



**ECONUSA**  
NATURE • CULTURE • CONSERVATION

**COVID-19  
RESPONSE TEAM**

**2020** | **EcoNusa Foundation  
Annual Report**



# 2020

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## **EcoNusa Foundation Annual Report**





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## EcoNusa at a Glance

As a non-profit organization, Ekosistem Nusantara Berkelanjutan Foundation (EcoNusa) puts its mandate into action in the eastern regions in Indonesia, particularly in Tanah Papua and Maluku Islands. EcoNusa ensures the prevailing ecosystems of forests, ocean and climate while making sure that indigenous community has sovereignty to manage natural resources prudently.

EcoNusa directly engages in every program and activity to reach multifarious networks of stakeholders at local, national and international levels through communication and media engagement strategy that has been established. EcoNusa proceeds together with local community to create independent livelihood, self-reliant renewable energy, knowledge enhancement and adaptability to climate change. EcoNusa strategically promotes best practices, builds public awareness while connecting communication among the community and decision makers at regional and central levels dealing particularly with advocacy programs.

## Eco Team

### Board of Trustees

Chairman:

Zulfahmi

Members:

Felia Salim

Yan Piet Karafir

Nurhani Widiastuti

Ridho Hafiedz

Supervisory Board:

Julia Kalmirah

### Board of Executive

Founder and Chief Executive:

Bustar Maitar

Treasurer and Operational

Director:

Etik Meiwati

Secretary:

Leo Wahyudi S

### Rumah EcoNusa

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## Notes from Chief Executive

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In early 2020, we have built optimism to put all organization missions into action. Facilitation of stakeholders particularly local government and indigenous people in eastern of Indonesia stays on the top priority. The facilitation is intended to an equal and sustainable natural resources management amidst the rampant threat of deforestation and indigenous community natural resources.

The planned programs were carried out through a collaboration with many parties ranging from young people, village head, indigenous community, academician, local government and local organizations. EcoNusa has even held a workshop on community-based tourism across Tanah Papua in Sorong. That was part of the EcoNusa's missions to promote the community's best practices. With the local government, EcoNusa has prepared a coordination to evaluate palm oil estate licenses.

Since February 2020, EcoNusa has executed a lot of imperative activities in eastern Indonesia. The organization has even planned 36 activities for the following months. However, unexpectedly the first Covid-19 outbreak happened in Indonesia. The deadly virus eventually spread out the diseases into the alarming level of pandemic with rapid transmission and high mortality rate. It messed up the global order, including Indonesia.

All aspects of life should be adaptable. Large scale social distancing (PSBB) was applied nationwide to curb the transmission. All human life activities should be temporarily halted. All aspects of industry, government, offices, including EcoNusa should adjust themselves in terms of working and social interaction patterns.

During the hard time of adjustment, we realized that EcoNusa takes along its mission particularly for the communities in eastern of Indonesia. We did not want to stay still on behalf of adaptation through the organization comfort zone and loose regulations imposed by the government. We even dared to take our own risk of being infected by the virus as our own consequences. However, we did not want to give up to Covid-19 pandemic while still complying with the stipulated health protocols.

EcoNusa wants to stay relevant amidst the pandemic. We tried to adapt ourselves to all kinds of facilities and technologies when social interaction was impossible. We should become technology savvy to organize a meeting, interaction and coordination virtually. Fund





raising for Covid-19 response was also done virtually.

We realize that there were many peoples particularly those in the eastern of Indonesia who were in need of helping hands and assistances during the pandemic. Covid-19 virus gives lingering threat to humanity. But on the other hand, humanity is also under threat by the sluggish economy, the social aspect that marginalizes every human from their nature as social beings. It happened not only in Jakarta and other major cities, but also in the remote areas in Tanah Papua, Maluku and other regions in eastern Indonesia that were ignored due to hustle and bustle of urban peoples amidst the Covid-19 attack.

To be relevant, we dared to go out of comfort zone of adaptation in the context of new normal. We materialize the call of duty into various activities of assistance, farming training, health assistance and education through offline and online modes. EcoNusa was actively moving out in mid of 2020 through several humanity expeditions for weeks from West Papua to Maluku, North Maluku. That was the way for EcoNusa to stay relevant in response to the pandemic.

We are here to help peoples in the isolated islands so that they have knowledge on how to anticipate pandemic. We held health counseling, farming. We in collaboration with volunteers and influencers performed beach cleanup and medical check. We distributed social donations from public in the forms of health supplies, masks, gloves, rapid test kits, farming tools, building materials for homestay. We just dreamed that people residing in isolated areas could build food resilience through local resources. We expected them to stay healthy amidst the pandemic. We want to revive community economy.

Pandemic did not create any space between us and the community in the eastern Indonesia. We came to embrace and build shared optimism without ignoring pandemic protocols. This is the way EcoNusa to stay relevant despite the unending course of the pandemic. The annual report is our record of journey in 2020 as the extraordinary momentum. We are not in pursuit of perfection, but we do concrete actions to make EcoNusa relevant.

Happy reading

**Bustar Maitar,**  
**Founder and CEO of EcoNusa Foundation**



# Vision and Mission

## VISION

Championing community's independence in sustainable and equitable natural resources management

## MISSION

- Facilitating stakeholders on equitable and sustainable natural resources management in eastern Indonesia.
- Expanding networks and improving the capacity of local NGO partners on equitable and sustainable natural resources management.
- Promoting learning and best practices on equitable and sustainable natural resources management performed by local NGOs and communities at national and international levels.
- Organizing young people particularly in urban areas to support a movement for sovereignty of equitable and sustainable natural resources management.
- Strengthening EcoNusa organization capacity as an effective and accountable organization of change in pursuit of vision attainment and implementation of mission or its mandates.

