

***Trees, Resilience and Livelihood Recovery in the Tsunami-affected Coastal Zone of Aceh and North Sumatra (Indonesia):  
Rebuilding Green Infrastructure with Trees People Want  
(Aceh ReGrIn)***

**EU – ASIA PRO ECO II B (Post-Tsunami Programme)**

**Contract reference no.: ASIE/2005/111-657**

**Inception meeting Report: 22-30 January 2006**

**World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF)  
Indonesian Research Institute for Estate Crops (LRPI)  
Indonesian Soil Research Institute (ISRI)  
University of Hohenheim (UH)**

**February 2006**

**Project Inception Meeting**  
**22-27/30 January 2006**

**Trees, Resilience and Livelihood Recovery in the Tsunami-affected Coastal  
Zone of Aceh and North Sumatra (Indonesia): Rebuilding Green  
Infrastructure with Trees People Want  
(Aceh ReGrIn)**

---

**Terms of Reference**

1. The Inception Meeting shall establish the parameters for the implementation of the project, "Trees, Resilience and Livelihood Recovery in the Tsunami-affected Coastal Zone of Aceh and North Sumatra (Indonesia): Rebuilding Green Infrastructure with Trees People Want " financed by the European Union under its EU-ASIA PRO ECO II B Post-Tsunami Programme.
2. The Inception Meeting will take place during 22-27 January 2006 that includes a field visit to West Aceh from 23-25 January 2006.
3. The meeting will plan arrangements for implementation of the project on the basis of the project proposal, partner work plans and budgets and project agreement.
4. In consultation with all partners and external experts, the meeting will conduct a general review of the overall project work plan, partner work plans and if required suggest changes within the confines of the project proposal and agreement.
5. The meeting will conduct a review of the institutional and administrative arrangements for the project in the context of the project agreement. This will include each partner's budgetary and financial arrangements for the project including counterpart obligations of collaborating institutions.
6. The meeting will seek to arrive at an agreement on the first year's (1 Jan to 31 Dec 2006) work plans and budget.

## **Meeting Agenda**

### **Day 1 (Sunday, 22 Jan 2006)**

09:00–10:30

Opening, ICRAF involvement in post-tsunami West Aceh (Meine)  
West Aceh – Tsunami, its impact on livelihoods and tree crops (Ery)  
The ReGrIn Project – project design and framework (Laxman)

11:00-12.30

Presentations (interactive) of work plans:  
ICRAF, LRPI, ISRI, University of Hohenheim

*12:30-13:30 Lunch*

13:30-15.00

Component level discussion – gaps and overlaps  
Comments and suggestions for improvements – collaboration, etc

(15:30 team visiting Meulaboh travels to Jakarta for evening flight to Medan)

### **Day 2-4 (23-25 Jan 2006)**

Field visit in West Aceh (Nagan Raya, Meureubo, Sama Tiga, Meulaboh)  
Consultation with DisHutBun (Ibu Esma) and other NGOs  
Team returns to Bogor in the evening

### **Day 5 (26 Jan 2006)**

[Morning – join ICRAF External Program Management Review meeting]

*12:30-13:30 Lunch*

13:30 Small group discussions to incorporate comments and revise work plans, clarify collaboration.

16:30: Briefing from ICRAF Finance on budget disbursement and reporting mechanism

### **Day 6 (27 Jan 2006)**

8:30 Discussion with Finance and ICRAF management (partner wise if required)  
Discussion and planning continue to finalise work plans (first detailed plans for first year)  
[Some ICRAF colleagues may also attend the parallel meeting on ICRAF EPMR]

*12:30-13:30 Lunch*

13:30 Presentation of final work plans (report changes only)  
ICRAF, LRPI, ISRI, University of Hohenheim

15:30 Report requirements, time sheets, etc. (ICRAF)

16:00 Closing

### **Day 7 (30 Jan 2006) – with ammendment**

9:00-12:00 Discussion between ICRAF, University of Hohenheim, LRPI on partnership agreement, staffing in Meulaboh and Meulaboh office operation.

