



About Us

Katingan Mentaya Project (KMP) is living proof that carbon finance can fight climate change. Working in partnership with local communities, KMP utilises carbon revenues to restore and protect the forest, through activities aligned with UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

Covering nearly 150,000 hectares of vital peatland habitats in Central Kalimantan (Indonesian Borneo), the project keeps potentially harmful carbon locked up in the landscape. Every year, KMP generates 7.5 million triple gold certified carbon credits – equivalent to taking 2 million cars off the road.

KMP is also a sanctuary for five Critically Endangered, eight Endangered and 31 Vulnerable species, including orangutan, clouded leopard, monkeys and the southern Bornean gibbon.

For wildlife, for the environment and for the future, Katingan Mentaya Project offers hope.

An aerial photograph of a wide, muddy river flowing through a dense, lush green forest. Two long, narrow wooden boats are visible on the water. The boat in the foreground is dark with a blue tarp on board. The boat further back is green. The surrounding forest is thick and vibrant green, with some rocky outcrops visible along the banks.

Our Goals:

The overarching aim of KMP is to reduce deforestation and support sustainable development opportunities in Kalimantan. These goals can be divided into three main areas of focus:

Climate

- Deliver verifiable reductions in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, through avoided deforestation and forest degradation associated with agricultural conversion, illegal logging, peat drainage and burning.

Community

- Foster inclusive partnerships and a culture of sustainability in local communities.
- Maintain and enhance ecosystem services that are fundamental to the overall wellbeing of communities in the project zone.



Biodiversity

- Reduce threats to biodiversity in the project area, by eliminating drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, and increasing forest cover.
- Conserve natural habitats, ecological integrity and overall biological diversity.
- Actively protect species of High Conservation Value (HCV).

Our Approach

Offset

KMP is taking local action to deliver global benefits; avoiding deforestation, degradation and drainage of a vast area of peat swamp forest. By investing in carbon credits, companies can offset their own emissions and make a positive impact.

Collaborate

Working in a complex environment requires innovative thinking and the highest quality research, which is why KMP collaborates closely with scientific researchers to devise workable solutions and deliver long-term sustainability.

Replicate

Just as the resurgent forest continues to grow, so too does our impact and our influence. For business, NGOs and governments, KMP sets out to deliver impacts at the scale required and catalyse positive, meaningful change.



Peatlands: why do they matter?

Peatlands are one of nature's most effective systems for taking carbon out of the atmosphere and keeping it in the soil, where it belongs. When healthy, they suck up twice as much carbon as all the world's forests combined.

Conversely, damaged peatlands can pose a major problem. If cut, burned or cleared for agriculture, these landscapes release their carbon, along with other harmful GHG, into the atmosphere. Today, an estimated 5% of CO₂ emissions can be traced back to this destruction.

As one of the world's largest protected peatland environments, KMP is a vitally important battleground in the fight against climate change.





Our Focus/ Investment in Action

Climate: taking action to protect
carbon-rich peat forests



KMP holds an estimated half a billion tonnes of carbon, with a total climate impact equivalent to the annual emissions of France. Through performance-based financing, the project keeps this carbon where it belongs: in the ground.

Each tonne of carbon stored in KMP becomes a carbon credit. Purchasing and retiring such credits permanently removes them from the market, thereby mitigating climate change and protecting this unique and biodiverse habitat from exploitation.

The project is expected to prevent the release of GHG equivalent to almost 450 million tonnes of carbon over the next 60 years.

Contributes to SDGs:



Community: partnering with communities for transformative change



From health and education to infrastructure and development, KMP provides a whole spectrum of benefits. Revenue from carbon credits goes directly into local communities, providing opportunities and improving lives through mutually beneficial partnerships.



The project works with 34 villages in the surrounding area, where people are recruited to work in fire patrols and reforestation initiatives. KMP also supports the development of sustainable livelihood enterprises such as coconut sugar production, sustainable bamboo and ecotourism.



All KMP staff are Indonesian, with 80% recruited from local communities. The result is a vibrant network of learning, communication and development.

Contributes to SDGs:



Biodiversity: protecting High Conservation Value species

At nearly 150,000 hectares (an area the size of London), KMP protects one of the largest remaining peat swamp forests in Southeast Asia. It offers a sanctuary to wildlife that has vanished in many other parts of the tropics, including orangutans, pangolins, proboscis monkeys, gibbons and clouded leopards. Here, carbon revenue is helping biodiversity to bounce back.



