



LESTARI
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SCCM PARTNER BRIEFING

The Nanga Lauk Community Forest Project

KAPUAS HULU, WEST KALIMANTAN
INDONESIA

WELCOME TO NANGA LAUK

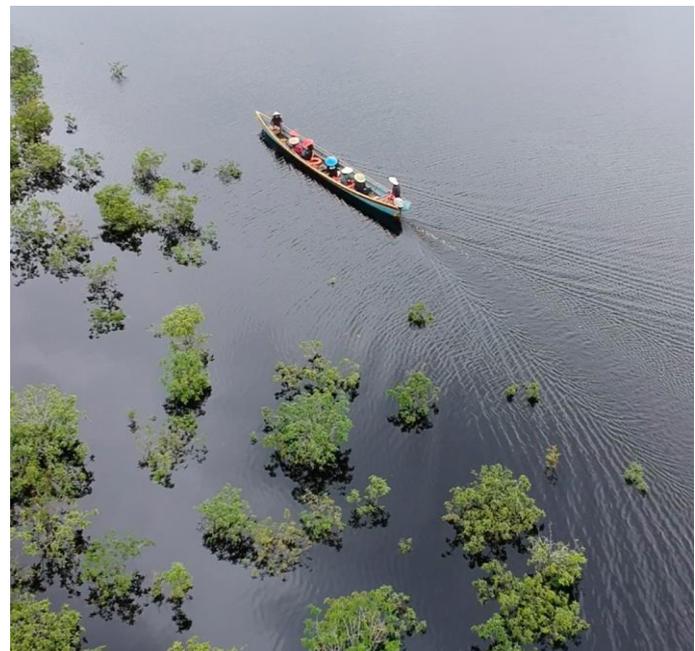
Tucked deep into the Heart of Borneo sits Nanga Lauk Village, a 1,430-hectare peatland and riverine forest *hutan desa (village forest)* that is used by the community for fishing, honey production, and harvest of timber to construct their houses. Together with the People, Resources and Community Foundation (PRCF), they developed the *Rimbak Pakai Pengidup (Forest for Life)* project to conserve their forest and benefit from the products it generates while simultaneously bringing its ecosystem services to market through SCCM.

FROM THE GROUND UP – COMMUNITY LED CONSERVATION

The forests of West Kalimantan are under ongoing threat from logging, mining and oil palm concessions, and, consequently, so too are the extraordinary diversity of animals and plants, the region's water resources, and the livelihoods of largely forest-dependent communities such as Nanga Lauk community. The Project supports the Nanga Lauk community to formalize the management rights of the forest within the village boundaries and to implement conservation activities so that the threats to their forests can be successfully countered. The Nanga Lauk community and its facilitator NGO, the People, Resources and Conservation Foundation (PRCF-Indonesia), have been working together since 2016 to design and implement the project. Nanga Lauk's 1,430-hectare peat riparian and peat swamp forest is now certified under Plan Vivo.

SUSTAINABLE FINANCE

To support the Nanga Lauk community in their commitment to protect the forest in their village land, the project has formed a partnership with the Sustainable Commodities Conservation Mechanism (SCCM) implemented by Lestari Capital. Using this SCCM system, the RSPO member Cargill has chosen this project to meet its RSPO commitments. PRCF-Indonesia and the Nanga Lauk community will receive performance-based financing for the next 25-years. This ongoing financing supports the community to protect their forest along with monitoring and reporting on the performance of their efforts. This will be achieved through building the capacity of the Nanga Lauk Village Forest to develop forest protection and management plans; deter and detect unsanctioned use of the area by conducting regular patrols; and build green industries requiring forest resources. Achievements in forest protection, biodiversity conservation, livelihoods improvements and climate benefit are independently verified using the Plan Vivo system.



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PREVENTING DEFORESTATION AND FOREST DEGRADATION

With the support of the local NGO PRCF-Indonesia, and a team of local and international experts, the Nanga Lauk community designed a suite of activities to secure and extend their legal right to manage and benefit from their Village Forest, enabling them to prevent the deforestation and forest degradation that would result if the area is not effectively protected.



IMPROVING LIVELIHOODS

The Nanga Lauk community have chosen to protect their Village Forest. The livelihoods of these almost 200 households and more than 700 people of the Nanga Lauk Village depend on sustainable use of forest resources for food, and building materials, and to generate an income from the sale of honey. This community-led management of the forest enables them to continue reaping the social and environmental benefits of their forests while also using this same forest area to increase income from the creation and sale of forest-based commodities, such as honey, and rattan and bamboo products, and ecotourism.

CONTRIBUTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION

Nanga Lauk Village Forest stores carbon in woody biomass, and if the area is not effectively managed by the Nanga Lauk community, deforestation and forest degradation are expected to occur. The activities designed by the Nanga Lauk community will prevent deforestation and degradation in the Village Forest and loss of trees, and considerably more than this from avoided emissions from peat drying.

CONSERVING BIODIVERSITY

The area within the Heart of Borneo region supports a huge diversity of plant and animal species, many of which are threatened with extinction. Effective management of Nanga Lauk Village Forest will prevent the loss and degradation valuable forest habitat, supporting the conservation of the critically endangered mammals and birds including the Bornean Orangutan, Bornean Banded Langur, and Sunda Pangolin, Helmeted Hornbill, and Spoon-billed Sandpiper; and the thousands of other species that make use of the forest. The impact of this protection has already been witnessed by local community members. During a standard village patrol, patrol members filmed some of the first sightings of orangutans in the Nanga Lauk area. These orangutans are thought to have recently migrated to this area, pointing to the fact that this location offers them safe haven. Bolstered by this progress, village members initiated further replanting of orangutan-attracting-tree species both inside the Hutan Desa and the surrounding lands. The village members recognize the potential for increased tourism to this location where orangutans are present. This demonstrates the transformation that has already taken hold in this community as a result of such conservation financing.



For more information about the project, and plans for other Village Forest projects in Indonesia contact PRCF at <https://prcfindonesia.org/> prcfindonesia@gmail.com