

SINTAS Indonesia

Save Indonesia's Nature & Threatened Species

Who We Are?

Established in 2018, SINTAS INDONESIA was founded by well experienced conservation practitioners who have been dedicating their lifetime professional careers in addressing various major conservation issues. SINTAS INDONESIA, means “survive” and stands for Save the Indonesia’s Nature and Threatened Species, has been established with the realization that the success of conserving the Indonesia natural resources in the long-run can only be achieved through a well-rounded leadership of the Indonesian practitioners. SINTAS INDONESIA believes that through its practical vision and missions, it can promote a sustainable development for both the people and the nature following the CBD’s principle of fair and equitable sharing of benefits.

Vision

Equitably managed natural resources for the people and nature.

Missions

1. To ensure national leadership in conserving the Indonesian natural resources.
2. To put in place sound science interventions to ensure effective natural resources management.
3. To establish effective stakeholders’ partnership to ensure comprehensive sustainable development.

Project Background

Conservation investments have focused on tiger populations in priority Tiger Conservation Landscapes. However, most tigers were killed in human-dominated landscapes where conservation investments are lacking. Wildlife snaring are the most direct, lethal, human activities causing 130 Sumatran tigers were killed or removed from their natural habitats due to conflict with local communities, 75 (58%) were in human-dominated landscapes. Surviving injured tigers often enter human settlements and crop lands causing even more severe and long-lasting conflict with local inhabitants.

The project focuses on three protected areas in West Sumatra province, including Malampah – Alahan Panjang Wildlife Reserve (WR) (0045’00” S / 100028’00” E), Maninjau Nature Reserve (0020’00” S / 100008’30” E), and Barisan WR (0009’00” S / 100015’00” E) (353.859 ha). These protected areas and adjacent forests may provide important corridors for tigers between Batang Gadis and Kerinci Seblat landscapes. Barisan WR, in particular, is located next to the North Kerinci Core Tiger Area of the Kerinci Seblat landscape (23 million hectares) and currently in dire need of conservation investment.

Recent detection/non-detection surveys estimate a minimum of 20 tigers surviving in three forest patches in the landscape. However, the severity of human-tiger conflict (HTC) is magnified by high human density (126 people/km²), habitat conversion to agricultural lands (34% of land), and high livestock density, including pigs, cattles, and buffaloes (1.790/km²). Most forest-edge communities are

subsistence farmers that are largely dependent on the harvests of their main cash crops and livestock. As a result, the index of tiger mortality in these landscapes was the highest (0.26 tigers/incident) across all Sumatra provinces, mostly due to snares. Therefore, effective and direct conservation efforts such as snare sweeping is an urgent need to stop the bleeding.

This initiative will be a massive civil society movement against wildlife snaring. We will mobilize government officers, civil societies, and local tribes to secure the Sumatran tigers from snares through extensive footwork snare sweeping. This movement primarily depends on the Minang, the local tribes of West Sumatra. Traditionally, they respect and believe that tigers have souls and help guard their villages from bad matters. By involving the Minang, we believe this movement will reach the maximum impact. We will also involve media community to publish the movement. It will, therefore, bring a 'ripple effect' to a wider audience, both local and national, about the severe impact of wildlife snares, not only for the tigers but also other key wildlife species.