# Nilai-nilai Organisasi



Environmental and Social Justice



Equality



Transformation



Accountability



Integrity



Excellence



Inclusiveness









# 2020 Facts and Figures

# Covid-19 Response

3 Expeditions in 32 Villages

4 Provinces and 26 regencies

53 Villages

3 Hospitals

27 Community Health Centers

7 Organizations

82,750 Beneficiaries



Hazmat Suit  
1,500 pieces



Goggles  
500 pieces



Medical Masks  
92,750 pieces



Face Shields  
1,380 pieces



Hand Gloves  
83,000 pieces



Rapid Test Kits  
2,375 pieces



Cloth Masks  
26,000 pieces



T-shirts  
1,000 pieces



Calendars  
1,000 pieces



Farming Tools  
5,200 pieces



Vegetable Seeds  
11,100 pieces



Organic Fertilizer  
(Solid and Liquid)  
1,700 pieces



Covid-19 Response  
Pocket Guidebook  
1,200 pieces



Total Support  
Covid-19 Response  
**228,705 pieces**







# SCHOOL OF ECO DIPLOMACY

221

Young Peoples  
Enrolled

68

Young Peoples  
Selected

18

Regencies/Cities  
in Indonesia

5

Mentors

47

Resource  
Persons





# School of Eco Involvement



54

Village  
Heads/Leaders

10

Villages in  
Merauke, Papua

7

Villages in  
Halmahera,  
North Maluku

Joined School of Social Transformation workshop

Direct Beneficiaries

Indirect Beneficiaries

300

Peoples in  
Merauke Papua

300

Peoples in  
Halmahera  
North Maluku

167

Families in  
Samo Village,  
North Maluku

374

Families in  
Wanngap Village  
Nanggo, Merauke



10

Winners

9

Universities in Papua

86

Submitted Proposals

1

From Cenderawasih University







## Social Media:



Instagram

**11,000**  
Followers



Twitter

**836**  
Followers



Facebook

**9,039**  
Fans



YouTube

**7,217** **382,475**  
Subscribers Viewers



Marketing Email

**2,968**  
Subscribers

## Media Coverage:



**155**

Articles on National  
Online Media



**103**

Articles On Local  
Online Media



**22**

Articles on Print  
Media



**8**

Video News



**12**

Podcast Series

**IDR 26,753,482,500**

PR Value Worth



# Konser Hutan Merdeka Virtual Concert

3

Channels (EcoNusaTV,  
NarasiTV, Republika  
Official)

120

Minutes



6,259

Viewers

1,601,480

Social Media Users Through Advertisement.

# Natural Resources Management

**4** Provinces **19** Regencies **45** Initiatives



**5** Trainings on Local Commodity Management



**6** Cooperatives



**76** Participants



**3** BumDes (Village-owned Enterprise)



**8** Ecotourism Networks





# Policy and Advocacy



**29** Concessions of Palm Oil Estate in West Papua Under Evaluation



**14** Heads of Forest Management Unit (KPH) in Papua Province and

**3** KPH Heads in West Papua Participated in KPH Technical Meeting in Tanah Papua



**168** Involved in Virtual Coordination Meeting with Papua and West Papua Local Governments.

# Research and GIS



**3** GIS Basic Training for Local Government Staffers, CSOs and Communities In

**3** Regencies in West Papua Province

**34** Participants

**6** CSOs

**14** Clans of Moi Tribe

Supply Chain Study for

**10** Groups of Company in West Papua

**11** Groups of Company in Papua

**2** publications

on Forests Cover Monitoring in Tanah Papua from Satellite and Flyover.

With

**587.712** hectares

of Forests Threatened by Palm Oil Estate





# Ocean



SAIL  
TO  
CAMPUS

9 Campuses  
Participating

4 Universities Declaring Reduction  
of Single Use Plastics.



16 Online Events on  
Marine

More than  
**8,000**  
Online  
Participants

## Beach Clean Up

21



Locations

More than

**16,800 kg**

of beach wastes



600

Mangroves  
Planted



500

Coral Reefs

18

Initiator



More than

**2,700** Participants









# The Last Frontier

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Last frontier represents the major spots in which EcoNusa Foundation works out its missions.







#### Maluku Province

- West Seram Regency

#### Northern Maluku Province

- South Halmahera Regency
- Ternate

#### West Papua Province

- Raja Ampat Regency
- Kaimana Regency
- Greater Sorong

#### Papua Province

- Yapen Regency
- Paniai Regency









# Helping Out amidst Pandemics



Since the initial emergence of Covid-19 case in March 2020, the Government of Indonesia confidently took all anticipatory measures. By end of March, the government declared the emergency state of health and issued a legal umbrella for a large-scale social distancing (PSBB). Moreover, President Joko Widodo considered the pandemic as non-natural disaster of Covid-19 transmission as the national disaster as stipulated by Presidential Decree No. 12/2020 in mid of April 2020.

PSBB was enacted across the nation. However, despite all kinds of restriction and limitation, compassion has grown among the society as a solid social capital. They pinched in and helped while caring each other to curb the pandemic.

EcoNusa attempted to break the limit by that social capital. EcoNusa garnered supports to lend a hand particularly to the peoples living in the eastern Indonesia who every so often are neglected by the hustle and bustle of Covid-19 transmission cases in major cities. Raising fund, calling for volunteers, EcoNusa executed its call of duty mandated by the indigenous peoples.

All peoples make every effort to survive amidst the pandemic. It also happens to locals in Sarawandori Village, Kepulauan Yapen Regency, Papua. They grow vegetables to survive. But sometimes they face crop failure due to pests attack. They need knowledge on a good farming.

The village head felt grateful when EcoNusa provided training on farming and distributed farming tools, fertilizer, seeds. These supports and knowledge are very valuable to support the community in Sarawandori in such hard times.

In addition to farming problems, the pandemic also put the community in eastern Indonesia at risk. Health protocol has yet to be well-implemented due to the poor public awareness, strong bond of social life and lacking Covid-19 information. Moreover, there was a medical worker who has never known at all the procedure and the form of rapid test kit as it was the case in North Maluku. Education and information on pandemic are imperative issues to be given to the locals.

"EcoNusa Covid-19 Response" started to move out by building

coordination for the distribution of supports in Maluku, North Maluku and Sorong in end of June 2020. Health facilities supports were distributed to 6 community health centers in Sorong, 6 community health centers in North Maluku and 7 community health centers in Seram Bagian Barat Regency, Maluku, including masks distribution in 10 villages in North Maluku.

Such helping out activities were also done in Jayapura when EcoNusa team handed over non-medical masks to the regent of Paniai. Complete kits of protective gear (APD) and non-medical masks were channeled to the Papua Province's Covid-19 Task Force, Kotaraja Jayapura community health center. Non-medical masks were also given to Papua Television Journalists Association, Rumah Bakau Jayapura, Environmental Lower Young Community, Papua Voices and SED Jayapura.

Materializing the compassion, EcoNusa distributed a total of 500 protective gears, 500 laboratory goggles, 25,000 medical masks, 514 face shields, 23,000 gloves, 10,000 fabric masks and 625 rapid test kits in Jayapura, Sorong, Ambon, Seram Bagian Barat and Temate in August 2020. The distribution also included 500 materials for health promotion, 500 t-shirts and 200 Covid-19 manuals.

