike Otto of GITEC; and (c) Baseline Gaps Study Report by the Cakra Foundation. In addition to these three main documents, the paper also referred to: (d) CMPs, developed in 2018; and (e) notes and power point presentations of SGP monitoring and evaluation on Cycle 1 that was conducted in March 2021 by KKH, national parks, and the grantees of Cycle 1. This paper is included as an annex to the Terms of Reference (ToR) of the CfPs SGP Indonesia Cycle 3.

II. Vulnerability Context

Based on the several references mentioned above, the obstacles to biodiversity conservation and protection of both AHPs include, among others, activities of buffer communities in AHPs such as hunting, collecting firewood, collecting water, collecting honey; forest and land fires; gathering medicinal plants; and illegal logging. Especially for GLNP, settlements of buffer village population inside the park remains a problem that poses the danger of current and future biodiversity conservation and protection efforts. Data also identified problems that buffer village communities face in sustaining livelihoods, which included persistent human-wildlife conflict i.e. encroachment of elephants; limited land for farming activities; and limited institutional and human resource capacity to develop ecotourism potential. The tables below provide more detailed vulnerabilities context of both national parks based on the references.

Table 1. Vulnerabilities of Gunung Leuser National Park

Vulnerability	Cause	Impact
Horizontal conflict	Changes in the landscape of the buffer villages around the GLNP area	Forest encroachment and degradation
Human-animal conflict in Mekar Makmur Village	Conflict between wild elephants and communities that occurs almost every at least once a month at Mekar Makmur Village due to elephants' area mobilization from north part to south part of GLNP	When passing through the village area, the elephants destroyed the community's agricultural crops, both palm oil and secondary crops
Land tenure conflict in Mekar Jaya Makmur Village	The communities reside in the area of Mekar Jaya Makmur was the ex-Acehnese refugees. The status of land entitlements is not clear yet, the expulsion from the park officials occurs almost every year. Conservation partnerships programme is encouraged in this area.	Forest encroachment and degradation
Natural resource related conflicts	Illegal land clearing on the forested areas by communities from PIR-ADB Village. The perpetrators have experienced violent evictions.	Forest encroachment and degradation
Follow up conflict between cultivators who were members	Fighting over land claims that have been cooperated with the GLNP office. Some cultivators who have not joined the	Horizontal conflict increased

of conservation partnership and cultivators who had not joined conservation partnership	KTHK claim that the land that has been recognized by the GLNP Center through a conservation partnership scheme is their land.	
Resource conflict	<p>Conflict occurs in Tangkahan ecotourism area due to a proposal for a social forestry scheme for community forestry or <i>Hutan Kemasyarakatan</i> (HKM) in the area. Most of the people who own land in their Limited Production Forest or <i>Hutan Produksi Terbatas</i> (HPT) area are not aware of the proposed social forestry scheme.</p> <p>The proposed HKM scheme was proposed by several people who did not own land in the area. After the land owners were aware of the proposal that had reached the Ministry, they proposed a reconsideration of the proposed HKM in the area.</p>	Land tenure conflict increased
Conflict in the tourism management, and human-animal (tiger) conflict in Tangkahan area	The formation of the Tangkahan Tourism Institute (LPT) which did not involve all its members to get various program assistance from the GLNP Center and other parties.	<p>Horizontal conflict increased.</p> <p>8 cows attacked by the tigers.</p>
Human-animal (Orangutan) conflict in Bukit Lawang area	Orangutan attack to farming area, especially during durian season.	Durian tree owners often do not get the results from their crops
Flooding in Mekar Makmur Village	Every rainy season, access to Mekar Makmur village is cut off due to flooding. The cause of flooding is because several catchment and water catchment areas destroyed due to land converting from forested areas into agricultural areas.	The flood closed the roads and several bridges in the village. It causes disruption in the distribution process of agricultural products.