Summary of output from the inception meeting:

1. Considerable time was spent in finalising the work plan for the project. The work plan now forms the basis for implementing monitoring these activities. Key personnel for each activity were identified and a leader for activity was also assigned.
2. Based on the work plan, each partner prepared their individual resource requirement and thereby partner agreements were prepared. These were communicated with relevant officials from partners and finalised. These agreements were later signed by concerned officials at partner institutions.
3. Discussion on operational procedure of the project led to an agreement by all partners to link their activities through the new office in Meulaboh. Ery Nugraha, the field based Agroforestry and Co-ordination Officer, will provide necessary logistics and other support that may be required. Diah Wulandari will provide necessary co-ordination, follow-up on reports and communication with and between partners. As the focal point for the project, she will also monitor all report requirements for EU and ICRAF. She will be supervised by Dr. Laxman Joshi, Co-ordinator of the Aceh ReGrIn project.
4. Both LRPI and University of Hohenheim will be place staff members in Meulaboh for longer periods (based on activities) to implement the action activities in West Aceh. Depending on requirements, colleagues based in Meulaboh will also travel to Nias to implement the activities in North Nias.
5. The cost of establishment of office and staffing is unexpectedly high and the plans to set up a small office in Nias was reviewed and decided that a separate office is currently not important at this stage. As ICRAF already has an office in Sibolga, the resources (manpower and other support) available there can be linked up with the Nias activities. The possibility of setting up a contact person in Gunung Sitoli, preferably from DisHutBun (Agency of Forestry and Plantation) will explored. The person can then act as the key person from the action to oversee day-to-day activities in North Nias.

All presentations made at various stages of the meeting are included in this report. A brief report from the field visit is also included at the end.

## ReGrIn Project : final work plan 2006-2008 (agreed by all partners)

Activity	Method/s of implementation	Schedule	Expected Output	External links	Responsibility
1.01. Preparation: Partner consolidation, finalising roles and responsibilities, agreements and kick-off meeting	Action-level meeting to refine work plans, seek collegial feedback on targets and methods, and discussions with key stakeholders, specifying roles and responsibilities for partners and individuals and organising kick-off meeting	Jan-Feb 2006	Signed agreements, budget clarification, clear (and agreed) work plan for year 1 Establish base office in Meulaboh, staffing		<b>Laxman</b> , Diah, Retno Utaira, Josephine, Diah
1.02 Assessment of coastal zone livelihoods and impact of Tsunami damage	Participatory landscape appraisal team using methods of Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA), YPK, a local NGO in Meulaboh, has been facilitating PRA in some tsunami affected villages; the NGO will be contacted for earlier results and plan/refine new work. Carry out PRAs to understand the earlier and current condition of the community of the target area. Compile, review and synthesize the available reports including spatial and statistical data (JKPP – Jaringan Kerja Pemetaan Partisipatif). Poverty mapping, to capture spatio-temporal pattern of before and after tsunami livelihoods in different areas (a village level study). Focus Group Discussion (NGOs, Lembaga lain, Key informans) Determining of sampled Villages based on damage levels. 10-20 % of the number of villages per sub-district. 4 Subdistricts (Meurebo, Johan Pahlawan, Sama Tiga, Arongan Lambalek) + 1 Subdistrict (Nias) Gunung Sitoli.	Mar-Jul 2006	Clearly articulated livelihoods of various groups of people living in the four sub-districts of AB and Nias, before and after Tsunami of Dec 2004. An impact assessment of tsunami damage on local livelihoods Poverty maps depicting spatio-temporal pattern pre and post Tsunami.	Harmonika, LAPIS Field Foundation	<b>Ery</b> , Tumar, Diah, Suseno, Laxman, Desi, Sonya, Anggoro
1.03 Market assessment for major tree crops and institutional setup, Tsunami impact and future scenarios	A <b>rapid market appraisal</b> team will start with a quick scan of the market chain and main actors, followed up by in depth interviews and analysis of quantitative data; existing world market projections of demand and national level data of comparative advantage will be combined, to link micro to macro economic perspectives	Mar-Jul 2006	A clear understanding on market situation before and after Tsunami and implications on major tree crop development in Aceh Barat and Nias		<b>Uhendi</b> , Ery, Tumar, Jim (Inputs from Prof Qaim, UHoH)