In November, EcoNusa also distributed 525 protective gears, 50,750 medical masks, 500 face shields, 2,790 seeds, 3,090 farming tools to the communities in Kaimana, Yapen, Maybrat in November 2020. There were 295 community members involved in farming training. There were more than 3,000 peoples involving in compassionate actions here at 51 villages in Jayapura, Sorong, Kaimana, Yapen, Maybrat, Temate, Ambon, Seram Bagian Barat, through a distribution of 228,705 units of 13 kinds of relevant goods during pandemic.

That was the concrete action to help out the pandemic-affected communities done by EcoNusa. This response is deemed a way for EcoNusa to stay connected and relevant to the pandemic situation, instead of staying still behind pandemic situation.





*"Alhamdulillah (Thank God), with the presence of EcoNusa medical team, I come to know how to use rapid test kit." (Santi Hadina, a nurse for sub-community health center of Pulau Rhun Village, Banda Island, Maluku)*









# Mission of Humanity Saving Forests and Ocean



The transmission of Covid-19 has spread out to the eastern Indonesia. Pandemic attack has no exception. Pandemic does not only put health at risk but collapses community economy. Social, economic, health, education impacts have even affected the community living in the isolated islands in the eastern Indonesia.

Pandemic proliferates up through to the remote areas far from downtown and health facilities. It has massive impact including to those who used to be far from decent public health facilities. EcoNusa jointly with the volunteers has call of duty to embrace and lend a hand to the communities in the isolated areas in West Papua, Maluku and North Maluku. Then EcoNusa materialized humanity action through three expeditions on Kurabesi boat.

In such hard times of pandemic, the community adapts themselves to nature. EcoNusa has hope to meet and learn from the community on the management of forest and ocean natural resources. With these three expeditions, EcoNusa intended to help ease food security, local economic recovery while strengthening the prevention of Covid-19 transmission in the eastern of Indonesia.









# Covid-19 Response in Papua

The first expedition in response to Covid-19 was carried out in 15 days on 10-25 September 2020. EcoNusa expedition team departed from Sorong and ended the journey at Sorong. There were 13 villages to visit, namely Arefi, Saukabu, Selpele, Arborek, Sawingrai, Kri, Sapokren, Waisai, Urbinasopen, Mayaifun, Kalliam, Solol and Amdui. The expedition has involved 1,253 beneficiaries from those venues.

In Arborek Village, pandemic has hit local economic from local tourism and homestay. When tourists stop, economy seems to end. Prior to pandemic, the availability of food stocks, rice and vegetables in the village depends on the tourist. When tourism as the source of income halts from its function, the community and homestay owners were back to nature by fishing and gardening to survive. They plant cassava and vegetables outside the island.

In some destination villages, EcoNusa team organized health counseling, health protocol education, free medical check, and farming training. There were 457 peoples involving in health counseling, 315 peoples in health check and 481 peoples in farming training.

Despite the absence of tourists, homestay maintenance at the tourism spots should always run. Let alone, many homestays with leave-made building materials should have maintenance. For the reason, EcoNusa distributed 6,600 sago-made roof, 550 units of hand-made wall to 22 homestay owners at Raja Ampat, West Papua. To help survive the residents, EcoNusa also distributed 3,600 bags of seeds, 550 packs of fertilizer and 500 liters of liquid fertilizer.











## Maluku Expedition Food Security, Forest Protection and Covid-19 Response



Sailing on Kurabesi boat, EcoNusa jointly with volunteers, influencer, media proceeded the next expedition from 22 October to 3 November 2020. The cruise headed to 1 village in Raja Ampat, West Papua, and 9 villages in North Maluku as the destinations. The expedition route started from Sorong to Kofiau for transit before leaving for Gane Dalam, Bacan, Samo, Posiposi, Gumira, Kajoa, Makian, Tidore and Ternate.

Gane Dalam has a lot of satires. This region was once deemed one of the crucial points for Indonesia's struggle for sovereignty from Dutch power. However, the historical village has lost its sovereignty when logging company took their independence away by land grabbing. Local community lost their hopes when their land was cleared with unreasonable compensation.

To date, the community makes every effort to survive from the remaining land and natural potentials. They process coconut and banana as their sources of income. Fortunately the community is in unified stance to defend their mangrove ecosystem to support their lives and natural balance. EcoNusa team in collaboration with PakaTiva Association, Walhi North Maluku, local community planted 100 mangroves in Gane Dalam to conserve its ecosystem.

This expedition as part of the organization's response to Covid-19. Besides, EcoNusa expedition also documented the commodity of forest and ocean, local wisdom, and local conservation practices. The team will also promote food security and local agriculture through training and distribution of farming equipment.

The 13-day humanity mission has involved 381 peoples during the health check and counseling and 296 peoples on farming training in North Maluku and Kofiau, West Papua. The activities were intended to build awareness on Covid-19 prevention and promote local food resilience. Cultural approach was done by a collaborative work with local organization such as PakaTiva and some other communities. EcoNusa supports the sustainable natural resources management, food self-reliance and local economy recovery.





# Maluku Covid-19 Response and Marine Debris Expedition



In addition to humanity and community security mission, the expedition also held beach and seabed debris cleanup. Ocean ecosystem in Maluku is too charming to be tainted by debris.

The expedition continued its mission up to 18 November 2020. From Ternate, the boat sailed to Ambon Tulehu to set off the route II targeting some islands such as Nurue, Haruku, Nusa Laut, Rhun, Ai, Hatta, Banda Besar and Neira as the final destination.

Musician from Slank music group took part in marine debris cleanup at Haruku sea, in Central Maluku Regency. The team collaborated with the community to clean up the visited beaches which then collected 10 big sacks of waste. Most of the debris were single use plastics. The influencer's action was expectedly to raise collective public awareness to keep ocean clean.

The visited communities in 9 villages gave positive responses to EcoNusa team. There were 830 peoples involving in health counseling, farming training and health check.

The three expeditions had visited 32 villages in 3 provinces in the eastern of Indonesia which involved 2,728 peoples. It could become a momentum to lend a hand and spirit among EcoNusa and the communities during the hard times. This turns to be a working pattern to build a sustainable natural resources management.

*"There are some supports we could distribute ranging from protective gears (APDs) to farming tools. However, never think that what we hand over is an aid, but rather a driver for motivation. Aid comes from the government." (Bustar Maitar, CEO and Founder of EcoNusa in Nuruwe, Seram Bagian Barat, Maluku).*

















# Sustainable Nature Service amidst Pandemics



Pandemic could hardly make the local community at Manainin Village, Yapen Regency, Papua, give up their livelihoods. Pandemic has affected the declining demand for coffee. But they could plant vegetables for domestic consumption and selling some to the market. Meanwhile, they keep their spirit as the coffee growers despite the pandemic. They want to keep their reputation of coffee grower while maintaining their coffee product quality.

