




ECONUSA
NATURE • CULTURE • CONSERVATION

EcoNusa Annual Report 2024

WEAVING SELF-RELIANCE IN EASTERN INDONESIA





EcoNusa Annual Report 2024

**WEAVING SELF-RELIANCE IN
EASTERN INDONESIA**

Person in Charge
Bustar Maitar

Writer
Bachori Dhian Pratama

Editor
Friska Kalia

Layout
Puti Andini Setyaningsih

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EcoNusa Sorong House
Jl. Kaliele, No. 4, RT 01/RW 02, Malaingredi Village,
Sorong Utara Sub-district , Sorong City,
Southwest Papua 98412.

CONTENTS

ECONUSA AT A GLANCE	4
THE ECOTEAM	5
LETTER FROM THE CEO	6
VISION AND MISSION	8
ORGANIZATIONAL VALUES	9
CHAMPIONING INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S RIGHTS IN SAFEGUARDING AND MANAGING NATURAL RESOURCES	10
ADVOCACY STEPS IN INTEGRATING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	14
ECHOING THE NARRATIVE OF FOREST AND OCEAN PROTECTION	20
SUSTAINABLE PROTECTION FOR VULNERABLE ECOSYSTEMS	26
SYNERGY WITH PARTNERS AND COLLABORATORS	29
INSTITUTIONAL AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT	32





ECONUSA AT A GLANCE

Yayasan Ekosistem Nusantara Berkelanjutan (EcoNusa) is a non-profit organization with a goal to promote equitable and sustainable natural resource management in Eastern Indonesia through the strengthening of local initiatives. We are actively engaged with Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) to build collective awareness in safeguarding the preservation of forests, oceans, and biodiversity which serve as the last stronghold for the climate and a vital support system for humanity.

EcoNusa works to connect indigenous initiatives by strengthening collaboration among stakeholders, reinforcing capacity building, and communicating best practices to the public. The main focus of EcoNusa is building community resilience in natural resource management, promoting economic independence, supporting indigenous people's rights through policy advocacy and low-carbon development, mobilizing youth movements, strengthening institutional capacity, and promoting positive narratives about the Papua and Maluku Islands.

EcoNusa is committed to ensuring the development and empowerment of local communities in a manner that prioritizes environmental conservation, social and environmental justice, transformative change, and inclusivity. We believe that holistic and comprehensive approaches will produce tangible benefits for the sustainability of indigenous peoples' lives and the preservation of ecosystems.

THE ECOTEAM

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Etik Mei Wati

Foundation Secretary

Vilta Lefaan

LETTER FROM THE CEO

In 2024, EcoNusa continued to face dynamic political conditions and challenges in fundraising. These circumstances have impacted many areas, particularly strategic planning, operations, and human resources. Various adjustments have been made to ensure that our programs remain effective and efficient, in line with the targets that have been set. One of the most difficult adjustments was the release of nearly 60% of our talented team members. Despite this considerable reduction, the unwavering commitment and collaborative spirit of the remaining staff enabled EcoNusa to achieve key milestones. These accomplishments were made possible through continued partnerships with Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) as well as our valued strategic partners.

Fundraising has consistently represented one of the most significant challenges, not only for EcoNusa but also for NGOs globally. Nevertheless, this limitation has never deterred our commitment to generating positive and sustainable impacts for the Indigenous Peoples and ecosystems we strive to protect. EcoNusa continues to turn challenges into opportunities by maintaining program operations effectively and efficiently. In this process, our resilience is constantly tested. Nevertheless, with each challenge, we continue to grow into a more adaptive organization.

Thanks to EcoNusa's resilience and unwavering commitment, as well as the boundless support of Indigenous communities who continue to inspire many, EcoNusa successfully secured significant funding support at the end of 2024 from the Government of Norway through the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad). This support will enhance the long-term impact of our programs. In addition, we continue to receive support from our long-standing partners: The David and Lucile Packard Foundation, Rainforest Foundation Norway, Hans Wilsdorf Foundation, Climate and Land Use Alliance, Rainforest Trust, Rainforest Fund, Schwab Charitable, Lingkar Temu Kabupaten Lestari, Good Energies Foundation, and the Walton Family Foundation. Their support not only strengthens our operations but also motivates us to continue creating positive and sustainable change.

The year 2024 was marked by intense political activity, which often affects the implementation of development programs at both national and local levels. From the Presidential election to simultaneous regional elections, this political momentum had significant implications for various aspects, including program execution, community engagement, legal and policy certainty, as well as the interests of diverse stakeholders. Nevertheless, EcoNusa was able to navigate these political challenges successfully.

By prioritizing intensive collaboration with various parties, particularly local NGOs, CSOs, and regional governments, EcoNusa successfully integrated strategic issues and Indigenous Peoples' needs into regional development plans, including the Regional Long-Term Development Plan (Rencana Pembangunan Jangka Panjang Daerah or RPJPD) for Papua, Sorong, and South Sorong. This is part of our strategic effort to influence sustainable development planning in eight regencies across Papua and Maluku.

As part of our commitment to supporting the economic independence of Indigenous Peoples, EcoNusa continues to promote capacity building, both for individuals and local economic institutions. One key initiative is expanding opportunities for the distribution and marketing of Indigenous Peoples' superior products through partnerships with PT Ekosistem Bumi Lestari (KOBUMI). KOBUMI, which focuses on sustainable business solutions, successfully marketed a range of top-quality commodities, including 280 tons of agroforestry-based spices, 33.8 tons of copra, and 3.1 tons of wild-caught shrimp. The impact of this initiative is clearly reflected in the improved livelihoods of Indigenous Peoples in Eastern Indonesia.

