EQUATOR SINITIATIVE





Equator Initiative Case Studies

Local sustainable development solutions for people, nature, and resilient communities

UNDP EQUATOR INITIATIVE CASE STUDY SERIES

Local and indigenous communities across the world are advancing innovative sustainable development solutions that work for people and for nature. Few publications or case studies tell the full story of how such initiatives evolve, the breadth of their impacts, or how they change over time. Fewer still have undertaken to tell these stories with community practitioners themselves guiding the narrative. The Equator Initiative aims to fill that gap.

The Equator Initiative, supported by generous funding from the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), awarded the Equator Prize 2017 to 15 outstanding local community and indigenous peoples initiatives from 12 countries. The winners were recognized for their significant work to advance nature-based solutions for sustainable development in

marine, forest, grassland, dryland and wetland ecosystems. Selected from 806 nominations from across 120 countries, the winners were celebrated at a gala event in New York, coinciding with Global Goals Week and the 72nd Session of the UN General Assembly. Special emphasis was placed on scalable, nature-based solutions to address biodiversity conservation, climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, gender equality, land rights, and food and water security to reduce poverty, protect nature, and strengthen resilience.

The following case study is one in a growing series that describes vetted and peer-reviewed best practices intended to inspire the policy dialogue needed to scale nature-based solutions essential to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.





PROJECT SUMMARY

Yayasan Planet Indonesia conserves vulnerable ecosystems through village-led partnerships in rural communities, addressing socio-economic inequalities that drive environmental degradation and biocultural loss. The organisation creates shared solutions with local communities to catalyse conservation efforts by improving human well-being at the village level. The model is based on the establishment of Conservation Cooperatives (CCs), community-led organisations that engage in the management of protected areas and at-risk ecosystems. CCs are platforms for the organisation to administer services to communities in three sectors: business, education, and health. The CCs promote conservation activities at the community level to protect forests and wildlife, while also serving as a mechanism to address the root causes of rural poverty. CCs have been set up in more than 50 villages in West Kalimantan, comprising over 3,000 households. More than two-thirds of beneficiaries are women and/or indigenous peoples. To date, 40,000 hectares of forest have been protected and over 35,000 seedlings planted.



The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations or UNDP concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

KFY FACTS

Equator Prize Winner

2017

Founded

2012

Location

West Kalimantan, Borneo Island, Indonesia

Beneficiaries

3,084 households. Currently, over 60% of beneficiaries are women and more than 80% are indigenous

Areas of focus

Cultural identity, sustainable resource management, community-based businesses, climate resilience

Sustainable Development Goals Addressed

























EOUATOR PRIZE 2017 WINNER FILM





With over 250 million citizens, Indonesia is the fourth most populous country in the world. Its growing population increases pressures on natural resources, while high levels of rural poverty and inequality persist, with little to no recognition of indigenous land rights and forest management by state actors. At the same time, the country's tropical forests are some of the most biodiverse ecosystems on the planet, hosting the highest number of mammal species and the third highest number of avian species.

Yayasan Planet Indonesia operates in West Kalimantan, in an area adjacent to the Gunung Niut Volcano (1,709 m), located near Sarawak on the border between Indonesia and Malaysia, and the Gunung Niut Penrissen Nature Reserve. Covering 180,000 hectares, this protected area encompasses the 140,000-hectare Gunung Niut-Poteng Important Bird Area (IBA), designated by BirdLife International in recognition of its relevance for several bird species. West Kalimantan is home to numerous endangered species – such as the Helmeted Hornbill (*Rhinoplax vigil*), the Straw-headed Bulbul (*Pycnonotus zeylanicus*), the White-rumped Shama (*Kittacincla malabarica*), the Greater Green Leafbird (*Chloropsis sonnerati*), the Borneo

Orangutan (*Pongo pygmaeus*), and the Bornean Gibbon (*Hylobates muelleri*), as well as rainforests and mangrove forests that serve as carbon sinks and are essential in addressing climate change.

Indonesia's protected areas (PAs) are extensive in their coverage. However, many of these areas represent once community-owned lands designated in the 1980s which were turned into state-run protected areas. This has caused a long history of conflict, poor land-use planning, extensive destruction of biologically diverse PAs, and many negative impacts on rural communities inhabiting these areas. Local communities living within the boundaries of remote PAs and their buffer zones are challenged by the limited access to many basic services.