Activity	Method/s of implementation	Schedule	Expected Output	External links	Responsibility
1.04 Local strategies (knowledge, self-help initiatives, indigenous innovations) to cope with Tsunami and earthquake disasters	Building on to the PRA results of 1.02, staff trained in participatory knowledge analysis will further document and analyze livelihood strategies, local resource use and explanatory ecological knowledge; methods may include Agroecological Knowledge Toolkit (see ICRAF/SEA web site), as has been successfully used in guiding agroforestry development elsewhere on Sumatra; analysis will be gender-specific	Mar-Jul 2006	Documentation of coping strategies (gender perspective), local resource use and "sustainability"		<b>Laxman</b> Ery, Elok, Desi,
1.05 Appraisal of local tree diversity and use value (local + market-based)	Survey and documentation of existing coastal zone tree diversity and gender-specific utility value covering home gardens, estuary mangrove, and peat dome.	Jul-Dec 2006	Database of local tree diversity, their value and use	Syah Kuala University, Banda Aceh	<b>Saida</b> , student, Jim, Laxman
1.06 Soil assessment – effect of Tsunami on soil properties	<p>Land suitability mapping at 1:25000 scale (4 subdistricts)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data compilation</li> <li>• Satellite image analysis</li> <li>• Ground truthing, soil and water sampling</li> <li>• Linking with other research components on farmer's preference</li> <li>• Satellite data reanalysis</li> <li>• Soil and water sample analysis</li> <li>• Evaluation of land suitability</li> <li>• GIS/Cartographic finalization</li> <li>• Land suitability mapping at 100 000 scale (4 districts)</li> <li>• Inventory of main tree crops in the west coast</li> <li>• Evaluation of land suitability for the main and prospective tree crops and GIS works</li> <li>• Land suitability guideline</li> <li>• Literature review and field observation</li> <li>• Writing and editing the manuscripts</li> </ul>	Jan-Oct 2006	<p>Report on sampling and geomorphological setting</p> <p>Land Suitability map at 1:25000 scale (if possible) for 4 subdistricts</p> <p>Land suitability map at 1:100.000 scale for 4 districts</p> <p>Land suitability guidelines in English and Bahasa Indonesian</p>	Mercy Corps, BRR	<b>Fahmuddin</b> , Wahyunto, Gerd, France, Sonya, Andre, Tumar, Tumpal
	Evaluation of the dynamics of soil properties and	Jan 2006 –	Report on dynamics of soil		<b>Fahmuddin</b> ,

Activity	Method/s of implementation	Schedule	Expected Output	External links	Responsibility
	<p>tree crop response (transects)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Orientation with local stakeholders</li> <li>• Site selection (transects)</li> <li>• Soil pit description</li> <li>• Seedling preparation and transplanting</li> <li>• Soil sampling and analysis (two sampling campaigns, in year 1 and 2 at the same moment in the year)</li> <li>• Multi-locational observation plots for monitoring growth performance of priority tree crops</li> <li>• Data analysis and annual reports</li> </ul>	Dec 2008	<p>properties and tree crop response</p> <p>Tree crop growth and performance in various types of soil and context following Tsunami damage</p>		Wahyunto, Gerd, France, Tumar, Tumpal, Laxman
	<p>Evaluation of the dynamics of groundwater properties and groundwater table (same transects as in the evaluation of the dynamics of soil properties and tree crop response)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site selection</li> <li>• Water sampling and analysis (two sampling campaigns, in year 1 and 2 at the same moment in the year, similar to the soil sampling)</li> <li>• Mapping of groundwater level (gley properties)</li> <li>• Data analysis and annual reports</li> <li>• Data analysis and final report</li> </ul>	Jul 2006- Dec 2008	<p>Report on dynamics of water properties and groundwater table</p> <p>Final report on impact assessment on soil (and water) quality</p>		<b>Gerd</b> , Rudi, Carsten, Field Assistant
1.07 Damage assessment in the landscape in coastal zones using remote sensing data	<p>Land use maps of pre and post Tsunami</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land use and land cover mapping</li> <li>• Analysis of the landscape change</li> <li>• Flood area assessment and spatial modelling</li> </ul>	Feb-Aug 2006	<p>Land use and land cover map (MSc thesis)</p> <p>Flood area prediction model</p>		<b>Sonya</b> , Chalid (MSc student), Andre, Wahyunto, Gerd
1.08 Planning tree-based rehabilitation based on land suitability and GIS information	<p>Spatial analysis staff with access to tree databases will combine data of 1.05, 1.06 and 1.07 to identify ecological land suitability for a wide range of tree species with known utility value</p>	May-Oct 2006	<p>Databases on land suitability for useful 'trees farmers want' available</p>	Dishutbun, Bappeda, BRR, NGOs	<b>Wahyunto</b> , Sofyanritung, Ery, Sonya, Andre
1.09 Providing	Based on earlier identification of partners and	Sep 2006-	Local land rehabilitation	Dishutbun,	<b>Ery</b> , Tumar,

