

COMMUNITY ACTION GLOBAL IMPACT



**Building governance systems at the landscape
level
perspectives from INDONESIA**

Phase-6



Existing Landscape Governance Structure and Actors



Target Landscape: Semaui Island a small island of 265 km², 30 minutes by sea from Kupang City in Timor Island



Actor : Village governments, Sub-District and District Governments. NGOs (Pikul and potential strategic NGO partners such as Geng Motor Imut, CIS Timor) , community-based organisations (farmers group, traditional authorities, and cooperative).



Resources: Moonsoon forest (dry forest), sand beaches, mangrove areas, and underground waters, and built environment such as check-dams, and small dams, underground water communal lands, private lands.



Existing Landscape Governance Structure and Actors



Governance structures: Control over resources is mainly based on customary lands and private lands.



Sand beaches are controlled by village governments, while tidal area in some villages is distributed among seaweed farmers.

In the previous projects, there were agreements among community members to set up common forest (based on customary lands controlled by clans), and foster sustainable private land management such as soil conservation, reductions of chemical inputs, increasing organic substances and reducing pesticides.

Existing Landscape Governance Structure and Actors



Challenges: On land, pressure for agriculture is high, encroaching moonsoon forest, water exploitation (above ground and underground) is increasing for agriculture activities, which tends to create **water conflicts**. Inequity of water access among farmers whose farm-lands are far from water resources and those whose farm-lands are near water resources. **Sand-beach mining**, and tension among seaweed farmers in inter-tidal areas.



Building landscape-level governance bodies



Program objectives:

- Strengthening a common understanding and vision of island sustainability among actors and local innovators
- Developing an inclusive and participatory, functioning local institution to improve landscape sustainability.
- Developing common local agendas to improve landscape sustainability.

Building landscape-level governance bodies

To achieve these, **project activities** included the following:

- **Local actors mapping**, discovering aspirations among stakeholders, and tenure mapping
- Facilitate **dialogue and visioning** among stakeholders in particular landscapes



- Establish **pilot areas** of common landscape managements (clan-based forest management, village-based landscape and water management)
- Foster **community agreements** to protect common landscape and forests (clan-based and village-based landscape).
- Supporting **local actions** to rehabilitate forests with clan members, village members, and also supporting **initiatives** to plant natives trees at communities and schools

Achievements and results

From strengthening local/landscape governance

Key achievements and results:

- The program has conserved and rehabilitated around 67 ha of landscape (monsoon forest) managed by clan system, and villages.
- Raising of natives tree seedlings to be distributed to villagers for landscape rehabilitation purposes (5,000 trees).
- Establishment of Environmental Forums in 7 villages as participatory governance bodies of natural resources.



Achievements and results

From strengthening local/landscape governance



Key achievements and results:

- **Protection of sand beaches from mining**; establishment of village regulations in 2 villages
- The project-driven **dialogue and presentation at local and national levels on participatory landscape management**, contributed to the passing of a national regulation to recognize clan-/family-/village-based forest management. While at village level there is still no regulation on spatial planning, with the Village Law there is an opportunity to foster village-based regulation.

Achievements and results

From strengthening local/landscape governance

Empowerment of women, indigenous peoples, and other minority/vulnerable groups:



- **Active involvement of women** in meetings to voice their concerns and perceptions on landscape and water management. However, involvement of women in landscape management still needs to be strengthened due to their traditionally limited roles in landscape management decision-making.



- **Engagement of customary leaders** is key to participatory landscape management because of their authority over lands.

Achievements and results

From strengthening local/landscape governance

- The project contributed to a **common vision of actors** across 14 villages to improve sustainability of Semaui Island landscape and seascape through landscape conservation, rehabilitation, increased biodiversity to support economy (forest honey), and sustainable and low input agricultures in the future.



- The NGO Pikul as Local Host **promoted knowledge and lessons** of the program at local and national events (GEF-SGP, URDI Learning Forum, Knowledge Sector Conference with National Planning Agency); and established a network on small island and coastal management with government and NGO partners .

Lessons learned and way forward



Creating understanding: It is important to get **customary leaders on board** in landscape management. Traditional landscape governance is more likely stronger than village government. There should be a common understanding towards long-term goals among customary leaders, clan members, community members and village governments towards sustainable landscape management.



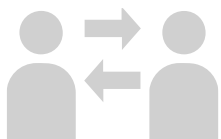
Facilitating social inclusion: Revitalising traditional values blended with human rights values is an important process to promote inclusive dialogue among stakeholders. **Dialogue on equity together with landscape and seascape control** need to be put forward as well as discussing details how shared values will be implemented in landscape management.



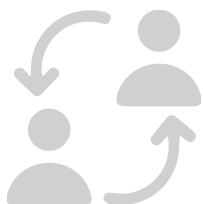
Collaborating:

- Mapping aspirations of a sustainable landscape and livelihoods among stakeholders, including aspirations of the private sector and government is important. Dialogue on common goals that also promote goals of individual stakeholders is the key towards collaboration.
- Harmonisation with existing development and environmental programs

Lessons learned and way forward



Scaling up/replicating: Best processes including cost-effectiveness, and process of institutionalisation of landscape management need to be well documented. The **documentation will need to be transfered into policy and program** language so government and any other stakeholders would be understanding and willing to scale-up and replicate the process.



Ensuring sustainability: Establishment of institutions or groups that have interest to continue the program is the most important thing. The group should also have the capacity to advocate policy, program, and manage implementation at local level. Collaboration with the private sector and NGOs on sustainable products (food crops, commodities, etc) will ensure sustainability of the project.

Next steps for OP7

- Upscaling or replicating OP-6 model to other area or the same area
- Stakeholder Mapping
- Including the local youth as actor of change