Rural communities in the area, many of whom are Dayak (indigenous) people, face poverty and lack of economic opportunity. To provide for their families, many villagers take up economic activities harmful to the environment. These activities include illegal logging, wildlife trafficking, and the sale of land to palm oil companies with unsustainable operations.

Origin and structure

Yayasan Planet Indonesia's model was first piloted by Novia Sagita, a local woman from Arang Limbung village, Kubu Raya District. She used a communal business approach to help indigenous women out of poverty by revitalizing traditional art work and textiles while reforesting degraded lands. What started as a communal business group of 25 women has grown to over 1,500 producers. They have opened savings and loans programmes to increase health care and education. The group is now a fully independent co-operative and has built their own museum in the Sintang District, with funding from the European Union. The museum houses exhibits on the Dayak (indigenous), Chinese, and Melayu cultures. Its objective is to preserve local cultures and to provide an educational experience for the younger generations of the local community.

Four partners cofounded Yayasan Planet Indonesia in 2012 to create an organisation that could both expand and transition this model to new areas. The idea is to establish community-based business groups to provide community services and to drive conservation measures. If community members want to join a business group to receive services, they must agree to the rules and stipulations of their community's conservation co-operative. The terms of the co-operative vary depending on the location. Examples include communities creating temporary marine reserves, not logging in neighbouring protected areas, nor extracting and consuming critically endangered species such as the Borneo orangutan or the Helmeted hornbill. Both men and women are involved in these initiatives. For instance, ecosystem patrols are conducted by men, while self-reliance and healthcare activities are generally carried out by women.

Acknowledging the need for a system approach to maintain and restore the integrity and diversity of nature through targeting the root causes of biodiversity loss at the community level, Yayasan Planet Indonesia's main areas of work are the following:

- **Conservation of at-risk ecosystems and species through village-led partnerships:** The organisation addresses socio-economic inequality in rural communities that drive environmental degradation and biocultural loss. It creates shared solutions with local communities to holistically catalyse conservation efforts through improving human well-being at the village level.
- **Establishment of Conservation Co-operatives as a mechanism for safeguarding biodiversity and improvinghumanwell-being:** The organisation creates Conservation Co-operatives (CCs) community-led organisations that engage in the management of protected areas and vulnerable ecosystems. CCs are platforms for the organisation to provide services to communities in three sectors: business, education, and health. The CCs take conservation action at the community level to protect forests and wildlife while serving as a mechanism to address the root causes of rural social inequalities.
- Collaboration with communities and partners for targeted service delivery: The organisation works with several private and public partners to ensure the right services reach the right communities. The model provides a community-led mechanism for conservation through opportunities for better livelihoods, and access to healthcare and education – thus addressing the root causes of biodiversity loss.

Yayasan Planet Indonesia is 100 percent staffed by Indonesian citizens. More than 50 percent of staff members are from Dayak (indigenous) peoples' communities. Besides a few interns and volunteers every year, the organisation is committed to recruiting staff from Indonesia.

The organisation is governed by two principal registered bylaws, one operating in Indonesia with a focus on ground operations, and one based in the United States, focused on fundraising and outreach. Each has a Board of Directors and they work together in the decision-making process through a grant agreement and a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the two entities.

Yayasan Planet Indonesia – USA focuses on four major programs:

- Fundraising and investing in Yayasan Planet Indonesia.
- Professional development, for example, through a scholarship program for staff.
- Evidence building, by helping Yayasan Planet Indonesia with their monitoring and evaluation efforts and developing case studies, among other activities.
- International communications, by telling the story to global audiences.

In 2018, Yayasan Planet Indonesia compiled data through a Community Change Survey (CCS). This survey targeted over 400 households enrolled in the organisation's programmes. An additional 270 households in adjacent villages not enrolled in its programmes were surveyed as control group. Each survey was extensive, covering household economics, health, education, land/agriculture, environment, and satisfaction. Over 250 hours were spent by the team interviewing households in project sites throughout 2017 and 2018. The same survey will be repeated in 2020 to track change within the same groups over time. Some of the 2018 survey's results are highlighted in the Local Responses section.





Deforestation, land-use change, and carbon emissions

Between 2001 and 2016, 23.1 million hectares of forest – roughly the size of the United Kingdom - were lost in Indonesia. The main causes have been human interventions such as agricultural expansion, land-use change, logging, and fires.