EcoNusa identified potential products from the community while protecting forest along the process and providing income in the long run. Sago, nutmeg, wild boar meat and forest-based tourism are parts of the potential products. Then, those local products are promoted to get market access.

EcoNusa's Natural Resources Management Team works hand in hand with the communities in Kaimana, Sorong, in West Papua and Yapen, Paniai in Papua, to develop local initiatives. In Sorong, the team held a training on local initiatives development and management for wild boar product. In Raja Ampat, EcoNusa collaborates with local homestay association to promote ecotourism networks that was affected by pandemic. The supports were given in the forms of sago-made roof and wall to fix their homestay. EcoNusa team also provided assistances for the development of Robusta and Arabica coffee in Yapen and Paniai. The quality of Ambaidiru coffee has been upgraded with less pricing.

Pandemic has made many regions impose rigid rules for entry access of an area. However, the condition did not discourage EcoNusa. The team provided training on the nutmeg post-harvest treatment at Manggera Village, Teluk Arguni in Kaimana to educate the nutmeg growers. EcoNusa and its partners introduced drying method from the natural to greenhouse technique to process and store nutmeg crops. Nutmeg is the crucial commodity in Kaimana. But it needs strategic management and processing so as to lure more welfare to the local community.

To support the objective, EcoNusa also provided training for 6 various cooperatives in Kaimana. It was intended to give knowledge on cooperative management. During the pandemic, all aspects of social, economic lives are affected by the situation. The crop could not hit the market as to before the pandemic. For the reason, the cooperative provided staple food for farmers and they will use their crop as payment.

*"We can take advantage from land and ocean. So, there is no reason for us to fear the pandemic condition." (Michael Karuba, Village Head of Sarawandori 2, Keptauan Yapen Regency, Papua).*









## Good initiatives to strengthen villages to protect forests

Residents of Wendu Village, Merauke Regency, Papua, came to realize the surrounding nature has provided all the subsistence needs. When the participants of Village School (Sekolah Kampung) strolled along the village and collected root, leave, flower and fruit, they realized that they could create organic fertilizer or pesticide from the surrounding organic materials. The participants came to surprise upon noting that the organic materials are valuable stuffs for agriculture.

Besides, they were also encouraged to study on geospatial mapping. They were trained to crate data on ecosystem change at a certain location using GPS and drone. They just recognized that villagers could make a map of their own village. They had comprehension on the importance of information and data on their village. One of the local chiefs of Yei tribe in Merauke even motivated young villagers to get the knowledge to develop their village while



protecting resources and customary areas in their hamlets.

To build self-reliance of the indigenous community over their regions and natural resources, the community should get knowledge to explore, comprehend and develop the potentials independently. The EcoNusa's idea of School of Eco Involvement (SEI) serves as a way to promote paradigm shift among the indigenous community so as to have sovereignty over their own natural resources.

EcoNusa is in collaboration with INSIJST with its partners to identify issue, local potentials and cooperates with PakaTiva in North Maluku, Caritas in Merauke and Bentara Papua in West Papua. The village heads are mobilized as they serve as the strategic entry points to building village self-reliance.

EcoNusa invited village heads and tribal leaders from 10 villages to join a 3-day workshop. The workshop was intended to build the shared understanding on the importance of local independence in terms of food, energy and environment through sustainable agriculture and database development. Data is deemed an information system of the village covering some aspects of demography, social, spatial and local potentials.

The village heads or tribal leaders would have to assign two young potential peoples to develop their village through School of Social Transformation (STS) or Village School. The 15-day school is divided into two classes, agriculture class and database class with 20 participants. Village School has been pioneered since 2019 in Klayili Village, West Papua.

Amidst the pandemic, EcoNusa cooperated with INSIJST, Caritas Merauke, PakaTiva to organize a Village School at Wendu Village in Merauke, Papua, and Samo in South Halmahera, North Maluku. In Wendu, there were two classes, agriculture and database. Representatives of 10 villages attended the STS here. In Samo Village, STS had 3 classes based on the local potentials, namely agriculture, biogas energy and multifunction drier in which 30 participants from 7 villages took parts.

The STS participants developed a follow-up action plan (RTL) through also-called Sekolah Lapang (Outdoor School) for 3 months. The timeline was based on the period of growing to harvest time. Then instructors team from INSIJST provided assistance and field mentoring in each village. The STS alumni become initiators who develop seeding plot as it was the case in Samat Village, South Halmahera. The vegetable seed garden has involved many women to develop farming to suffice their staple food independently. They also developed demonstration plots or pilot garden to lure more villagers participation. The village head expected to develop a village-owned garden which involve more community to build food security.

The STS alumni has now developed organic farming, organic pesticide and organic fertilizer as it happens in Samo and Merauke. In Kombif, the alumni developed fragrant lemongrass which is processed into essential oil. STS alumni initiatives successfully built a house of seeds, production house, drying house and biogas for domestic energy. When food and energy are independently managed by the community, they could meet their need independently. In Samo, there are around 500 cows owned by villagers roaming free and they eventually harm the local agriculture. Instead of being an asset, the cows act like destroyer. For the reason, the STS alumni tries to build biogas management which is supplied by groups that should give 25 kilograms of cow dung every day. As a result, the installation can generate energy for domestic consumption and lighting to local school building. The community is motivated to develop independent energy from the simple example. Samo is also assisted by PakatIva.



*"We have comprehended how to deal with plant, create fertilizer. Formerly, we just planted seeds without watering or fertilizer. We used to buy our daily meal from other people. But now we just pick our crop at our garden when we want to eat." (Mama Salma, a native villager of Gumira, South Halmahera, Maluku).*













# Strengthening the Community for Sovereignty





Pandemic has affected nearly all aspects of life. But it does not affect deforestation. Data from EcoNusa research team shows that in January-June 2020, there was deforestation of 1,699 hectares, and in July-December 2020 287 hectares in Tanah Papua. The figures show that deforestation continues to happen despite the pandemic.

A local leader of Marind-Anim tribe in Merauke Regency, Papua, once expressed his disappointment with unscrupulous practices of land grabbing the customary land. He admitted that all of sudden, a certain protected area had been cleared by outsider without the local community's consent.

Understanding the condition of Tanah Papua requires various stakeholders involvement from national, provincial to regency/city levels. EcoNusa in this light helped facilitate the communication of development process in eastern of Indonesia, particularly in Tanah Papua and Maluku. This was done through collaborative strategy as it deals with development agenda.