Activity	Method/s of implementation	Schedule	Expected Output	External links	Responsibility
technical support to local government and NGOs in tree planting	stakeholders at local government level and among the NGO's active in the area, support will be provided to evaluate various tree planting schemes initiated or planned by agents. This requires participatory development skills and long term presence of staff in the target districts	Jul 2008	plans incorporating land suitability and GIS information	Bappeda, BRR, NGOs	Sonya, Gede, Fahmuddin
2.01 Farmer organizations and capacity enhancement	Group dynamic training, technical training, group development 1 <sup>st</sup> phase (2006) group dynamic (GD) training aimed at building favorable attitudes towards working together 2 <sup>nd</sup> phase (2007) GD training aimed at enhancing attitudes and developing capability in working together and organising productive activities 3 villgages/subdistrict. 10-15 farmers/group or 12 x 10-15 farmers (Aceh) 3 villages in Gunung Sitoli	Jul-Aug 2006  Aug-Sep 2006	Farmer groups established and empowered;  Plans of action on productive activities	Lapis, UNDP, Oxfam, FAO, KPPKP, Peace Wind, Dishutbun	<b>Supriadi</b> , Ery, Diah, Tumar, Uhendi
2.02 Production of quality planting material of high value tree crops through group and private nurseries	Demonstration plot of tree crop nurseries 3 villgages/subdistrict. 10-15 farmers/group or 12 x 10-15 farmers (Aceh) 3 villages in Gunung Sitoli	Oct 06 – Oct 07	Improved planting material of major tree crop available on-farm and in long term produced by farmers or private nurseries	Dishutbun, Lapis, UNDP, Oxfam, FAO, KPPKP, Peace Wind	<b>Tumpal/ Nurhawati</b> , Tumar, Deddy
2.03 Focused farmer trainings and workshops on market availability, rubber tapping, grafting, nursery management and group dynamics, post-harvest processing	Technical training in the 1 <sup>st</sup> year will be focused on Planting material preparations, harvesting and post harvest technology. The 2 <sup>nd</sup> year will be focused on establishment of agroforest based on trees farmers want Class session and on field (practical). research stations visit 3 villgages/subdistrict. 10-15 farmers/group or 12 x 10-15 farmers (Aceh) 3 villages in Gunung Sitoli	July – Sept 06 (1 <sup>st</sup> year)  To be planned later (2 <sup>nd</sup> year)	Major Technologies on trees farmers want are transferred and implemented by farmers	Research stations on rubber, cocoa, etc	<b>Supriadi</b> , Tumar, Deddy, Gede
2.04 Reviving market mechanisms for rubber	Detail marketing survey, following up of the 1.03 activity.	Aug-Nov 2006	Outputs: Recommendations for Improved market chain	Dinas Perdagangan,	<b>Uhendi</b> , Ery, Anang Gunawan,