Records show that between 1990 and 2014, the country contributed 33.6 ktCO $_2$ e of emissions. The majority of tree cover loss in Indonesia from 2013 to 2016 occurred within natural forests. The total loss within natural forests was equivalent to 5.3Mt of CO $_2$ emissions released. This biodiversity loss can be linked to multiple drivers at the local national and international levels.

Wildlife trafficking

Deforestationaswellashunting,trapping,andillegalwildlife trade are the major drivers of species loss. Illegal wildlife trade costs the country IDR \$13 trillion (approximately USD \$920,984,547) per year, and contributes significantly to the spread of diseases between humans and animals. This threatens many of Indonesia's iconic species with extinction. In 2016 alone, Yayasan Planet Indonesia confiscated 3,000 specimen of endangered species, such

as Bornean Orangutans, Bornean Gibbons, Malaysian Sunbears, Javan Hawk Eagles, Black winged Mynahs, White-Rumped Shama, and Greater Green Leafbirds, in collaboration with the Department of Natural Resources (BKSDA by its acronym in Indonesian), the Environmental Law Enforcement Agency (DINAS GAKKUM by its acronym in Indonesian), and the Indonesian Police.

Inequalities that affect the indigenous Dayak peoples

Indigenous communities have a long history of conflict ranging from land rights, cultural eradication, to socioeconomic suppression. Between the 1950s and 2000s, regulations stipulated that all citizens must adopt one of the five legal religions of Indonesia: Christianity, Catholocism, Islam, Hinduism, or Buddhism. To date, each citizen's religion is displayed on their national identification card. Indigenous cultures and many native Indonesian's religions are not recognised.

From a conservationist perspective, most protected areas in Indonesia represent customary forests and once indigenousowned lands. Despite the current administration's efforts to return 12 million hectares of land to indigenous peoples, most of the damage has already been done. A study conducted by the World Resources Institute found that, on average, it takes 30 days for an oil palm or mining company to obtain permits to develop land. In contrast, for the villages it takes on average between three and four years to apply for ownership of customary or community-owned forests.

In Kalimantan (Indonesian-Borneo), the indigenous Dayak represent over 500 different ethnic groups. Due to past conflict, government pressure, and inter-ethnic war with other groups, the Dayak generally inhabit the most interior and rural areas on the island.



Conservation co-operatives

Yayasan Planet Indonesia's key strategy is the creation of conservation co-operatives (CCs), which are community-based organisations that provide platforms for the organisation to administer services to communities in three sectors: business, education, and health. These CCs currently span over 50 villages in four different districts (Sintang, Kapuas Hulu, Bengkayang, and Landak), comprising more than 3,000 households.

The organisation's CC model utilizes a unique four-step approach to help communities achieve fair and equitable development through: (i) identifying new livelihoods and sources of income; (ii) transferring assets and providing production training to launch communal businesses; (iii) building community capital by creating savings and loans programmes; and (iv) providing mentoring and life skills coaching to advance the sustainability of development activities.

Staffmembers visit rural villages and conduct consultations with villagers to identify why they engage in economic activities detrimental to the environment. Yayasan Planet Indonesia then works with villagers to help create sustainable businesses that allow them to stop damaging activities and generate profit sustainably. Villagers choose the business that best suits their community and are involved every step of the way as the conservation co-operative is designed and operationalized. While the organisation provides initial assets to launch the business, the community members are the ones who drive the business and determine how shared profits are used.

Yayasan Planet Indonesia helps make these business members economically resilient by building business management and life skills. For instance, at the request of villagers, the organisation launched literacy programmes to help co-operative members and their families build reading and writing skills. In exchange for these assets and mentorship, the community commits itself to responsible resource management and environmental stewardship.

The organisation's approach is noteworthy because instead of framing illegal loggers or wildlife traffickers as 'criminals' that should be punished, it recognizes the grinding poverty that drives people to take up environmentally harmful activities. In doing so, the organisation has changed the conversation and shown that conservation does not have to and should not be pitted against profit. Instead, it has helped define economic activities that support the environment and honour local traditions.

Central to Yayasan Planet Indonesia's conservation cooperatives is the promotion of savings through a Village Savings and Loans (VSL) programme with a revolving fund. Each village has a VSL as an economic safety net to allow communities to work together on development projects, or overcome hardships such as crop failure, drought, or fire. It is also the vehicle through which conservation rewards are distributed.