Table 2. Vulnerabilities of Way Kambas National Park

Vulnerability	Cause	Impact
Human-animal conflict (wild elephants)	Attacks of wild elephants on the farming areas in Labuhan Ratu VI, VII and IX. These three villages are the gates to the PLG tourism.	The people who own land around the WKNP boundary are accustomed to the attacks of elephants on their farms.
	Attacks of wild elephants on the rice fields in Sukarahayu Village. These attacks come when the rice season begins to flower until the harvest season.	Rice production declined.
	The conflict in Tegal Yoso Village with elephant happens since the 1980s. There are at least five (5) groups of wild elephants, consisting of 8 to 20 each that roaming around in agricultural gardens and public facilities belonging to the community. The attack by the hordes of wild elephants usually occurs when the plants are in bloom until just before the harvest arrives.	The community loss is ranging from one (1) to two (2) million per 0.25 ha (especially for maize and rice crops).
The large number of estuarine crocodiles along the river that divides the village from the WKNP area	The crocodiles are troubling for the general public and fishermen who are looking for fish in the river.	Fish production declined.
Illegal hunting and burning the forest	Livestock owners in Rantau Jaya Udik II who collect grass in the forest are indicated to have also carried out illegal activities such as hunting animals and burning the land to get young grass.	Forest encroachment and forest fires

III. SGP Programme Interventions in GLNP and WKNP: SGP Indonesia Cycle 1 and 2

The programme is currently in its implementation phase, with Cycle 1 grant projects nearing closure, and Cycle 2 grants currently on going. The Cycle 1 is focused on the Biodiversity Conservation, while Cycle 2 just started in March 2021 with the focus on Livelihood Improvement.

For Cycle 1, seven (7) grants were awarded to local organisations in both parks.

In Gunung Leuser, with a total grant amount of **EUR 309,150** awarded, the grantees include:

- (i) Yayasan Orangutan Sumatera Lestari - YOSL with the project: Collaborative Action to Protect and Improve Biodiversity Conservation in Gunung Leuser National Park Area III
- (ii) Wahana Lingkungan Hidup Indonesia Sumatera - WALHI SUMUT with the project: Encouraging Strengthening and Protection of the Gunung Leuser National Park Ecosystem with Resolving Tenure Conflicts through the Conservation Partnership Programme
- (iii) Yayasan Pesona Tropis Alam Indonesia - PETAI with the project: Strengthening Conservation of the Gunung Leuser National Park (GLNP) through Biodiversity Management in Area 3, Stabat
- (iv) Yayasan Ekosistem Lestari Indonesia – YEL with the project: Community Awareness Improvement on Taman Nasional Gunung Leuser (GLNP) Biodiversity Conservation
- (v) Veterinary Society for Sumatran Wildlife Conservation – Vesswic with the project: Strengthening Welfare and Management of Captive Sumatran Elephant, to Develop Strategy for Captive Elephant Conservation in Tangkahan

In Way Kambas, with a total grant amount of **EUR 106,426** awarded, the grantees include:

- (i) Pusat Informasi Lingkungan Indonesia – PILI Green Network with the project: Strengthening the Resort Based Management and Partnership with The Buffer Village for The Mitigation of Wildlife Hunting and Forest Fire in Way Kambas National Park
- (ii) Aliansi Lestari Rimba Terpadu - ALeRT with the project: Survey and Monitoring of Sumatran Rhino Population using Camera Traps and Individual Identification Technology

Altogether, the total investment for Cycle 1 is **EUR 415,576**.

For Cycle 2, ten grants have been awarded to six (6) organisations in GLNP and four (4) organisations in WKNP. In GLNP, with a total grant amount of **EUR 378,678.81** awarded, the grantees include:

- (i) Perkumpulan Konsorsium Pendukung Sistem Hutan Kerakyatan (KpSHK), with the project: Community Economic Empowerment of Coffee Plantation from Forest Area
- (ii) Yayasan Orang Utan Sumatera Lestari (YOSL), with the project: Promoting Agribusiness and Small & Medium Enterprise (SME) Development as Alternative Livelihood of Communities Around Gunung Leuser National Park Area III
- (iii) Yayasan Sumatera Hijau Lestari (YSHL), with the project: Increasing the Capacity of Village Communities to Increase Revenue and Strengthen Conservation Initiatives of the GLNP buffer zone Utilization
- (iv) Yayasan Pesona Tropis Alam Indonesia (PETAI), with the project: Improve Community Livelihoods and Restore the Ecosystem of Gunung Leuser National Park based on Participatory
- (v) Yayasan Penguatan Rakyat Pedesaan (PARAS), with the project: Strengthening Women's Participation in the Preservation of Gunung Leuseur National Park Through Sustainable Livelihood Development
- (vi) Yayasan Wahana Lingkungan Hidup Indonesia (WALHI), with the project: Forest-based Community Empowerment to Preserve the Landscape of Gunung Leuser National Park and Build Sustainable Livelihoods