At the same time, EcoNusa is working to improve KOBUMI's performance as a social enterprise focused on Indigenous-led economic empowerment. As a strategic step to broaden business reach, KOBUMI has launched and developed affiliated companies under PT EcoBUMI. Currently, PT EcoBUMI consists of several entities, including PT KOBUMI, PT KOBUMI Marine, PT KOBUMI Industri, and PT KOBUMI Food. Through this business development, we aim to further strengthen



Indigenous economies while upholding the principles of Indigenous Peoples' rights and local ecosystem sustainability.

EcoNusa's multi-stakeholder collaboration also successfully mobilized more than 67,560 environmental activists across 1,285 locations throughout Indonesia through the Aksi Muda Jaga Iklim (AMJI) movement. This initiative is more than just an action—it is a wave of enthusiasm that empowers youth to care more and take real steps to protect the climate. With its strong, positive message, this movement continues to inspire young people to become climate guardians, offering new hope for a sustainable future in Indonesia.

EcoNusa continues to amplify Indigenous Peoples' efforts to safeguard Indonesia's climate last strongholds through active digital engagement on our website and social media platforms. These digital assets have become a primary source of information for over 2,259,104 individuals seeking updates on Papua and the Maluku Islands.

In line with our transformation toward deeper grassroots engagement, EcoNusa made a strategic decision in 2024 to relocate our core operations to Eastern Indonesia, with Sorong becoming our primary base of activity. This move was not merely symbolic—it reflects our unwavering commitment to stand closer to the Indigenous Peoples and local communities that are central to our mission. By establishing our presence at the heart of the regions we serve, we can respond more swiftly and sensitively to local dynamics, build stronger and more direct relationships with our partners on the ground, and ensure that every step we take is rooted in the actual needs, aspirations, and potential of the communities.

This strategic shift enables EcoNusa to not only strengthen field-based collaboration and program implementation, but also to better influence local governance and development processes. It positions us to become more agile, responsive, and impactful in our efforts to promote justice-based and sustainable natural resource management across Eastern Indonesia.

Ultimately, all of our strategic efforts reflect a firm commitment to ensuring that development in Eastern Indonesia is carried out effectively and with clear purpose. We remain dedicated to supporting stakeholders in building strong collaborative movements, focusing on the development of inclusive strategic planning, and promoting the equitable and sustainable management of natural resources throughout the region.



VISION AND MISSION

VISION Championing community's independence in sustainable and impartial natural resources management.

- MISSION**
- 1** Facilitating stakeholders on managing equitable and sustainable natural resources in Eastern Indonesia.
 - 2** Expanding networks and improve the capacity of local NGO partners on equitable and sustainable natural resources management.
 - 3** Promoting learning and best practices on equitable and sustainable natural resources management conducted by local NGOs and communities at national and international levels.
 - 4** Organizing young people, especially in urban areas, to support the sovereignty movement on equitable and sustainable natural resources management.
 - 5** Strengthening EcoNusa capacity as an effective and accountable organization of change in pursuit of the implementation of the vision and mission or mandates.