This money is earned by each member, who then returns a small amount of their profit (1-5%) to a central credit stock to be used to cover damage to the group, allow for improved market access for non-member villagers, and cover operational costs. For fully-developed groups, the fund can then be opened to provide limitless benefits. If a member has a sick child, it is possible to take out a loan to take the child to a hospital. If a member needs to purchase a new means of transportation or purchase school supplies, they can also take out a small loan. This system allows each co-operative to self-fund and self-sustain.

KEY IMPACTS

Conservation co-operatives



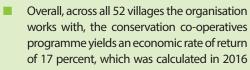






















- through its work with the Millennium Challenge Corporation in the United States.
- 53 percent of households report improved income within six months after joining a CC, with over half reporting between 15 and 30 percent of improvement (USD \$15-50).
- Collectively, VSL programs grew to over USD \$25,000.
- 150 households receive literacy services with a focus on women and youth.
- 100 households receive family planning and reproductive services.

Friendly forest initiative

The Friendly Forest Initiative focuses on creating Conservation Co-operatives that work with non-timber forest products to convert degraded lands into forests that benefit both humans and wildlife. They provide incentives for the rehabilitation of degraded lands and reduction of animal poaching in nearby protected forests.

The activities within each Conservation Co-operative vary. In one area, the CC is creating a larger buffer zone for an important protected forest where Yayasan Planet Indonesia discovered orangutans for the first time in 2016. In another district, communities are planting trees along rivers and wetlands to help stabilize erosion in the Danau Sentarum National Park ecosystem.

In the Sintang District, all 1,500 members are women who create textiles and weaving products. Trees are planted on remnant forests within oil palm plantations. The species planted are those used by local women for natural dyes in weaving. When women use natural dyes in their products, they can increase the price fivefold. Because of these plantings, the government will increase the protection status of this forest (40 hectares) to 'cultural forest', which will make it illegal for palm oil companies to cut it down.

In the Kapuas Hulu District, the organisation is working with over 400 women and using the model to stabilize wetland areas by planting over 30,000 sago palm trees. These trees can be used to produce a flour and materials that women use to make kerupuk ikan, fish crackers, a high-valued food in the districts.

KEY IMPACTS

Friendly forest initiative



The Weaving Cooperative has a VSL that now contains over USD 150,000.















Gunung Niut Project

As an extension of the Friendly Forest Initiative, the Gunung Niut Project has been working since 2016 with indigenous law, community-based forest patrol units, and wildlife ecology in the Gunung Niut Nature Reserve. This is an area of extreme poverty. Park boundaries created by the national government placed villages inside the reserve, some of them as far as 7 to 10 kilometres from the buffer zone. Within the reserve, communities are not allowed to expand agricultural practices or build roads, leading to difficulties in production and business.

Yayasan Planet Indonesia has been allowed by the national government to reforest lands that have been logged around these villages with high-value fruit and non-timber forest product trees. Thus, these forests will not only turn degraded lands back into forests but will also provide new sources of income for local business and improve food security.

The organisation is also targeting 1,200 households in the protected area to provide a new management system for bushmeat consumption. Using data from their biodiversity surveys, they aim to establish 'no-harvest zones' within the reserve. These areas act as breeding sites for deer, boar, and other animals that are the only source of protein for the local villages, since the indigenous people of Borneo traditionally don't raise livestock and obtain all their protein from bushmeat.

'No-harvest zones' vary from 500 hectares to over 2,000 hectares. They are defined based on indigenous knowledge and values to include forest areas that are spiritually and economically important to the Dayak people, who protect them through Customary Law Agreements.

KEY IMPACTS

Gunung Niut Project













- The Nature Reserve currently has two staff hired by the Indonesian Government to protect it. Yayasan Planet Indonesia has engaged 20 people through four forest patrol units that actively protect and manage over 35,000 hectares of land. They are run by the local Conservation Co-operatives. In 2019, three more units will be created, and their overall coverage will expand to more than 60,000 hectares.
- The 'no-harvest zones' stabilize wildlife populations and create a hunting season system which has improved local food security.
- In 2018 alone, the patrol teams removed 350 wildlife snares.
- In the first year of Yayasan Planet Indonesia's work, tree cover loss decreased by 45 percent.
- GLAD (Global Land Analysis & Discovery) alerts on tree cover loss decreased by 36 percent during the first year of the project and by 15 percent in 2018 from 2017.
- Early indications from patrol data show that some game species such as boar and deer, among others, are increasing in population size.
- The Protected Area Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool, used by the Indonesian Government, has seen a steady increase in scores obtained by Gunung Niut Nature Reserve since Yayasan Planet Indonesia began working in the area. In 2015, it had obtained 49 out of 100. This improved to 60 in 2016 and 71 in 2018, making it the highest-ranking nature reserve in West Kalimantan.