With the imperative role here, EcoNusa applied systematic approach to make connecting link of government, civil society, donors and stakeholders in the eastern Indonesia that have the same concerns. EcoNusa had coordination and collaboration in license review, advocacy which is supported by research.



# Alignment of central and regional initiatives for governance improvement

In 2020, EcoNusa had organized a coordination meeting involving local governments and development partners in Papua and West Papua. The coordination meeting was deemed a follow-up of the program performed in 2019 which is related to achievement of Manokwari Declaration. The coordination was an attempt to organize working synergy of government and its partners to identify gap and synergy for implementation. There were more than 100 participants attending the virtual meeting that discussed mitigation and climate change issues, license review and July 2020 policy.

Besides, EcoNusa's License Review and Policy Advocacy team also encouraged Low Carbon Development Initiative (LCDI). In this context, the National Development Planning Agency (Bappenas) to deliberate 2 log frames of Papua and West Papua Provinces to follow up the LCDI memorandum of understanding involving 2 governors and Head of Bappenas. The log frame here is the implementation planning of LCDI of each province up to 2021. In this respect, EcoNusa played as an accelerator for mainstreaming the agenda to both provinces. EcoNusa acted as a facilitator connecting the central and local governments.

Besides, EcoNusa was also appointed by the government of West Papua to coordinate some experts in the LCDI help desk in West Papua. EcoNusa here serves as the main bridge which links the communication of the Regional Development Planning Agency (Bappeda) and Bappenas on low carbon development issue.

Meanwhile, by end of 2020 EcoNusa could successfully garner 14 heads of Forest Management Unit (KPH) from Papua and 3 heads of KPH from West Papua. The meeting identified local commodity potential, non-timber forest product and environmental service of each KPH. To bolster the coordination, they agreed to form an association of KPH in Papua Province. In this case, EcoNusa strengthened the association to build partnership among KPH and local community to manage a certain size of forest areas in sustainable manner.

The identified size and potential become crucial parts so that the community and government realized that forest areas function must not be changed. Partnership is also imperative to protect the existence of forests based on the organization vision and mission. The coordination with KPH becomes strategic measures for forests management and protection.

EcoNusa was in coordination with West Papua's Food, Horticulture and Plantation Office and the Corruption



Eradication Commission (KPK) to undergo license review of 30 companies. But eventually there was one concession revoked by the Regent of Sorong and 5 companies substituted their commodities from palm oil into other commodities. Thus, by end of 2020 there were still 24 companies. Six companies with palm oil licenses declared to give back their concessions to the government officially. The commitment of 6 companies was stated following the meeting with concession holders. Considering the review of licenses, companies came to realize and bear the responsibility for their concessions.



*"... actually collaborative work is much more effective. It means ...with the assistance provided by CSOs colleague, there are some resources that could complement legally, spatially, which is then assisted by some experts. It could be firmer for the findings or the results found during the evaluation." (Sulistyanto, KPK's Functional Monitoring Directorate).*



EcoNusa Research and Geospatial team arranged all the materials for advocacy process while supporting the other division to run the program. This team conducts regular forests monitoring, composes natural resources-related brief, analyzes product supply chains of the main commodity in Tanah Papua and Maluku, and palm oil is among others. The supply chain study was conducted in 10 group of companies in West Papua and 11 groups in Papua. Besides, the GIS team made an engagement not only to the relevant Ministry/Institution but also to private sectors.

Team also provides education and builds capacity on geospatial to some stakeholders in Papua. The training had been done in Malaumkarta, Teluk Bintuni, Manokwari for community and Sorong for CSOs that provide assistances to local community. The team followed up the results of license reviews including indigenous area mapping as that of in Malaumkarta which was attended by 14 clans of Mai Kelim Tribe in Sorong in November 2020. The team considered the local community's condition and willingness as the requirement for the local mapping to promote recognition of indigenous territories.

The activity was part of the comprehensive process following license review to ensure the areas whose licenses had been given back by the government. Besides, GIS basic training was made so that local people with their spatial knowledge could protect their territories. Mapping is intended to get certain standing of customary territories.

*"... We want the governance to be really improved so as to prevent a more serious ecological destruction. Hopefully the result is good and beneficial to local leaders to help them make decision in the near future." (Benidiktus Hery Wijayanto, West Papua Province's Head of Plantation Division of the Food, Horticulture and Plantation Office).*



















# Youths, Forests and Ocean Defenders





The eastern regions of Indonesia, particularly Tanah Papua and Maluku, have enormous richness of forests and ocean natural resources. However, the richness is always on the brink of deforestation, exploitation by extractive industry and climate change. Considering the condition, EcoNusa realizes the importance for young people to acquire knowledge and mindset on sustainable development. It is intended that young people would serve as a driver to defend sovereignty and independence in sustainable management of natural resources.

## Young people as eco diplomat

A young girl from Sorong has a dream to empower women at Kokoda Maibo Village, in Sorong, West Papua. She wanted to promote the surrounding environmental damages as the discourse for local women to tell and write their lives and environment. Their works would be posted on social media, book, photos and journals. That would be the real action plan for the young girl.

EcoNusa is in collaboration with young people in Tanah Papua to transfer knowledge so as to be eco diplomat through School of Eco Diplomacy (SED). It is intended to build capacity and increase the participation of youngsters in promoting ecological diversity, cultural values and sustainability issues in Papua, West Papua, and Maluku Island.

Amidst the spreading pandemic in Indonesia, EcoNusa continued its mission to safeguard important ecosystem in the eastern of Indonesia by educating young peoples in ecology diplomacy. In 2020, Basic SED was held in Sorong, West Papua, in September and in Merauke, Papua, in November 2020. There were 38 young participants of Basic SED in both venues done virtually. Then the virtual Intermediate SED was attended by 18 participants from the eastern of Indonesia and 12 others from central and western of Indonesia. The activity had involved 5 mentors and 47 resource persons to bolster the knowledge transfer to the participants.



Activities of SED in 2020 have trained 68 young diplomats who would promote new narratives of welfare, community-based management of natural resources, sustainable development to public at national and international levels. These youngsters came from Merauke through to Aceh urban areas.

Besides, EcoNusa also opened opportunities to young researchers in Papua through a so-called Papua Young Scientist program. There were 86 research proposals submitted from 7 universities. These proposals went through rigid selection by board of juries from University of Indonesia, Papua University, Cenderawasih University, EcoNusa and West Papua's Regional Development Study Institute. As a result, the shortlisted were the best 9 candidates of researcher from Papua University and 1 from Cenderawasih University. The studies have been ongoing up to early 2021. EcoNusa provides assistance to field action done by SED alumni and meeting among the alumni networks.