Activity	Method/s of implementation	Schedule	Expected Output	External links	Responsibility
and cocoa (farmer group marketing, auction markets) and supporting processing or semi-processing of tree products	<p>Determining of sampled Villages based on damage levels. Three stratas of the damage will made. Sampled villages will be 10-20 % of the number of villages per sub-district. The name of sub-districts (Meurebo, Johan Pahlawan, Sama Tiga, Arongan Lambalek) + 1 Subdistrict (Nias) Gunung Sitoli.</p> <p>Study on market initiatives and linkages (European – Indonesian markets) – timing based on academic calendar at UHoH</p>	Mar - Aug 2007	and mechanism for major tree crops	Gapkindo, Askindo, PTPN 1	Supriadi, Gede, Rudy, Tumar  Prof. Qaim, Carsten
3.01 Economic assessment and developing prediction models for major land use options	Output from 1.02 will be a major input (statistical, spatial and remote sensing data). Integrated assessment team for economic and ecological impacts of land use options. Adaptation of available prediction tools (CBA, PAM etc) to compare different crops and management for optimum economic benefits to the farmers	Jul 2006- Jun 2008	Cost-benefit analysis of major landuse systems (economic tools for assessment) including profitability (return to land and return to labor), employment and impact of the existing policies		<b>Suseno</b> , Desi, Meine
3.02 Ecological simulation and long term impact and environmental assessment of major tree based systems	Decision support systems that synthesize current knowledge on tree performance (environmental, economical) under various management regimes. Appropriate scenarios will be identified from 1.02 and 1.03	Jul 2006- Jun 2008	Adapted Fallow model, scenarios and prediction models, based on output from 1.04  Simple DSS tools (both economic and ecological parameters inclusive) for tree crop selection and management, using output from 1.05, 1.06		<b>Betha</b> , Meine, Carsten, Degi,
	Calculate tree performance from available empirical/historical data (measurement from survived trees after Tsunami or from available studies before Tsunami) relative to 'reference' resulted by activity 1.0.8.  Identify 'growth retarding' or risk factors based on four biophysical indicators: landscape position	Jul 2006- Jun 2008	Database on potential tree performance (growth) of all major tree species, corrected to biophysical retardation factors  Thesis on tree-site matching analysis with regards to		<b>Betha</b> , Meine, MSc students Georg, Saida Fahmuddin, Tumpal

Activity	Method/s of implementation	Schedule	Expected Output	External links	Responsibility
	(associated with activity 1.0.8), soil type, soil texture and soil chemistry (associated with activity led by ISRI).		biophysical growth determinants		
	<p>Adoption of possible choices of land use systems at landscape scales with additional consideration on coastal livelihood:</p> <p>Concept improvement of landscape dynamics model (FALLOW Model) with regards to additional consideration on coastal livelihoods choices</p> <p>Compiling database required for parameterisation of landscape dynamics model (the FALLOW Model) from relevant activities</p> <p>FALLOW Model parameterisation/ calibration to local conditions.</p> <p>FALLOW Model validation at 'sensitivity' level, since reference data to represent 'real performance' of the location will not be available.</p>	Jul 2006- Jun 2008	<p>Improved landscape dynamics model of FALLOW to be ready as DSS tools</p> <p>Compiled data for the FALLOW Model parameterisation, with regards to biophysical/socio-economical modules.</p> <p>Analysed data, readily used for FALLOW Model parameterisation.</p> <p>Validated FALLOW Model at 'sensitivity' level, with regards to adoption of possible choices of land use systems and its consequences on biophysical and/or economical performance.</p>		<b>Desi</b> , Ery, Meine, Betha, Georg
3.03 Support government and local institutional planning and implementing land use alternative that have both economical and environmental benefits	<p>Workshops and negotiation between local communities and decision makers for developing economically beneficial and environmentally beneficial rehabilitation programs.</p> <p>LRPI and ICRAF will initiate a participatory tree crop planting schemes that have proven successful elsewhere in Indonesia.</p>	Jun 2007- Oct 2008	<p>Workshop and joint decisions for appropriate rehabilitation programs using trees farmers want.</p> <p>Pilot scheme (one in each sub-district) through support to Dishutbun for planning and implementing participatory rehabilitation of major tree crops (rubber and/or cacao)</p>		<b>Tumpal</b> , Tumar, Desi, Laxman, Gede, Ery
3.04 Ex-ante impact assessment of	Integrated spatial bio-economic modelling tool, calibrated for local conditions will enable scenario	Jan 2007 onwards	Spatial and bio-economic models that can assess		Ery, <b>Desi</b> , Suseno, Sonya,