Integrated coastal management

To conserve the region's coastal and marine habitats in the Kubu Raya District, Yayasan Planet Indonesia is applying an integrated management approach, using fish ecology and community-services to drive climate change adaptation and mitigation. Area and Time Closures (ATCs) or Temporary Marine Reserves (TMRs) established by the Conservation Co-operatives are effective management strategies for communities that rely on marine ecosystems as a primary resource for sustenance. Under this strategy, small sections of coastal areas are temporarily closed, allowing for fish stocks to replenish before opening for harvest once again, thus ensuring food security while also protecting over 5,000 hectares of mangrove forest. Utilizing ecological principles and the fast-rate-of-return of fish populations, the organisation's temporary closure system helps communities recognize the value of preserving coastal habitats that are necessary to protect marine sources of protein.

The intended long-term outcome of TMRs is to raise awareness in communities about the value of protecting coastal mangrove forest and encourage them to develop a community-based system for harvesting marine resources. TMRs are positioned to be the first step to incentivise villagers to permanently close and protect areas (as Community-Based Marine Reserves, CBMRs) as they receive continued benefits from this integrated approach.

This management system is combined with a communal business group targeting over 200 fishermen, including those participating in the TMRs. Through this group, the organisation implements literacy training and family planning and is developing a savings and loans programme. Community members wishing to gain access to these services must agree to also follow the TMRs system. This innovative approach provides incentives and rewards for adopting new conservation strategies and resource management plans.

KEY IMPACTS

Integrated coastal management













- According to previous research in the above ground biomass (note this does not take into account below ground storage), mangroves in West Kalimantan store about 300 Megagrams of carbon per hectare (Mg/ha). For the 5,000 hectares of forests protected by Yayasan Planet Indonesia, this equals 1,500,000,000 kilograms of carbon per hectare (Kg/ha). This is approximately equal to the emissions of 316,850 passenger vehicles driven for one year.
- Using pre-and post-closure harvest data, on average, fishermen harvest rates improved between 70 and 100 percent from just a three-month closure, pointing to this model's ability to improve incomes and food security.
- Deforestation has halted in the coastal site, with less than 1 hectare of forest loss during the project's lifetime (2016-2018).
- 5,000 hectares are currently under TMRs, while 15,000 hectares are being targeted over next three years.
- The project initially started in 2016 with 200 households. By January 2019, this figure had increased to 700 households currently enrolled and it is expected to reach over 1,000 households by the end of 2019.

The Borneo Fellowship

To raise awareness among the community and offer educational opportunities, Yayasan Planet Indonesia runs the Borneo Fellowship programme. Each year, through a selection process, 100 fellows are trained through this programme and provided seed funding to pursue their own project ideas on climate change action or wildlife trade. Fellows are university students who undergo a four-day intensive training ('Camp') and then implement their own projects over a seven-month period. After their projects are finished, the fellows share their results at a meeting that serves as both their evaluation and a public event for the community.

The organisation not only promotes activism and solutions at the community level through this programme, but also provides individuals with insight into working in a not-for-profit and community-based organisation. They undergo the process of learning about an issue, designing a project, implementing it, and then evaluating the project based on a set of indicators. On a larger scale, therefore, this programme enables and empowers the next generation of individuals who will lead initiatives related to sustainable development and conservation.