ORGANIZATION VALUES



Environmental
and Social Justice



Equality



Transformation



Accountability



Integrity



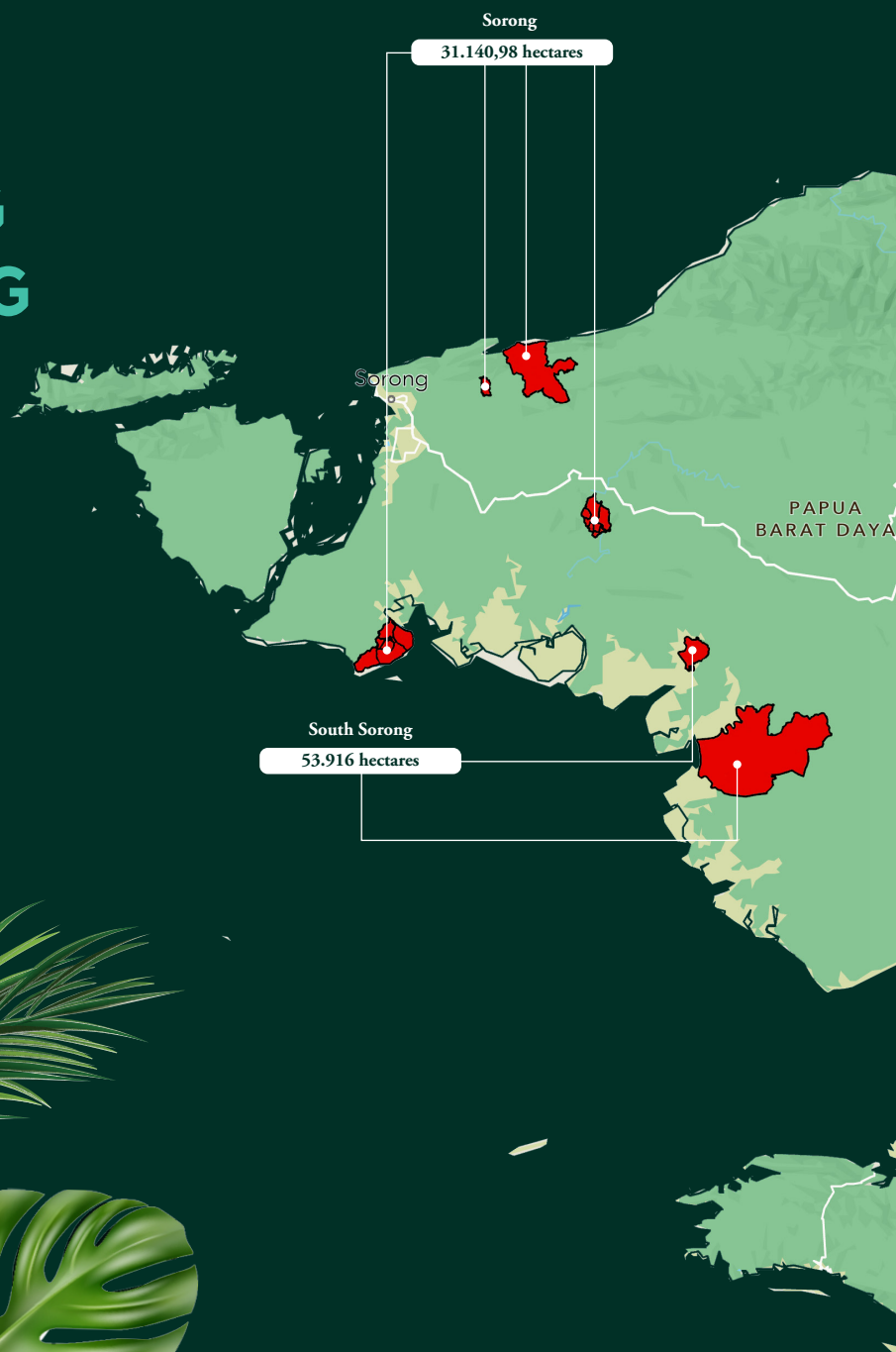
Excellence

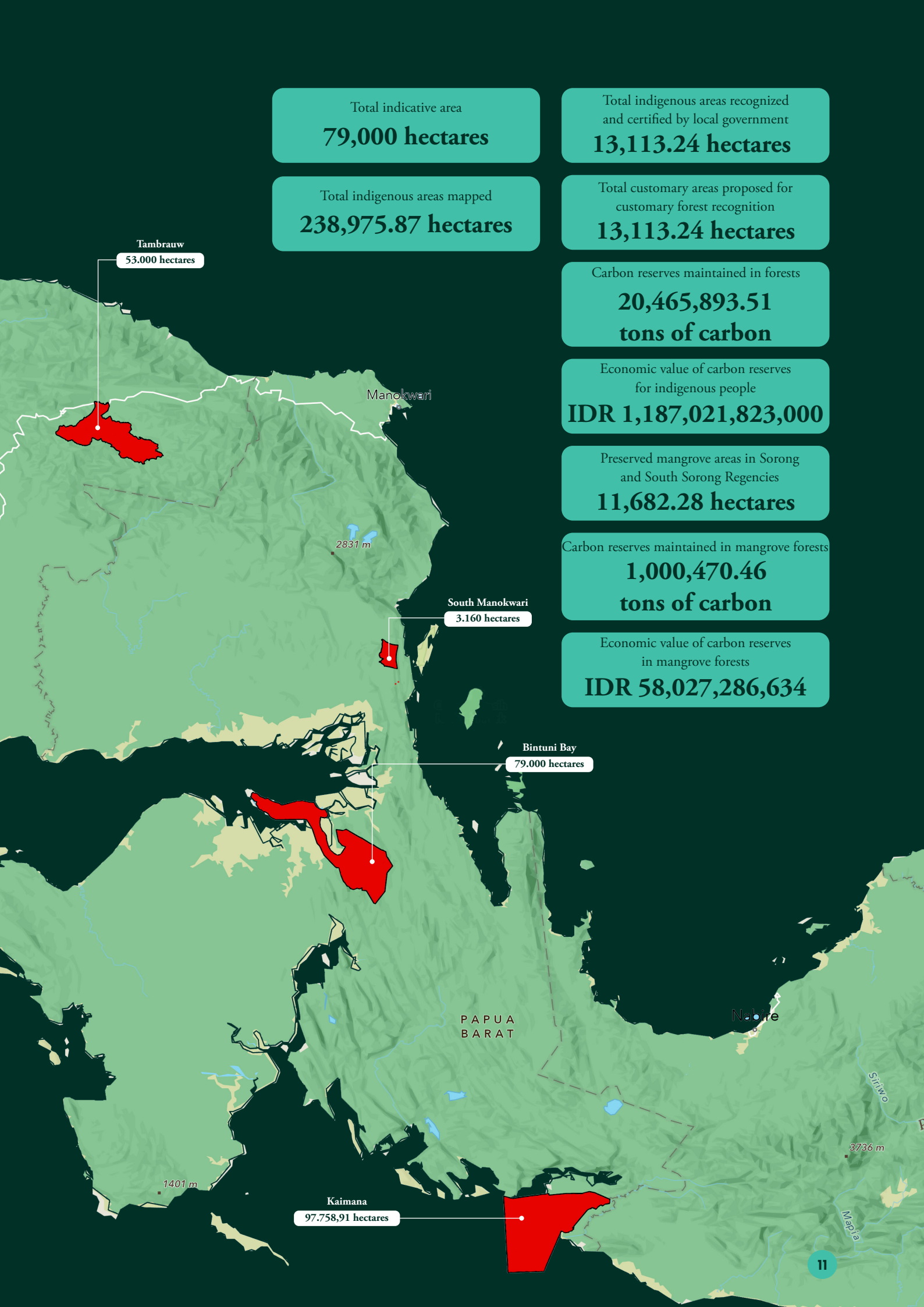


Inclusiveness



CHAMPIONING INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S RIGHTS IN SAFEGUARDING AND MANAGING NATURAL RESOURCES