Activity	Method/s of implementation	Schedule	Expected Output	External links	Responsibility
infrastructure recovery; coastal protection forests with economic value (including special access for products from disaster affected areas)	testing and choosing between competing alternatives. Consultation with local communities will be built into the process.		scenarios under various contexts and farmer expectations		Laxman, Meine
	Analyse effects of infrastructure quality on prices (farm gate relative to FOB) of major commodities	Jan-Dec 2007	Lookup curve on infrastructure quality vs prices of major commodities		<b>Suseno</b> , Jim, Desi, Betha, Meine
	Compile possible scenarios for prospective trajectories for scenario-based simulations	Jan-Dec 2007	Set of scenarios used for prospective simulations		<b>Desi</b> , Suseno, Sonya, Meine, Laxman
	Scenario-based simulations: Scenario-based simulations on the dynamics of landscape with regards to the adoption of possible choices of land use systems and their ecological and/or economical consequences under various policies, socio-economical and biophysical conditions using the FALLOW model.	Jan-Jun 2008	Summary on prospective ecological and economical long-term performance (30 years) of the landscape/ communities, indicated by both simple ecological (e.g. carbon stocks) and economic indicators		<b>Desi</b> , Meine, Betha
3.05 Strengthening local institutions to undertake land use assessment, planning and implementation in rehabilitation of disaster affected coastal zone areas	Partnership with locally active community based organisations and NGOs will be developed from the beginning and encourage them to join the current 'Action' and gain experience and valuable lessons. Training of local communities and institutions and universities for participatory monitoring and implementation of rehabilitation of affected areas will be actively organised. A simple modelling tool (such as Sonya's earlier work with CIFOR) will be selected for training and use by local stakeholders.	Feb-Jul 2007	Applicable method/s for landuse assessment and spatial planning available at Meulaboh; all key stakeholders in planning receive orientation and training on necessary approach.		<b>Sonya</b> , Danan, Carsten, Gerd
4.01 Role of tree crops in the physical mitigation and socio-economic recovery of	Based on the model developed in 1.07 different scenarios are compared to understand the role of tree crops at different locations in the landscape in physical mitigation of the Tsunami (case study in	Jan-Dec 2008	Report and paper on the role of tree crops in the physical mitigation of the Tsunami event		<b>Thomas</b> , Carsten, Georg, Matin, Gerd, Desi, Laxman, Meine

Activity	Method/s of implementation	Schedule	Expected Output	External links	Responsibility
tsunami affected coastal areas and inland communities	<p>West Sumatra as example of potential impact under a Tsunami event)</p> <p>Comparison of scenario analysis (3.01 and 3.02) based on the data layers provided in 1.02 and 1.03 to understand the role of tree crops in the socio-economic recovery of Tsunami (directly and indirectly) affected areas.</p> <p>Summary of potential market initiatives and linkages (activities 2.04), to improve the role of the tree crops in the socio-economic recovery</p> <p>Participatory workshop to assess the feasibility and acceptability of the analysed scenarios.</p>		<p>Report and paper on the role of tree crops in the socioeconomic recovery of Tsunami affected coastal areas and inland communities</p> <p>Report on market initiatives and linkages study</p> <p>Report on workshop outcomes and proposed scenarios</p>		
4.02 Resilience of tree crops under different agro-ecological and socio-economic conditions on low to high impact by Tsunami flooding	Summary of data collected under activities 1.02-1.07 to understand the resilience of tree crops on low to high impact by Tsunami flooding	Jul-Dec 2008	Report and paper on the resilience of tree crops by Tsunami Flooding		<b>Carsten</b> , Gerd, Georg, Thomas, ICRAF, LRPI, ISRI
4.03 Impact of the emergency response in the post-tsunami period on the tree crop sector	Inventorying tree crop related activities organized by GOs and NGOs in 2005 (forest land clearing for housing projects, opening of old drainages in rubber plantations, plantation of coast forest)	Mar-Sep 2006			<b>MSc student</b> , Ery, Laxman, Tumpal, Gerd
	Time sequence of activities (BRR datasets) at Sumatra and Nias (Participatory) impact assessment of measurements (biophysical and socio-economic impact)	July-Dec 2006	Report on the emergency response and its impact on the tree crop sector		<b>Ery</b> , Anggoro, Tumar, Laxman