KEY IMPACTS

The Borneo Fellowship



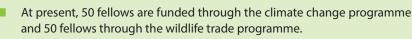
















- Three of Yayasan Planet Indonesia's current staff are previous fellows.
- The climate change programme increased participants' ability to describe the greenhouse gas effect and how it drives climate change by 81 percentage points (13 percent pre-Camp; 94 percent post-Camp). Other results include: a 43 percentage point increase in participants' ability to describe and differentiate between climate change mitigation and climate change adaptation (2 percent pre-Camp; 45 percent post-Camp); a 77 point increase in their ability to give real-life examples of mitigation strategies and adaptation strategies used by agencies and governments (17 percent pre-Camp; 94 percent post-Camp); 98 percent of students could give a specific example of a climate change mitigation or adaptation strategy in their local community (74 percent pre-Camp; 98 percent post-Camp); and 96 percent of students post-camp could accurately describe why reforestation and restoration are essential climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies (43 percent pre-Camp; 96 percent post-Camp).
- The wildlife trade fellowship programme improved the ability of participants to describe wildlife crime and its negative impacts to national security, socio-economic development, and ecosystem function, by 25 percentage points; participants' ability to describe the function of the Convention of Trade in Endangered Flora and Fauna (CITES) improved by 30 percent, as well as their ability to describe the IUCN Red List; participants' ability to describe key species impacted by illegal wildlife trade improved by 36 percentage points (55 percent pre-Camp and 91 percent post-Camp); Fellows' projects reached an additional 1,000 youth (defined as people younger than 21 years) through their educational program, and ran successful campaigns to decrease demand for Indonesia's songbirds, slow lorises, and civets, among other key species.



National policy impacts

Although Yayasan Planet Indonesia's work is community-based, it provides data and inputs to the local and national governments on their environmental work. For instance, the organisation has been working with the national government as well as international stakeholders such as the Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) to advise policy based on sound scientific knowledge. It has also advised provincial and regional level governments on correct zoning and management practices in protected areas.

Regarding wildlife protection, Yayasan Planet Indonesia has been one of the main implementing partners for the Critically Endangered Helmeted Hornbill Action Plan, a 10-year Management Plan implemented by the Ministry of the Environment to conserve this species and restore its habitats. Similarly, the organisation has supported the action plan and policy developments for the Bornean Orangutan and will assist with the Sunda Pangolin Action Plan in 2019. In addition, the organisation works on bird conservation efforts by leveraging wildlife and market data to support the 'uplisting' of several bird species through BirdLife International and IUCN, and to help the national government in the revision of the Indonesian list of protected species.

Contributions to Global Agenda

Yayasan Planet Indonesia's work contributes to the achievement of several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) included in the 2030 Agenda, such as no poverty (SDG 1), zero hunger (SDG 2), good health and well-being (SDG 3), quality education (SDG 4), gender equality (SDG

5), decent work and economic growth (SDG 8), reduced inequalities (SDG 10), responsible production and consumption (SDG 12), climate action (SDG 13), life below water (SDG 14), and life on land (SDG 15).





Replication

Yayasan Planet Indonesia's work began with listening to communities and responding to their needs. The CC approach was designed to be flexible and replicable based on a set of needs from a local community and a set of threats to biodiversity. Because of this flexibility, the model can be used in any location where rural poverty is driving poor management of protected areas or biodiversity loss.

The organisation has successfully replicated this model in both terrestrial and marine ecosystems. In 2019, Yayasan

Planet Indonesia is planning to begin working in a new site of over 229,000 hectares of virgin Bornean rainforest in the Gunung Naning National Forest.

The key to Yayasan Planet Indonesia's success is to make villagers in rural areas agents of change in their own communities. This is only possible by listening to the needs of the villagers, transferring business and life skills to become resilient, and trusting them to manage the conservation initiatives themselves.

Scalability

Over the next five years, Yayasan Planet Indonesia will conduct rigorous tests and evaluations to gain further evidence for the model, revise, and improve its approach. During this period, the organisation will assess different pathways to scale, such as adoption by the government,

technical support for partners in other areas of the world, or replication of the model in new areas by Yayasan Planet Indonesia. The organisation's leadership aims to scale as efficiently as possible and will choose a path of action accordingly.

Sustainability

A strength of Yayasan Planet Indonesia's model is its ability to make unconditional investments and asset transfers to communities. Therefore, the organisation does not place financial burden on communities by giving business loans or requesting returns on investments. For the first few years, its work was dependent on grants and donations. In two years, over USD \$500,000 were raised in donations and the organisation's staff grew from four to 31 people.

However, the organisation realises that it will need income streams in the future to offset operational costs. Although still in incipient stages, Yayasan Planet Indonesia is already seeking funds to create a sister for-profit organisation within Indonesia. This entity will act as a market for commodities produced through Conservation Cooperatives, purchasing goods directly to promote forest conservation.