67
Mammal
Species



167
Bird
Species



45
Reptile
Species



111
Varieties
of Fish



314
Different Kinds
of Plants

Contributes to SDGs:









Impact Stories

Through funding, research, investment, training and support, KMP is empowering local communities to determine their own path for development. The project helps loggers become forest guardians, supports women in community building efforts and encourages young learners to become leaders. KMP programmes have helped change the lives and livelihoods of many in the project area. Here are a few of their stories.

1 / Grant Funds for Village Development

Access to fields and plantations had long been a problem for the farmers of Bantian Village in the Sub-District of Pulau Hanaut in Kotawaringin Timur. The lack of infrastructure made journeys long and slowed production to a trickle. Now, with village development funding from KMP, these communities are rebuilding their roads and getting farm production back on track.



IMPACT



KMP grant distributed between three areas: Sei.Rungun, Sei.Bantian and Sei.Gerombol



A variety of other development programmes supported by the grant



Agricultural access roads repaired, improving connectivity to farming areas



Participatory Mapping Training provided for villagers in February 2021



“For the 2021 grant, we are planning to allocate it to the improvement of business roads in Sei.Gerombol and the renovation of our village hall. We will also propose coffee seed assistance for farmers to Katingan Mentaya Project.”

- H. Amadi, Head of Bantian Village

2 / Microfinance Programme for Women-led Businesses

First introduced in 2018, the KMP Microfinance Programme provides low-income individuals – especially women – within the project area access to loans so they can start businesses. From local shops and school supplies to farms, cosmetics and bakeries, a wide range of local businesses have taken their first steps with help from the programme.

IMPACT



Funding circulated to 300 local businesses



Various small-scale industries in Mekartijaya Village supported



Grants used to expand existing businesses and get new projects off the ground



One beneficiary of the programme is Linda (35), who runs her own homemade cookie business in Mekartijaya Village. She used the loan from KMP to build a signal tower and study area so that school children, teachers and village officials could continue to work and study online during lockdown. The space has become a community hub, helping villagers stay connected with each other and the world outside.



Linda (35), home business owner from Mekartijaya Village

3 / Strategic Partnership with LIPI for Scientific Research

Officially ratified in March 2021, this two-year collaborative research project will involve hydrological data being taken from the project area by KMP and then studied by the Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI). By working together, these two partners aim to improve the protection of peatlands, prevent the release of carbon emissions and improve the welfare of surrounding communities.

IMPACT



Over two years, three scientific papers will be produced



The project will support research into peat swamp forests, including the development of hydrological models, water balance and non-linear dynamics of ecosystems



“This is the first time that an industrial/private sector partner has warmly welcomed scientific publications. We are proud that LIPI’s scientific products are able to benefit the advancement of science and technology and the Katingan Mentaya Project in the future.”

- Dr. Rike Yudianti



4 / Community Development Programmes Generate ‘Restoration Figures’

Published by PT Hijau Bumi Kita, Forest Digest is a quarterly magazine and news website that encourages public participation in sustainable forestry. In the first edition of 2021, they officially named five ‘Restoration Figures’ – individuals who excelled in restoration work and forest management during the previous year. All five were members of KMP community development programmes; based in villages within the project area, all have worked to uphold the three pillars of KMP restoration: conservation, climate resilience and community development.

IMPACT



Training and regeneration projects, helping to restore the forest



Forest fire patrols established in 34 villages within the project area



Local economic benefits generated through ecotourism



Community healthcare supported through investment in a village clinic





Alianur

Alianur, otherwise known as Ian, had been an illegal logger since he was young. In 2018, he joined the KMP Palm Sugar Training programme, which taught loggers and villagers to harvest and process palm sugar. He now owns and manages more than 100 coconut trees, from which he harvests coconut sugar that can be sold to other villagers. Ian's work now directly contributes to protecting the forest.

Murniah

After experiencing difficulties during childbirth, Murniah set out to educate other women in her community about how and where they could find support during pregnancy, birth and into post-natal care. Her initiative provided the spark for several new outreach programmes at the local health clinic in her village. Now, with support from KMP and the local government, this clinic is helping to give women and children the healthcare they need.





5 / Education for Local Children

As part of community development efforts, KMP sets out to foster literacy, learning and a love of reading for school children, while also using the power of books to address environmental issues. KMP helps local children on their learning journey through a range of book donation schemes, reading rooms and scholarship programmes.