*"Young people is the pioneer of environmental shift. They should have critical, optimistic thinking and could mobilize the community to create environmental change." (Harmini, Merauke Regency's Environment Office Head).*





## Young People and Sustainable Sea Resources

When the beauty of Ternate sea was tainted by debris, local young people had a call of duty to safeguard their sea. They moved together to clean up Kastela Beach, Nukila Park and Tobololo Beach. At the end, nearly 200 young peoples could collect more than 2 tons of debris in 2 hours along 1.5 kilometers coastline. Pandemic did not in fact decline the sea debris. Youngsters who mostly came from Ternate's Khairun University had commitment to reduce the waste from single use plastics.

Indonesia has immense resources of fisheries and marine. The eastern regions of Indonesia are even deemed the fisheries stock whose use and management should be properly managed. For the reason, EcoNusa builds a joint initiative to improve governance and practice of marine resources management in sustainable manner. Ocean movement focuses on a better ocean and fisheries management. EcoNusa builds youth movement and advocacy as an effective measure for young generation to nurture leadership and concern with marine issues both at local and national levels.

EcoNusa initiated Sail to Campus (STC) activity as an attempt to build awareness of urban young people, university students, students and sea-lover community. The activity was done through public dialogue by involving various parties. Government, academicians, coastal community, NGOs and influencers were invited in this activity.



In 2020, there were 9 campuses taking parts in the STC across Indonesia. More than 8,000 participants joined in 16 virtual events on marine and fisheries. Moreover, 4 universities have declared their commitments for single use plastic in campus compound. They were Brawijaya University in Malang, Khairun University in Ternate, Papua University in Manokwari and Fisheries College (STP) and STKIP of Hatta-Sjahrir in Banda Neira.

As one of the realizations after STC, EcoNusa mobilized young peoples and community to have concern about ocean health by cleaning up ocean and beaches through Beach Cleanup (BCU) activity. The activity is intended to build public awareness to make clean marine to preserve marine ecosystem. One of them was done by cleaning up beaches, mangrove and coral reef planting.

BCU in 2020 was done in 21 spots across Indonesia involving 2,700 participants of various elements. The activities in total had collected more than 16,800 kilograms of coastal debris. The activity also included planting 600 mangroves and 500 coral reefs in the eastern of Indonesia.



*"Debris is our joint war. I am proud of the debris cleanup activity here." (Rustan Saru, Jayapura City's Deputy Mayor).*









# Articulating Aspiration



EO'20  
Beradat Jaga Hutan





There are still many young people dreaming of a better Papua. Let alone, education quality is under privilege, injustice among community still happens to Papua. Papuan youngster like Lisa Duwiry eventually mobilized public through social media to promote education in Korowai. Lisa ceaselessly called people to build action in Korowai through social media. MaCe Papua (Let's Talk about Papua) discussion in fact helps mobilize young people to build good narratives on Papua.

Papua is not built with materials but with heart. These words were expressed by a young Papuan in MaCe Papua discussion. To build positive narrative on eastern of Indonesia, EcoNusa develops communication strategy with human, tradition and environment approaches as the strategic communication. The communication will be articulated to local, national and even international levels. EcoNusa made a coordination, consultation, collaboration and engagement with stakeholders and public to perform the strategy as a way to articulate local community aspiration or mandate from the eastern of Indonesia.

In 2020, EcoNusa communication activities attempted to raise knowledge of public, media, stakeholders and particularly local community in eastern Indonesia. The clearly articulated message deals with the crucial development of eastern Indonesia without deforestation through cultural and conservation approaches to public. The key message calls peoples to save forests, ocean and Papuan peoples and eastern regions of Indonesia as the breath and lungs of Indonesia to the world.

EcoNusa applies multifarious media channels such as Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, LinkedIn and website. Media channels here were consistently aiming at young peoples of 18-35 years of age as the target of media channels as the message conveyor.

EcoNusa has significant rise of numbers of followers from early to end of 2020. EcoNusa Instagram has more than 11,000 followers by end of December 2020. YouTube channel has 7,331 subscribers with 382,475 views in 2020. EcoNusa website has been visited by 23,979 visitors with a total of 35,029 sessions from official launch in March to December 2020. Facebook has more than 9,000 fans in 2020.

The frequency of content posts in EcoNusa media channels generally goes beyond the average NGO benchmark. EcoNusa posted 41 contents for Instagram at monthly average, 65 posts for Twitter and 49 for Facebook. EcoNusa also aired 8 videos at average on YouTube every month.

In fact, education, information and inspiring local figures were among the contents with more interactions. It is no wonder that in general the followers of EcoNusa media channels were increasing every month. In a way, EcoNusa Engagement Rate (ER) as the newly established institution has exceeded the ER of other NGOs' media channels that have been long and well established.



To stay relevant amidst the pandemic, EcoNusa has performed its community mandate through various activities. In 2020, EcoNusa held 47 events of which 37 were virtual ones due to social restriction. All events here involved various number of stakeholders including community and media.

EcoNusa events had been covered into 313 news coverage consisting of 155 national online media articles, 103 local online media, 21 national print media articles, 1 local print media, 8 news videos and 12 series of podcasts in 2020. Thus, with the news coverage here EcoNusa had estimated a Public Relation value worth of Rp. 26,758,482,500 in 2020.



*"... shifting mindset to take care of environment is not as easy as like turning our palm hand. Today has given new spirit to me as there is new hope to see change through young people."*  
 (Julian Kelly Kambu, Environment Protection and Management Office Head of Sorong Mayoraty, West Papua).













# Management of Organizational Resources











EcoNusa runs the organization with the support of human resources with adequate capacity. EcoNusa has a total of 56 staffers consisting of 30 women and 26 men.

Office	Male	Female	Total
Jakarta	20	26	46
Jayapura	1	1	2
Manokwari	0	1	1
Sorong	2	1	3
Kaimana	3	0	3
North Maluku	0	1	1
Total	26	30	56



In addition, to help ease the coordination, program implementation and intervention on the eastern regions of Indonesia, EcoNusa has 6 offices located at Sorong with 3 staffs, Manokwari 1 staff, Kaimana 3 staffs, Jayapura 2 staffs, Jakarta 48 staffs and 1 in Maluku. With those offices, EcoNusa has more flexibility to reach communities, local partners, development partners and other relevant stakeholders.