This planned partnership differs in several ways from 'traditional' development efforts to conserve forests and biodiversity through reducing rural poverty. Notably, it will: (i) provide a business infrastructure to link rural CCs with more profitable markets; (ii) not rely on wildlife/conservation to support development objectives; and (iii) allow CCs to choose their crops and commodities, giving them flexibility to operate across culturally and diverse carbon-rich ecosystems (i.e. marine and terrestrial).

Additionally, the partnership will have several differences to a 'traditional' business approach. For example, it will (i) establish links with social services (i.e. family planning and literacy training); (ii) monitor and evaluate social and conservation outcomes; and (iii) not restrict its activities to areas with low transportation costs or high productivity.

FUTURE PLANS

- Add the Gunung Naning National Forest as a new project site in 2019.
- Create a for-profit partner to market commodities produced through Conservation Co-operatives.
- Finalise the pathway to scale.
- Site evaluation for replication in Eastern Indonesia.
- In 2019, build a songbird rescue and rehabilitation centre, the first of its kind in Indonesia.
- Build a new research station in Gunung Niut to provide further scientific knowledge on some of the world's rarest and most endangered species.

PARTNERS

- Arcus Foundation: provided support for the organisation's baseline biodiversity and social-economic survey in Gunung Niut Nature Reserve.
- **AIFIS:** provided funds to support research on the impacts of songbird trapping on wild populations.
- Asian Species Action Partnership (ASAP): provides technical support on Conservation Planning and capacity development for Yayasan Planet Indonesia related to ASAP species.
- Conservation, Food and Health Foundation: provided funds in 2015 to study the social, economic, and political dynamics of exotic bird trapping and its effects on species and habitat, and pilot a captive breeding programme in West Kalimantan, Indonesia.
- Darwin Initiative: provided funds to scale-up the Integrated Coastal Management project to cover a 15,000-hectare landscape of high-carbon mangrove forests, creating the first Locally Managed Marine Area (LMMA) in West Kalimantan.
- Franciscan Sisters of Mary: provided core support to allow the organisation to scale-up and expand, has been Yayasan Planet Indonesia's longest and most steady source of support since its creation in 2012.
- INSEAD: provided technical support and training on social entrepreneurship.
- Keepers of the Earth Fund: provided support for Yayasan Planet Indonesia's gender inclusion work with a focus on indigenous women.
- Millennium Challenge Account Indonesia: provided support to expand Yayasan Planet Indonesia's Friendly Forest Initiative.

- The David & Lucile Packard Foundation: provided support for community-based management to conserve the Gunung Niut Nature Reserve to benefit local indigenous communities and biodiversity.
- The Waterloo Foundation: provided funds to expand the organisation's work in Gunung Niut Nature Reserve, adding an additional 1,000 households to the programs and protecting an additional 40,000 hectares of virgin Bornean rainforest.
- **UN Women:** provided financial and technical support for Yayasan Planet Indonesia's gender inclusion work.
- USAID-Wildlife Crime Tech Challenge: provided technical support and funds to develop technological solutions to combat the illegal songbird trade in Indonesia.
- **US Department of State INL:** provided funds to expand Yayasan Planet Indonesia's work to combat illegal wildlife trade and improve law enforcement and judiciary branch capacity to prosecute wildlife crime.
- USFWS Great Ape Funds: provided support to reach new villages in the Gunung Niut Nature Reserve as well as assess the status of the Critically Endangered Bornean Orangutan within this landscape.
- Wildlife Reserves Singapore: provided funds to build one the first songbird rescue and rehabilitation centres in Indonesia and support the expansion of the organisation's work with the Critically Endangered Helmeted Hornbill.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Equator Initiative acknowledges with gratitude Yayasan Planet Indonesia, in particular Novia Sagita and Adam Miller for their insight and support. All photos courtesy of Yayasan Planet Indonesia. Maps courtesy of United Nations Geospatial Information Section and Wikipedia.

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Suggested Citation

United Nations Development Programme. 2019. *Yayasan Planet Indonesia*, *Indonesia*. Equator Initiative Case Study Series. New York, NY.



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The Equator Initiative brings together the United Nations, governments, civil society, businesses and grassroots organisations to recognize and advance local sustainable development solutions for people, nature, and resilient communities.

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