In WKNP, with a total grant amount of **EUR 261,430.20**, the grantees include:

- (i) Yayasan Pendidikan Konservasi dan Lingkungan Hidup Indonesia (YAPEKA), with the project: Livelihood system improvement in communities around Way Kambas National Park and simultaneously reducing threats to biodiversity and ecosystem
- (ii) Lembaga Penelitian dan Pengembangan Sumber Daya dan Lingkungan Hidup (LPPSH), with the project: Improving the Livelihoods of Local Communities through the Development of Information Systems and Sustainable Ecotourism Development in Way Kambas National Park (WKNP)
- (iii) Yayasan Kehutanan Masyarakat Indonesia (YKMI), with the project: Strengthening of Community Institutional Capacity of Rantau Jaya Makmur & Labuan Ratu IX Villages to Support Conservation of WNP & Improving Community Livelihoods
- (iv) Yayasan Konservasi Way Seputih (YKWS), with the project: Collaborative Management of the Buffer Zone of the Northern Way Kambas National Park

The total grants for Cycle 2 is **EUR 640,109.01**.

IV. Proposed Programme Interventions for Cycle 3 in GLNP and WKNP

The Cycle 3 of SGP Indonesia will be started in mid-2021. Following the Terms of Reference (ToR), the interventions for Cycle 3 should provide practical solutions that focus EITHER on biodiversity conservation (including strengthened co-management) OR livelihood improvement including ecotourism to answer the challenges and vulnerabilities faced by the two national parks as mentioned above. Based on the recommendations from the two (2) STEs, several programme interventions are referred (the full reports of two STEs are provided in the Annexes of the ToR CfPs):

Overall matrix that can be used as reference for programme interventions in livelihood improvement for GLNP and WKNP are provided below:

GLNP	WKNP
Interventions categorized as Highest Priority (Score 5)	
Community forestry/ agroforestry enhancement by undertaking community based-NFTPs development	Facilitating on community involvement in organic farming activities.
Community-based sustainable agriculture and livestock raising	Developing NTFPs activities such as animal breeding, agarwood (gaharu), orchid and bee keeping
Establishment of farmers and other stakeholders to tourism industry	
Interventions categorized as High Priority (Score 4)	
Community-based tree planting and natural feeds plants for wildlife in designated locations	Legal access of cooperation (MoU) and empowerment of business unit group on NTFP developers such as agarwood nursery, orchids and honey
Training on local products making, create more diversify processing & post-production	Assistance and creation of nursery gardens for the provision of ecosystem restoration, elephants and rhinos' feeds, commercial community logging on community lands
Establishment of networking on local products makers to market	Ecotourism
Ecotourism	

Overall matrix that can be used as reference for programme interventions in ecotourism for GLNP and WKNP are provided below:

Short-term	Medium-term	Long-term
Increased environmental awareness among villages and knowledge of the negative and very long-term and dangerous effects of waste in nature lead to cleaner, more attractive and healthier villages.	Training hospitality services for homestay owners	Imparting knowledge and establishing important cooperation and marketing contacts in source markets through study trip tourism for decision makers and stakeholders WKNP and GLNP
Capacity building on the English language improvement for the tourist providers	Training ecotourism tour guiding (tour guides)	Development of tourism masterplan WKNP and GLNP
Trainings village upgrading to improve their villages by own resources and capacities, including local traditions and knowledge	Tourist products development and diversification	Tourist destination management

References

Cakra Foundation, June 2021, “Filling the Baseline Gaps for Socio-economic and Livelihood in Gunung Leuser National Park (Area 3) and Way Kambas National Park”, ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity

Completion report on short-term assignment, Collaborative Community-Based Livelihood Support and Development Specialist – Livelihood’s report (mission from 3-16 March 2020) and ecotourism report (Mission from 5 July to 31 July 2020), ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity

Konsorsium YOSL-OIC-PILI, July 2018, “Collaborative Management Plan Gunung Leuser National Park Area III and Way Kambas National Park Collaborative Management Plan Lampung Province, 2018-2023”, ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity