

# INDONESIA'S LOCAL SOLUTION TO A NATIONAL PROBLEM



Locals are encouraged to take up management of their local forests

Credit: CGIAR.org

## PROBLEM

- Indonesia is the third largest Co2 sink in the world, however it also has one of the largest deforestation rates, with 15.8 million hectares of forestry being lost between 2000 and 2012
- The large scale deforestation across the country is not only an issue for the world's climate, but it also creates local conflicts over forest access, as well as forcing many inhabitants in the areas surrounding the forest in to poverty

## SOLUTION

- Launched in 2014, the Indonesian government starting granting its first social forestry scheme contracts in Kalibiru
- The scheme grants local community cooperatives a 35 year management tenure of local forestry areas in an attempt to boost livelihoods, improve the local ecosystem, and prevent local conflicts over forestry access from breaking out
- In 2016 the Indonesian government upped the allocation of forestry for the programme from 1.7 million hectares to 12.7 million, roughly 15% of the forest coverage in Indonesia



## AT A GLANCE

### Challenges

- Indonesia is facing a crippling deforestation crisis
- Local conflicts around forest access and boundaries are present
- A programme of social forestry has been put in place, achieving some success, but still hindered with limitations

### Solution

- The programme allows community management of forest areas under a 35 year permit
- The idea is to encourage local people to better manage their land, whilst also improving their economic security and subduing conflict

## IMPACT

- In Java, forests have been recorded as growing for the first time in 50 years, and there has been a marked reduction in violence based around forest access where community management has been put in place
- Whilst the allocation was upped to 12.7 million hectares, as of the beginning of this year only around 3 million hectares are under community management
- Despite it being a national programme, the process is actually largely local, with cooperatives having to apply to local governments to gain permits



“The important question is: what next? After the rights have been granted, how can they support livelihoods and make sure the forestry management is sustainable for the next 35 years?”

ANI ADIWINATA

CREDIT: FORESTNEWS.CIFOR.ORG

## COMMUNICATIONS

- A large issue facing the programme is the lack of awareness that local communities have of its existence. Community outreach that educates residents on the forest areas is lacking, a problem that a communications campaign would certainly help with
- It has been highlighted that once the communities have their management permits, they are left with very little support on how to win grants, apply for funding, and access valuable information on how to successfully run their area of forest
- For the social forestry campaign to succeed on a larger scale and reach it's goals, communications must be employed at all levels. Local people running the forests must be provided with better resources, local governments must push the agenda harder, and clearer messaging around disputed forest borders must be put in place