Total indicative area
79,000 hectares

Total indigenous areas recognized
and certified by local government
13,113.24 hectares

Total indigenous areas mapped
238,975.87 hectares

Total customary areas proposed for
customary forest recognition
13,113.24 hectares

Carbon reserves maintained in forests
**20,465,893.51
tons of carbon**

Economic value of carbon reserves
for indigenous people
IDR 1,187,021,823,000

Preserved mangrove areas in Sorong
and South Sorong Regencies
11,682.28 hectares

Carbon reserves maintained in mangrove forests
**1,000,470.46
tons of carbon**

Economic value of carbon reserves
in mangrove forests
IDR 58,027,286,634

Ritual, Cultural and Spiritual in Safeguarding Indigenous Areas

Lakahia, a small island rich in marine resources, holds abundant natural wealth. The indigenous people of Aara, who reside on this island, have been safeguarding and utilizing these natural resources wisely, only taking what is necessary to meet their daily needs. To get around the island, one only needs to walk for an hour or take a motorboat for 20–30 minutes. Even though the island is relatively small, the indigenous people of Aara are fully aware of the importance of gaining formal recognition for their indigenous area, especially with the proposed expansion of the Etna region into a regency in the coming years, which could potentially bring an influx of newcomers and destructive development activities.

The process of gaining recognition for indigenous areas is not an easy journey. The indigenous people of Aara have worked hard to build collaboration among various stakeholders to obtain Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) without coercion, conduct participatory mapping of their indigenous areas, and hold customary meetings as an essential first step in recognizing their territorial boundaries. Their efforts did not stop there. The Aara indigenous community collectively prepared all necessary administrative and technical requirements in accordance with West Papua Governor Regulation Number 25 of 2021 concerning the Procedures for Determining the Recognition of Indigenous People and Indigenous Territories. Once the required documentation was finalized, the indigenous people of Aara formally submitted their proposal for territorial recognition to the government.

This submission was not merely an administrative step, it was a journey rich with ritual, cultural, and spiritual significance. In this process, a group from the indigenous people of Aara went to the Regent's Office, accompanied by traditional music and the Seka traditional dance. The energetic body movements of the dance reflected values of sacredness and unity. This traditional dance symbolized that the recognition of indigenous territories is a vital part of their identity but also deserving of respect. Furthermore, it represented the vitality and spiritual strength needed to collectively protect their natural wealth.

The documents were finally received by the Regional Secretary of Kaimana Regency, Donald Wakum, who also serves as Chair of the Kaimana Customary Law Community (Masyarakat Hukum Adat or MHA) Committee. These documents will soon be verified and validated, marking an important step toward official recognition of the Aara Customary Law Community's areas.

The struggle of the indigenous people of Aara reflects the importance of living in harmony with nature and maintaining strong social bonds within the community. Their efforts teach us about courage and the enduring spirit of defending traditional rights and preserving nature for future generations.



“We will bring our knowledge and experience in mapping and managing customary territory recognition documents to other villages. We want to feel the long-term impact of maintaining the forests in Papua together with them”

- Salmon Nay, Head of the Napiti/Komoro Tribe Customary Council



Celebrating Indigenous Peoples' Victory in Defending Indigenous Areas

Amid the ongoing process of numerous oil palm plantation permits, the indigenous people of the Tehit Mlaqya Sub-tribe and the Nakin Onim Fayas Sub-tribe in South Sorong Regency have demonstrated an outstanding initiative by mapping their indigenous areas. This step was taken to obtain legal recognition and protection as part of the MHA. Thanks to their persistent efforts, the indigenous areas of the Nakin Onim Fayas Sub-tribe, covering Mogatemin and Onimsefa Villages in Kais

Darat District with a total area of 50.136 hectares, as well as the areas of the Tehit Mlaqya Sub-tribe in Tapiri and Wersar Villages, Teminabuan District, with a total area of 3.780 hectares, have now received strong legal recognition and protection. This victory not only represents formal recognition of indigenous people's rights, but also empowers them to actively protect and sustainably manage the natural potential of their areas.



“Our long journey began when a company planned to clear land in our area. We still remember every step of the struggle we took, full of challenges and sacrifices. But today, we feel immense happiness because this historic moment has finally arrived. We have now been recognized as indigenous people, an achievement that affirms our rights to the land and culture we have preserved for generations.”

- Alfaris Dere, Head of Nakin Onim Fayas Sub-tribe



ADVOCACY STEPS IN INTEGRATING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

**Formulating a Development Plan that
is Responsive to the Environment and
Indigenous People**

Strategic issues
of sustainable
development

22

Strategic issues
of environmental
protection

7

Strategic issues of
community-based
economic development

11

Indigenous people
involved in document
consultations

15

Women and youth
involved in document
consultations

40

The formation of Southwest Papua brought significant challenges regarding the potential spike in deforestation, especially those caused by infrastructure development and the issuance of new permits in the area. With six regencies entering this new province, the potential for major changes to ecosystems and natural resources became more apparent. As a New Autonomous Region (*Daerah Otonomi Baru or DOB*), regional governments both at the provincial and regency levels are now subject to the mandate stipulated in Law Number 23 of 2024 concerning Regional Government.