To help management and development of organization's resources, EcoNusa has been developing Standard Operation Procedure (SOP) as the main reference of operation, safety and security procedure and Covid-19 response guidelines. The SOPs cover procedures for Finance, Manpower, Procurement, Secretariat, Safety and Security and Covid-19 response. These SOPs could help ease the office systems and minimize internal conflict to materialize organization's transparency and accountability.

Meanwhile, EcoNusa also applied office administration system with Odoo Platform since the mid of 2020. Finance system will also apply SANCO software. EcoNusa has been finalizing SOPs for small grant initiatives which will provide supports to local initiative as parts of the organizational intervention strategy.









# Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL)

As the follow-up of the early endeavors after the establishment of working unit, in 2020 the MEL unit performed its function to monitor program implementation and involve in organizational development in support of learning processes. In the first semester of 2020, the MEL unit supported a Real Time Evaluation for the Eastern Indonesia Forest Facility (EIFF) program funded by the Rainforest Foundation Norway. The evaluation is the initial study which will be continued to the following year of the program duration.

The MEL team also performed quality assurance for program reporting to some donors such as The David and Lucile Packard Foundation, CLUA, and The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Field monitoring activity could not be performed yet due to Covid-19 pandemic. Furthermore, to strengthen the MEL system, the team has developed a MEL manual by end of 2020.



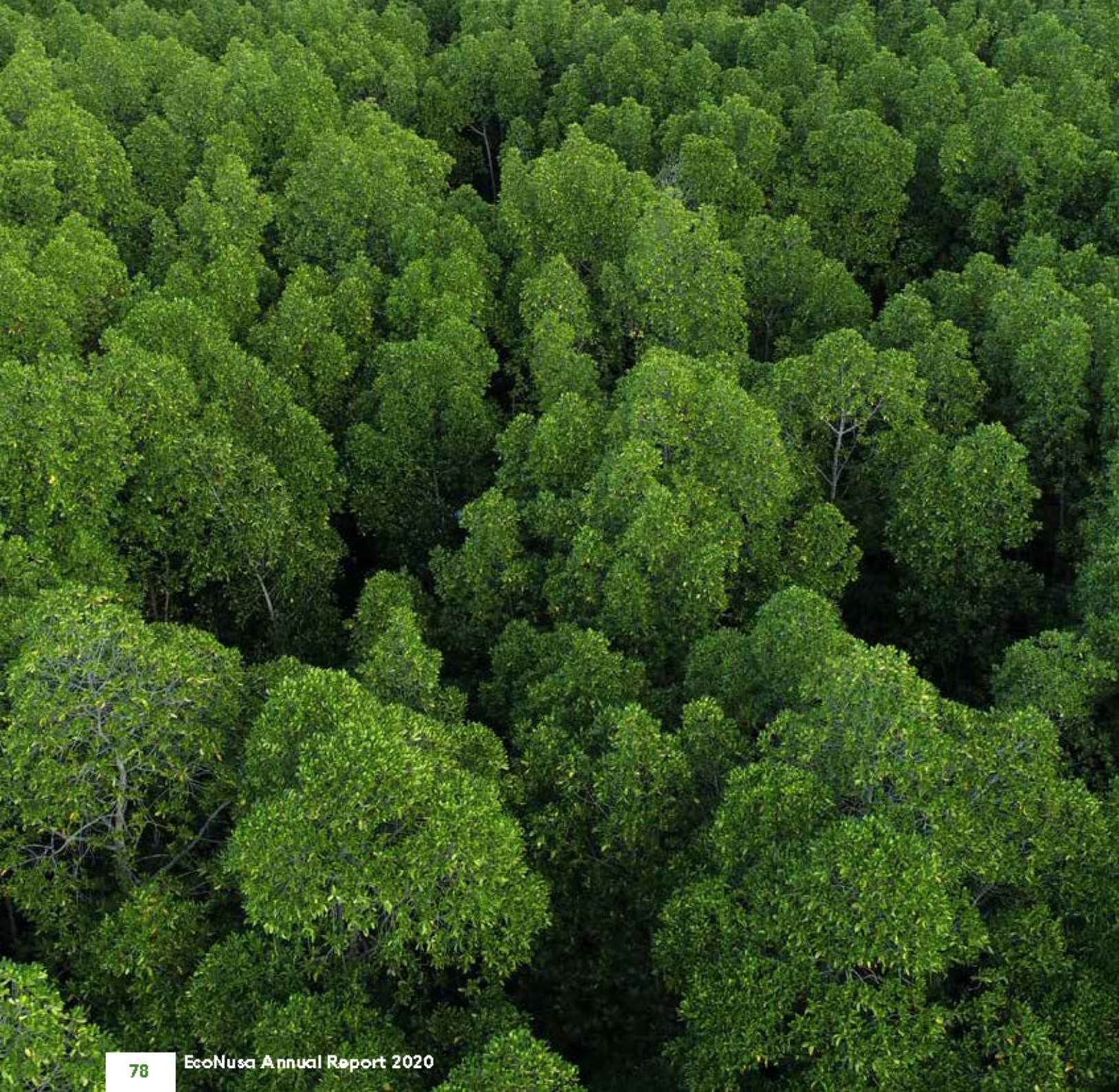




# Funding and Key Partners

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# Funding

In 2020, EcoNusa has been supported by 13 donors to fund the activities related to forests, ocean and Covid-19 response. The total of fund managed by EcoNusa was Rp64.7 billion. In brief, the budget allocation is scrutinized in the chart below.

