

Kalimantan Forests and Climate Partnership



The governments of Indonesia and Australia recognize that strong partnerships are needed in the global effort to tackle climate change through Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (REDD+). This shared vision led to the **Kalimantan Forests and Climate Partnership (KFCP)**, a REDD+ demonstration activity under the Indonesia-Australia Forest Carbon Partnership (IAFCP) founded in 2008.

Learning on REDD+ activities

Launched in 2009, KFCP is one of the most advanced large-scale REDD+ demonstration activities of its kind in Indonesia, and is currently funded with AUD 47 million by the Government of Australia. The KFCP is intended to be a learning activity in which technical, scientific and institutional innovations are tested, refined and communicated to add to the body of global REDD knowledge and experience. Its overarching goal is to:

Demonstrate a credible, equitable and effective approach to reducing greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and forest degradation—including from the degradation of peatlands—that can inform a post-2012 global climate change agreement and enable Indonesia's meaningful participation in future international carbon markets.

KFCP interventions aim to reduce deforestation and degradation of peat swamp forest, primarily by re-wetting and rehabilitating degraded peatland, protecting remaining intact peat swamp forest, and mitigating the frequency and severity of fire. This includes such efforts as blocking canals to raise the water

level and re-wet the peat, re-establishing tree cover to raise soil moisture levels and help reduce fire risk, and developing livelihood options that do not require the use of fire in peatlands or depend on illegal logging.

With its strong emphasis on equity and rights, KFCP aims to ensure that all project interventions contribute to respecting, protecting and fulfilling rights and reducing poverty, and at the very least do no harm. In addressing this social dimension of REDD+, the project places particular emphasis on the interest and rights of Indigenous Peoples, women and other marginalized groups.

The activity area lies completely within Kapuas District, with a sparse population of approximately 9,000 residents—mostly Ngaju Dayak—living in seven villages strung out along the banks of the Kapuas River. In this area, villages are relatively remote, have limited public infrastructure and the level of access to and quality of both health and education services is relatively poor. Isolation limits the range of available employment opportunities, and the deforestation of large areas of land since 1996 has greatly altered livelihood opportunities.

The role of CARE and the community

KFCP involves multiple agencies of national, provincial and district governments along with numerous implementing and supporting partners, scientific organisations from around the globe, and local communities who live in the project area. Through KFCP, local communities are expected to play an important leadership and facilitation role in the overall effort to



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reduce greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and to receive an equitable share of the benefits for this stewardship role.

CARE staff members are seconded to KFCP to facilitate the community engagement process. Ten dedicated community facilitators live and work with communities in the KFCP area, where they have forged strong relationships. Their role is to support village planning and consultation, provide information about the KFCP and any potential implications for communities, listen to any community concerns and work with partner governments to address them, and finally to support implementation of the KFCP. Field staff also work closely with communities to identify and implement livelihood and development activities that can meet the aims of the community, while also reducing emissions from forests.

The KFCP has facilitated village development planning by communities and district government officials in each of the seven villages. This has resulted in mid-term, five-year plans—from 2011-2015—as well as yearly plans for each village. These plans have been incorporated into sub-district and district government development plans. They outline the aspirations of the local and Indigenous communities, and are informing collaboration between the KFCP and the villages. Following the development of these plans, the KFCP has commenced negotiations of community agreements with each of the seven villages to govern activities under KFCP, for which communities will receive incentive payments.

The agreements aim to align the village development goals with the emissions reductions and sustainable development goal of the KFCP—which is to demonstrate a credible, equitable and effective approach to reducing greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. Different interest groups are active in the negotiations, including rights holders and marginal and vulnerable groups. These agreements will not transfer land ownership. In some instances, communities may agree to limit their own access to, or use of, intact forest areas in exchange for more sustainable development opportunities. Community agreements are entered into voluntarily. Communities will be engaged on all aspects of the KFCP activities, and will actively participate and receive incentive payments for performance in line with negotiated village agreements.

In partnership with the World Bank and with the full and effective participation of community members, the KFCP

is designing and trialing a performance-based payment mechanism for REDD+ that can provide fair and effective benefits to communities. This mechanism is being designed to meet local, national and international requirements.

The payments will initially be funded by grant aid provided by the Australian Government and delivered through a World Bank trust fund. To start with, incentive payments will be tied to the delivery of services for activities that demonstrably contribute to greenhouse gas emission reductions, such as canal blocking and growing and planting of seedlings. As the project progresses, payment mechanisms will be developed that reflect more closely the specific contributions of each activity to greenhouse gas emission reductions.

REDD+ Safeguards

The ultimate success of REDD+ depends on the full and effective participation of local and Indigenous communities. At the United Nations climate change conference in December 2010, the international community agreed that full and effective participation is a key requirement for all REDD+ activities. Countries, including Indonesian and Australia, are now working together to develop standards and systems for reporting information on community participation, along with other social and environmental safeguards.

Across all its work on REDD+, including co-facilitating the international REDD+ Social and Environmental Standards (REDD+ SES) initiative, CARE is committed to achieving the highest standards of social and environmental performance, including Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) and gender equality. Both the Province of Central Kalimantan and the KFCP project itself are committed to the use of REDD+ SES as a tool for assessing social and environmental performance.

Through its support for effective social and environmental safeguards, CARE will support KFCP in becoming a model in demonstrating an equitable approach to REDD+ that reduces poverty, respects rights and enhances gender equality.

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