This regulation grants significant authority to regional governments to formulate development planning documents, which include the Regional Long-Term Development Plan (*Rencana Pembangunan Jangka Panjang Daerah or RPJPD*), the Regional Medium-Term Development Plan (*Rencana Pembangunan Jangka Menengah Daerah or RPJMD*), and the Regional Development Work Plan (*Rencana Kerja Pembangunan Daerah or RKPD*).

EcoNusa, in collaboration with the regional governments of Sorong and South Sorong, as well as indigenous people, has successfully accommodated various issues regarding the acceleration of sustainable development, environmental protection, and community-based economic development in the preparation of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (*Kajian Lingkungan Hidup Strategis or KLHS*) documents for the RPJPD and RPJMD.

A series of workshops focusing on technical capacity building for formulating the KLHS, as well as sessions on the formulation of regional planning documents and public consultations involving communities, have ensured that the policies and regulations developed are well-aligned and responsive to the actual needs and challenges faced by local communities. Thus, the development plans contained in the RPJPD documents not only reflect the communities' aspirations and needs but also represent a well-thought-out strategy to optimize the region's development potential in a sustainable and inclusive manner.



“Our involvement in the consultation process for developing regional planning documents is both new and important. These consultations are conducted to ensure that our needs are genuinely considered in development planning for the next 20 years. Our direct involvement not only provides insight and a platform to speak out about the future of indigenous peoples in forest protection and economic development but also serves as proof that regional development must be a collective effort—one that includes us as indigenous peoples who will manage our own indigenous territories.”

- Markus Kedoroi, Secretary of the Tehit Mlaqya Sub-tribe





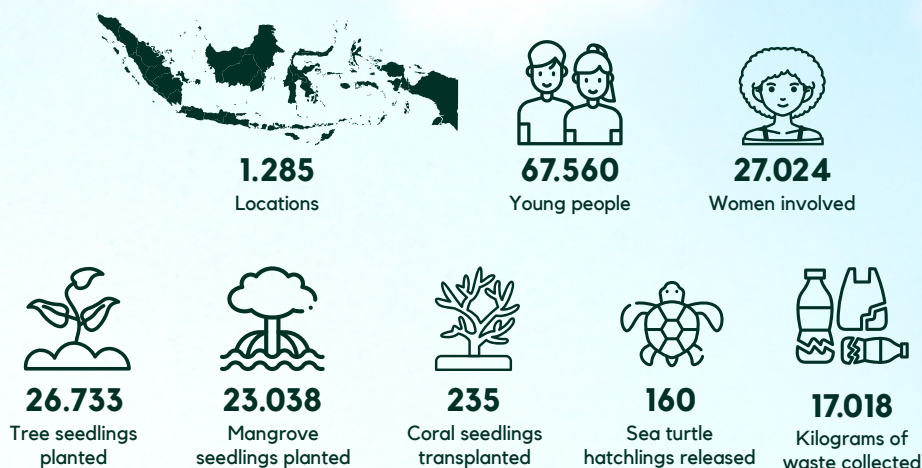
ACTIVATING YOUNG LEADERS

Young People as the Driving Force of the Environment

Aksi Muda Jaga Iklim (AMJI) is a collective movement with the goal of reducing the impacts of the climate crisis, mainly focusing on forest and marine ecosystem restoration. This movement has become the front face of EcoNusa in mobilizing young people to take concrete actions in protecting the environment.

This year, AMJI has shown significant progress, with achievements that are far more substantial compared to previous years. This improvement is reflected in the number of locations, the growing number of participants, and the expansion of collaboration with partners. It has also produced various new initiatives in each location impacted by climate change.

Aksi Muda Jaga Iklim



AMJI's Partners and Collaborators





Ecological Retreat for Nature

Retreat, which is mainly known as an activity to withdraw or take a break from daily routines, can serve various purposes, ranging from spiritual growth and stress relief to efforts to maintain one's health. This activity is usually part of a lifestyle or a facility to support various social and ecological efforts. This concept is adopted by a group of youth in Kaimana for an ecological purpose, which is to build collective awareness of the importance of preserving the environment.

As part of the preparations for AMJI 2024, this retreat facilitated in-depth discussions aimed at mapping the various environmental challenges we face. The young people discussed the causes and impacts generated by climate change, and identified key issues such as greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and deforestation, which significantly contribute to global climate change. Through this activity, they developed a deep understanding of the interconnection between human activities and environmental destruction, as well as a strong commitment from youth to take active roles in nature preservation efforts.



“This environmental retreat not only ignited our spirit to protect the environment, but we were also guided and equipped with knowledge and practical skills to effectively preserve our surroundings, which are increasingly feeling the real impacts of the climate crisis. Starting with simple actions, caring for the Earth can begin with planting and tending to trees around our homes.”

- Sri Haryati Imam Bukhori, youth mobilizer from Kaimana.





ECHOING THE NARRATIVE OF FOREST AND OCEAN PROTECTION

Digital Movement to Showcase the Natural Wealth of Eastern Indonesia



Followers in six social media channels

420.587 followers



Website visitors per month

15.000 average visitors/month
24.000 average read pages/month



Contents published

1.561



Total public relation value

> IDR 300 millions

Throughout 2024, EcoNusa continued to amplify the key message about the importance of preserving the remaining forests and oceans in Eastern Indonesia. Through innovative digital communication strategies, we shared positive narratives about the region's natural wealth, portraying how this "piece of paradise" still exists today. These inspiring narratives were expected to move people and ignite public awareness.