## Organizational Budget Allocation

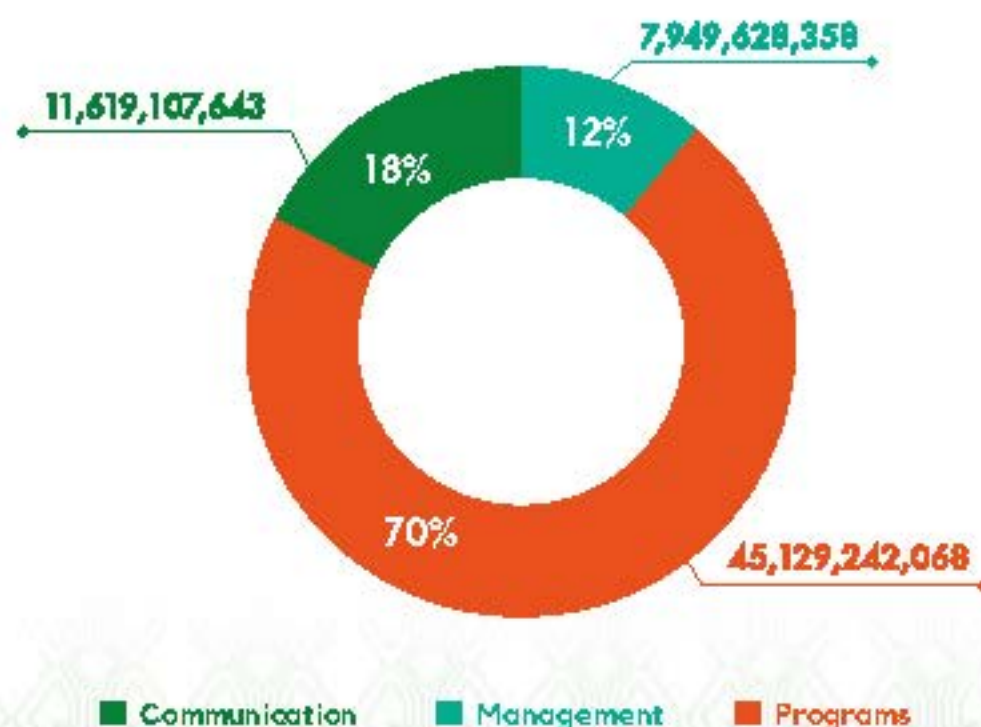


Chart 1. Organizational Budget Allocation (IDR)



## Program Funding Allocation

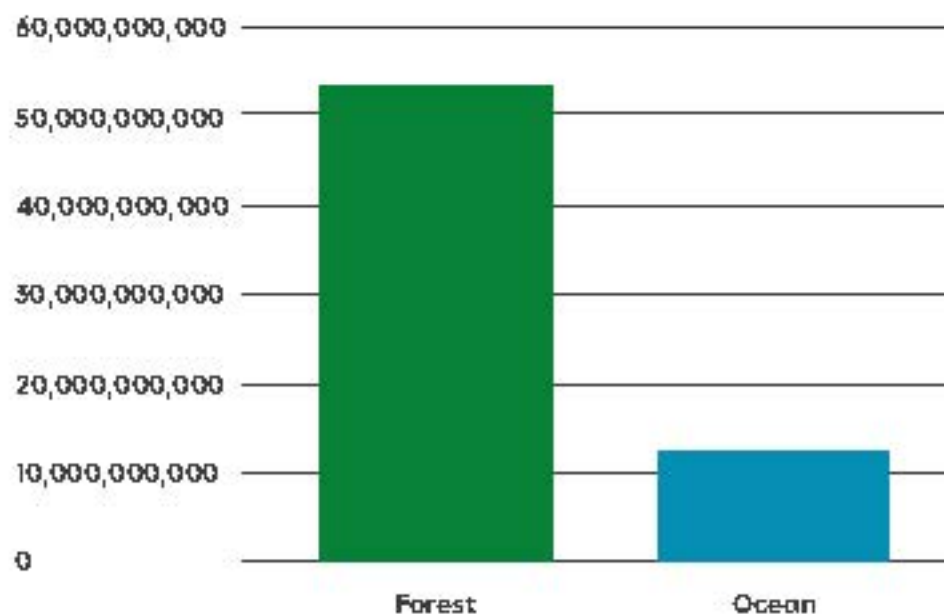


Chart 2. Program Funding Allocation (IDR)







# Key Partners

1 Norwegian Embassy - Ministry of Foreign Affair

2 Rainforest Foundation Norway (RFN)

3 Packard Foundation

4 JMC Foundation

5 Schwab Charitable Foundation

6 Climate and Land Use Alliance (CLUA)

7 UNDP

8 Indonesian Society for Social Transformation (INSIST)

9 Kopernik

10 Perkumpulan Pakativa

11 Perkumpulan Panah Papua

12 Perjampat

13 Caritas Merauke

14 Bentara Papua

15 Walhi Maluku Utara

EcoNusa is in collaboration and coordination with the government at central, provincial and regency/mayorality levels. The organization collaborated with various parties or development partners. It includes academician, local community and media to perform its initiatives and programs along the 2020.

In addition to the above listed partners, as the funding organization as well as program implementation, EcoNusa also provided financial assistances to 39 local institutions in Tanah Papua and partners to run their activities.













# Lessons Learned and Dreams







# Lessons Learned

The arrival of Covid-19 pandemic is unpredictable issue. However, when pandemic has been spread widely, the only possible way is anticipation and mitigation. It includes the way all people cope with the situation.

In 2020, nearly all aspects of life have been forced to adaptation. EcoNusa has made every effort to adapt to the pandemic while performing its missions in the eastern regions of Indonesia. Organizational adaptation is done by applying health protocols and government regulation in response to pandemic with compliance.

EcoNusa has call of duty to stay relevant to its missions to the communities in the eastern regions of Indonesia. EcoNusa garnered supports from all elements to provide backups to the isolated communities through public education and distribution of supportive medical kits and of farming tools to cope with the pandemic. EcoNusa worked hand in hand in response to Covid-19 through some expeditions in some small islands in West Papua, Maluku and North Papua. Health education helps minimize the pandemic transmission. Farming counseling helps the affected communities to survive amidst the pandemic.

EcoNusa also learned to adjust to the working patterns, coordination, collaboration and interaction with stakeholders that closely worked with the organization's program implantation. The organization learns to adopt virtual technology breakthroughs and online intervention and flexible working due to the social restriction. EcoNusa eventually could run the activities and programs, despite the absence of offline interaction, which involved thousands of stakeholders virtually.

EcoNusa's major mission is to build a sovereign customary community in forests and ocean resources management in the eastern of Indonesia. The moral responsibility here has mobilized the organization to stay relevant despite the high risk of pandemic. The mandate of customary communities became the driver for EcoNusa to keep moving and being relevant.



# Dreams

The Government of Indonesia jointly with the communities have worked hand in hand to curb the transmission of Covid-19. Ten months went by, but positivity and mortality rates arising from the virus kept on mounting. Fortunately, recovery rates were also increasing. But positive cases have yet to turn to flat curve.

When all peoples expect that pandemic would be away, others also realize that none could forecast that the pandemic will come to end at all. There is no other word but to live and make peace with the new normal life amidst the pandemic. It still takes very long course to tame the pandemic, after all. Vaccination and herd immunity would at least be the best hope to every nation at the moment.

Meanwhile, EcoNusa will keep moving to make self-adjustment and comply with the health protocol during the pandemic. The community mandate in the isolated areas still gives a call to EcoNusa to stay relevant by being there with them so that pandemic would not discourage their lives and sovereignty. Concrete actions in 2020 have become the spirit and the driver of the organization to keep busy doing something together with the communities in the eastern of Indonesia while hoping that they could get benefits from their own natural resources.

















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