IMPACT



Two KMP Reading Corner facilities installed in two elementary schools



Hundreds of books donated to the Rumah Buku installations



Educational scholarships for elementary, junior high and high school students

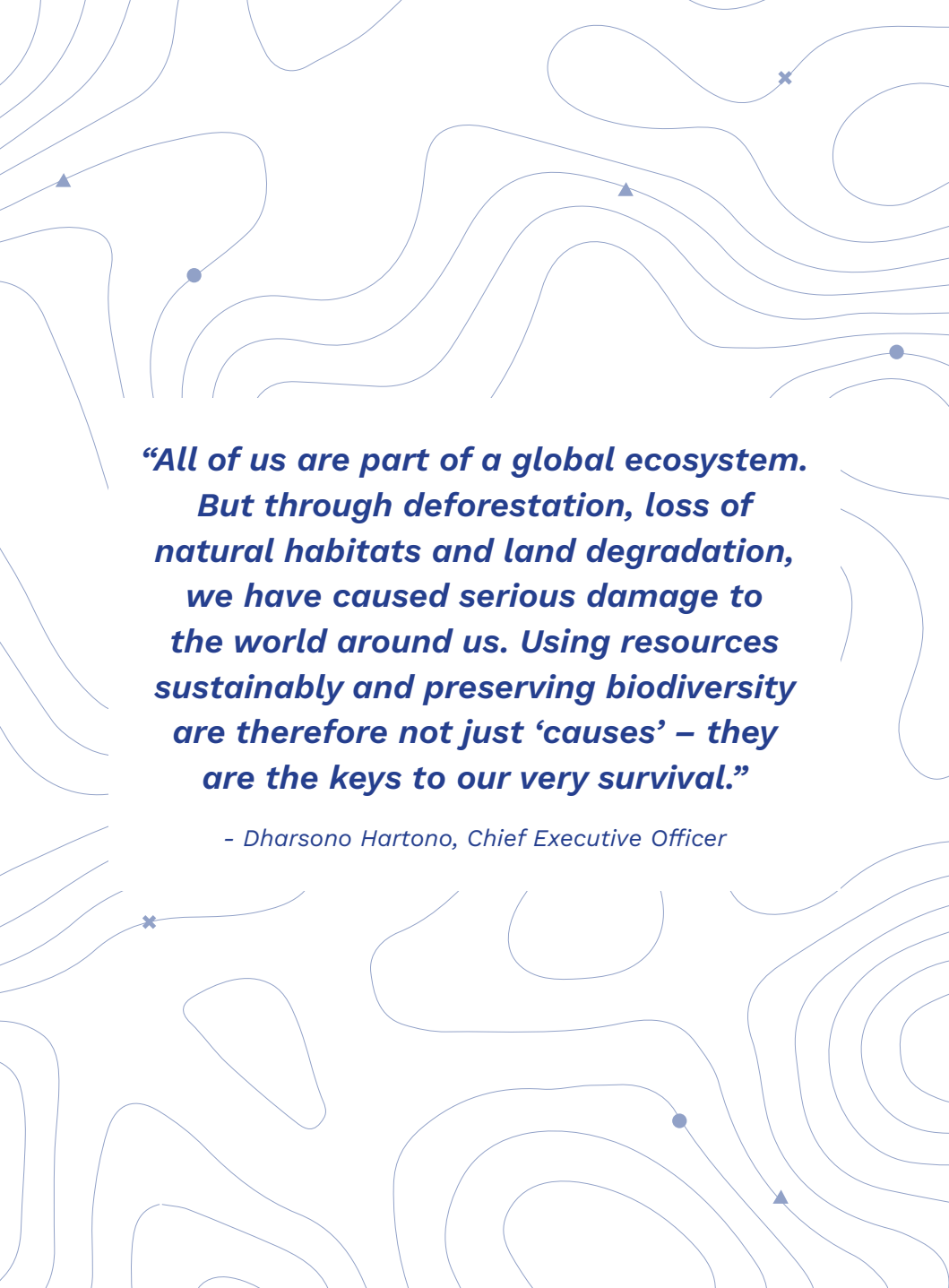


Two comic books published, to raise awareness of peatland fire prevention among 4,000 school children

“I hope this scholarship will continue to exist, so that other employees can also receive its benefits and that our children will continue to be motivated to study more diligently.”

- Julkipli, member of the KMP Biodiversity Team and beneficiary of the scholarship programme





“All of us are part of a global ecosystem. But through deforestation, loss of natural habitats and land degradation, we have caused serious damage to the world around us. Using resources sustainably and preserving biodiversity are therefore not just ‘causes’ – they are the keys to our very survival.”

- Dharsono Hartono, Chief Executive Officer