This collaborative effort between EcoNusa, indigenous peoples, and local communities continues to produce a substantial digital movement. Our social media and website have become the main channels for sharing information related to Papua and the Maluku Islands. Through these platforms, we aim to provide accurate and useful sources of information, so the public can better understand and participate in environmental preservation efforts in this biodiversity-rich region.

This strategic step has successfully created significant interactions and a high level of engagement with various digital content. Some of these include Camilan Hutan Papua, Obat Sakit Perut Ala Suku Ileres, Dari Alam ke Piring: Mengenal Tradisi Papua Lewat Piring, Ancaman Sisa Makanan, Woromo Kelapa Hutan Papua, and Merayakan Kemenangan Masyarakat Adat Papua. These stories managed to highlight the cultural and natural wealth of Papua that must be protected and preserved.

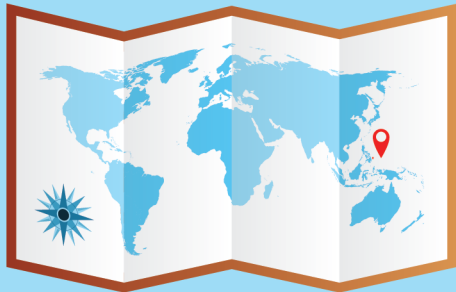
The high level of digital engagement also directly increased the number of followers across our social media platforms. Furthermore, several pieces of content were shared by major media outlets and aggregators, expanding the reach of our positive messaging about Papua and the Maluku Islands. As a result, the narrative around the importance of safeguarding cultural heritage and the environment in these regions has become more widely recognized.



WEAVING RESTORATIVE ECONOMY

Commodity





**National Market and Export
via Makassar, Surabaya
or Jakarta**

**Nutmeg
North Maluku**
225.724,20 kg



**Nutmeg
Maluku**
225.724,20 kg

**Main Warehouse, Cold
Storage and Processing
Facilities for Maluku Region**

**Main Warehouse, Cold
Storage and Processing
Facilities for Papua Region**





From the Coast of West Papua to the National Market

Kaimana, located on the coast of West Papua, is known for its abundant natural resources, one of which is black copra. Black copra is a processed product derived from coconut meat, traditionally dried through smoking and sun exposure. This unique processing method imparts a distinctive taste and aroma, making black copra a high-value and sought-after product.

With a wide range of benefits such as being a raw material for snacks, a primary source for coconut oil extraction, an ingredient in beauty and skincare products, as well as a key component in soap and detergent production, black copra holds great potential in the industrial market.

This commodity has become one of the pillars of a sustainable local economy, particularly for communities in Adijaya Village, Kaimana. Most community members produce copra, and it has become one of their main sources of income. Throughout 2024, the communities of Adijaya Village successfully produced 16 tons of copra. The commodity is transported by boat to Kaimana City, then shipped by container vessel to Surabaya. The Adijaya community remains committed to preserving the quality and sustainability of black copra production, ensuring that its benefits can be passed down to future generations.



“I’m not fighting alone, there’s our friend (Yuli, one of the EcoNusa staff) who always provides guidance on how to manage soil fertility and produce good-quality copra. Since the place where we make copra is far from the coast, we carry sacks of copra on our backs to the *pok-pok* boat to be transported to Kaimana city. It’s definitely heavy work, but we’re happy that our copra can be sold. In addition, through these copra sales, we’ve started saving and reducing our dependence on taking cash loans from suppliers.”

- Arifi Lawai, Coconut Farmer, Adijaya Village

Indigenous People's Spices in the Global Market

Our social enterprise, KOBUMI, has recently reached a historic milestone by beginning to export nutmeg and mace from Ambon to Surabaya, before finally being shipped to Vietnam. This export is part of KOBUMI's strategy to expand its international market reach and build strategic partnerships with top global companies, such as Nedspice, which is known for its complex operational requirements and high-quality standards.

Before being shipped to Vietnam, the 2 tons of nutmeg and 2 tons of mace underwent a five-day fumigation process to

ensure that the products were free from pests and diseases. This step is essential in maintaining quality and complying with international export regulations.

The success of this effort not only marks KOBUMI's first major achievement with indigenous people but also highlights the persistence of these communities in maintaining quality and meeting product quantity requirements. This opens up new opportunities for indigenous people to access the global market, providing them with greater economic benefits and better prices.



SUSTAINABLE PROTECTION FOR VULNERABLE ECOSYSTEMS



Collaborative
research

3



Policy influence
research

1



Researchers

17



Universities

3

The coastlines of small islands in Indonesia are facing unbelievably high pressure due to climate change, as well as increasing development activities and extractive industries. One real piece of evidence is Sangihe Island, a small island located on the border between Indonesia and the Philippines, which is currently threatened by gold mining activities in a concession area of 42.000 hectares, nearly half of the island's total area.

In an effort to preserve coastal areas and small islands, EcoNusa has established a research collaboration with researchers from the Center for Coastal and Marine Resources Studies (*Pusat Kajian Sumberdaya Pesisir dan Lautan* or PKSPL) at IPB University to promote science-based policies aimed at creating more equitable and sustainable coastal governance. This research is a form of our support for the protection of the rights of coastal communities, who play a crucial role in safeguarding coastal habitats and small islands.

Recognizing the importance of the Coastal and Small Island Management Law (*Undang-Undang Pengelolaan Wilayah Pesisir dan Pulau-Pulau Kecil* or UUPWP3K) as the legal foundation to address increasingly rampant destructive activities in Indonesia, EcoNusa, together with the Coalition for Sustainable Fisheries and Marine (Koalisi untuk Perikanan dan Kelautan Berkelanjutan or KORAL), utilized the results of this research to support their position in the Friend of the Court (*Amicus Curiae*) brief opposing the Judicial Review of the UUPWP3K.

As a result of this struggle, on March 21, 2024, the Constitutional Court issued a ruling rejecting the Judicial Review of the UUPWP3K. This decision marks a turning point in the fight to protect the rights of coastal communities and small islands, ensuring that their living spaces remain safe and protected for future generations.



Building Economy and Conservation through Marine Stations

Banda Neira, a small island located in the Maluku Islands, Indonesia, is now a main focus in efforts toward marine conservation and sustainable development. EcoNusa's strategic step in establishing a Marine Station in Banda Neira has become a significant milestone in the effort to preserve marine biodiversity while also improving the welfare of local communities.

This Marine Station serves not only as a center for scientific research, but also as a hub for education and economic development for the local community. Aiming to sustainably harness the potential of natural resources, EcoNusa launched

a collaborative program with Universitas Banda Naira (UBN) and the Coordination Forum for the Supervision and Utilization of Marine and Fisheries Resources in the Banda Islands through the development of a simple floating net cage system. This program is designed to facilitate small-scale, environmentally friendly economic activities, while also serving as a platform for research and field practice for students of the Faculty of Fisheries at Universitas Banda Naira. This initial step marks the alignment of marine conservation efforts with economic development.



“The floating net cages managed by the local cooperative provide hands-on experience in sustainable business management for the surrounding community. This initiative also strengthens the research station as a field classroom for learning about local economic institutional management, which supports ecosystem sustainability and research efforts”

- Saiful Gazali, Lecturer at Universitas Pattimura





SYNERGY OF PARTNERS AND COLLABORATORS



Homestay

25 homestay units



Revolving funds distributed

IDR 825.000.000,-



Indigenous groups managing revolving funds

25



Women groups managing revolving funds

3

From Illegal Logger to Guardians of Forests and Oceans

Homestays in the Batanta, Waigeo, and Waisai areas of Raja Ampat are growing rapidly, creating a mutually beneficial economic chain between homestay management groups, local farmers, and fishers. Farming and fishing groups regularly supply organic vegetables and fresh fish, which serve as the main ingredients for local cuisine offered to guests. These homestays not only support the tourism sector but also serve as a platform for entrepreneurs to enhance their capacity. At the homestays, they learn how to manage finances, run business units, and maintain regular financial records. This enables them to develop stronger business skills, improve competitiveness, and create sustainable local economic development.

On the other hand, the presence of homestays not only reflects economic independence and capacity building but also holds inspiring stories of the fight against destructive practices. One such story is that of Mama Morin and her husband in Waisai, Raja Ampat. As a former illegal logger,

Mama Morin and her husband chose to leave their past behind and transition into homestay entrepreneurs. This decision symbolizes change and a commitment to a more environmentally friendly way of life.

Mama Morin's interest in utilizing EcoFund's revolving funds is a clear example that communities can responsibly use such funding to build homestays. As the funds are repaid, others in the community can access them, allowing the scheme to reach a wider network of ecosystem-based entrepreneurs. This decision also carries an important message that meaningful change to protect nature and support environmental sustainability can begin at the individual level.



“After changing our profession from forest destroyers to owners of an eco-friendly homestay, we’ve truly experienced that by preserving nature, we not only gain profit but also contribute to environmental conservation for future generations.”

“We continuously educate our guests on how to protect the coastal ecosystem around the homestay. We explain which areas are suitable for tourism activities and which must be protected as conservation zones.”

– Mama Morin, owner of Yankankanes Homestay, Waisai, Raja Ampat



Collaborators

15 institutional units



Program funds distributed

IDR 4,014,452,950,-



Integrated Collaboration to Protect the Crown Jewel of Papua

West Papua and Southwest Papua have a strategic area known as The Crown Jewel of Papua (CJoP). This region is located in the “bird’s head” and “neck” area of Papua and plays a crucial protective role while harboring rich biodiversity and cultural heritage that support sustainable development initiatives. The CJoP landscape is also home to various Indigenous Papuan tribes and sub-tribes, including the Abun, Hatam, Ileres, Kuri, Meyah, Miyah, Moile, Moskona, Mpur, Sough, Sough Bouhon, and Wamesa. For them, this area is a vital living space essential to their survival and cultural continuity.

To preserve and advance this region, the Provincial Governments of West Papua and Southwest Papua launched the Integrated Management Program for the *Mahkota Permata Tanah Papua* (MPTP) Landscape, also known as The Crown Jewel of Tanah Papua (CJoP), on July 18, 2024. This program aims to ensure forest conservation, recognition of Indigenous peoples’ rights in managing their natural resources, and to support the Central Government’s policies on climate change mitigation and biodiversity conservation, as outlined in the FOLU Net Sink 2030.

EcoNusa plays a significant role in enhancing the capacity and well-being of Indigenous communities in the CJoP region. Over the next three years, together with several strategic partners, EcoNusa will implement various support programs to protect Indigenous people’s rights, support government efforts through customary forest and social forestry mechanisms, ensure sustainable community-based economies, and preserve the vital ecosystems in this area.



INSTITUTIONAL AND RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Supporting Donor



THE DAVID & LUCILE

Packard Foundation



RAINFOREST TRUST

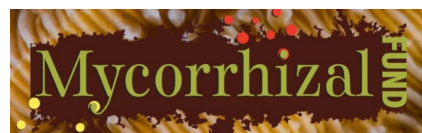


Climate and Land Use Alliance



LTKL

LINGKAR TEMU
KABUPATEN LESTARI



INTERFAITH
RAINFOREST
INITIATIVE



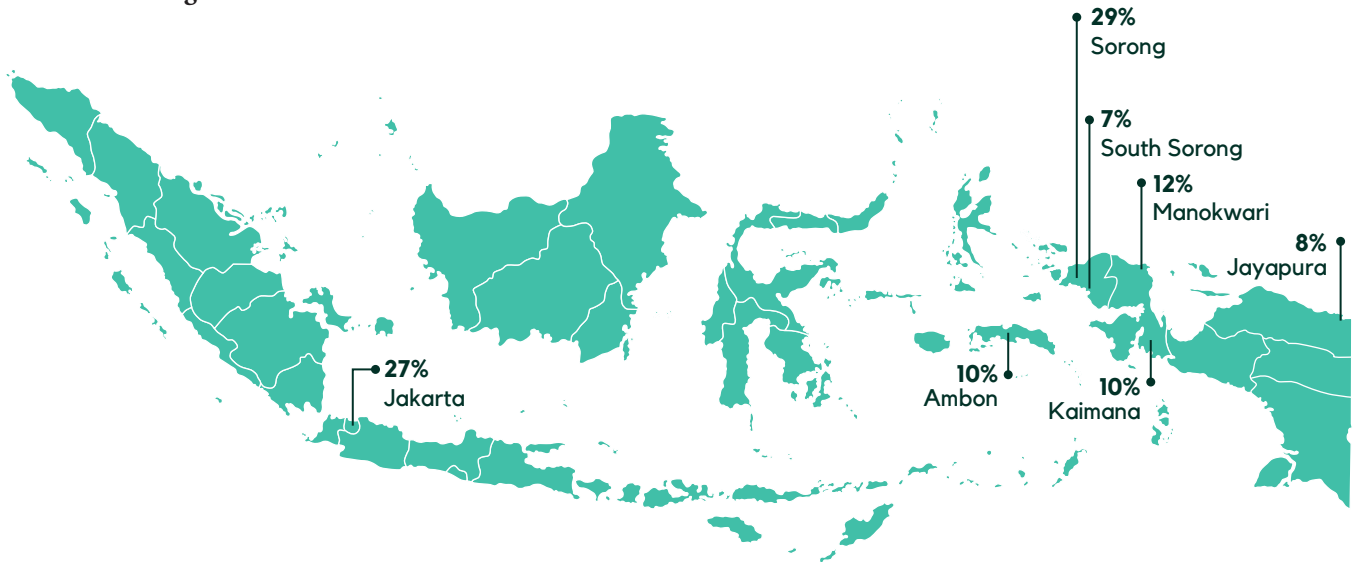
Norad

EcoNusa is widely recognized as a fast-growing organization with high resilience. We place accountability as a main principle in managing our finances, with the largest allocation focused on natural resource management programs. To ensure compliance with applicable procedures, our financial system is independently audited by a public accounting firm selected through an open procurement process each year. Transparent and efficient management of the organization, finances, and resources is the key to achieving our targets and ensuring sustainable social, economic, and ecological benefits.

Throughout 2024, EcoNusa managed a budget of approximately IDR 50,1 billion for 15 projects spread across five provinces in Papua and Maluku. With the support of donor partners, we successfully strengthened the capacity of local partners, promoted best practices, facilitated stakeholders, including youth, in the sustainable management of natural resources, and enhanced the organization's capacity both institutionally and in terms of human resources to ensure our programs run effectively and deliver meaningful impact.

Human Resources to Enhance Organizational Effectiveness

Staff Percentage



Female
53%



Male
47%

Skilled human resources are EcoNusa's key asset in carrying out the organization's vision and mission. However, funding challenges in 2024 led to adjustments in team size, requiring us to part with nearly 60% of our talented team members. In response to this challenge, EcoNusa undertook a restructuring process aligned with funding capacity, strategic plans, and the actual needs of the indigenous people we serve.

As part of this strategy, EcoNusa also relocated a portion of its human resources from Jakarta to Eastern Indonesia. This strategic move aims to strengthen local capacities, foster regional independence, and ensure that community-based sustainable development efforts are implemented closer to our focus areas. Despite these limitations, the dedication

and collaborative spirit of the remaining team enabled EcoNusa to continue reaching key milestones. We remain committed to close collaboration with indigenous peoples, local communities, and strategic partners to ensure our goals and programs continue to move forward effectively.



Managing Learning

The Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (PMEL) system supports EcoNusa in managing projects through structured programmatic design and logical frameworks. The use of a digital-based dashboard continues to be maintained to consolidate data and ensure that program implementation achievements are well-documented.

Throughout 2024, the PMEL team was heavily involved in ensuring the quality of program reporting, identifying lessons learned and areas for improvement, and ensuring that all projects align with the organization's core goals. Despite the challenges of managing 15 projects simultaneously, the integrated PMEL infrastructure has proven effective in turning every experience into a valuable learning opportunity for future project development.