Participants at the inception meeting and field visit to Meulaboh

No.	Name	Institution	Meetings	Field trip
1	Dr. Gerd Dercon	Univ. of Hohenheim	Y	Y
2	Dr. Gede Wibawa	LRPI/Bogor	Y	
3	Dr. Supriadi	LRPI/Sembawa	Y	
4	Dr. THS Siregar	LRPI/Sungai Putih	Y	Y
5	Mr. Tumar	LRPI/Sungai Putih	Y	Y
6	Dr. Karyudi	LRPI/Sungai Putih	Y	
7	Dr. Fahmuddin Agus	ISRI/Bogor	Y	
8	Dr. Kasdi	ISRI/Bogor	Y	
9	Dr. Achmad Rachman	ISRI/Bogor	Y	Y
10	Mr. Sofyan Ritung	ISRI/Bogor	Y	
11	Saida Rasnovi	Syiah Kuala University	Y	
12	Dr. Laxman Joshi	ICRAF/Bogor	Y	
13	Dr. Meine van Noordwijk	ICRAF/Bogor	Y	
14	Dr. Sonya Dewi	ICRAF/Bogor	Y	Y
15	James Roshetko	ICRAF/Bogor	Y	
16	Betha Lusiana	ICRAF/Bogor	Y	
17	Retno Utaira	ICRAF/Bogor	Y	
18	Yuni Agus	ICRAF/Bogor	Y	
19	Jati Martopranoto	ICRAF/Bogor	Y	
20	Josephine Prasetyo	ICRAF/Bogor	Y	Y
21	Ery Nugraha	ICRAF/Meulaboh	Y	
22	Diah Wulandari	ICRAF/Bogor	Y	Y
23	Desi Suyamto	ICRAF/Bogor	Y	
24	Elok Mulyoutami	ICRAF/Bogor	Y	

## **Aceh ReGrIn Project Inception Field Trip Report**

### **Meulaboh, 22-25 January 2006**

As part of the Inception Workshop of the Aceh ReGrIn Project: Aceh post-Tsunami rehabilitation, Sonya Dewi and Diah Wulandari from ICRAF, THS. Siregar and Tumar from LRPI and Gerd Dercon from University of Hohenheim, Germany had a field visit to Meulaboh on 22-25 January 2006. The purposes of this trip were to get a feel of field situation: livelihoods, tree crops impacts of the tsunami, and different NGOs and local government activities and capacities to explore some potential future collaboration. In this event, we visited several sites in 3 (three) sub-districts: Samatiga, Meureubo and Kuala, and also visited 2 of the biggest NGOs based in Meulaboh (Mercy Corps and Oxfam) and 2 government offices (BAPPEDA and DISHUTBUN).

Basically, one year+ after Tsunami, our very first impression (which stays and even magnifies) upon reaching Meulaboh is the rapid, one-way, enormous change in almost every sectors. True it is that the Tsunami 'only' directly hit and damaged the coastal areas, but the impact does not stay there. The peace agreement between GAM and the Indonesian government adds another layer to driver of changes.

With the new and open Aceh, natural resource extraction is back and more extensive than ever. Several permits for new gold mine, land conversion, logging is underway. Non-timber forest product extraction, mainly rattan, is increasingly popular. Mine exploration is very active, both by Indonesian and foreign companies. ADB has agreed to fund a resettlement project to the inland, involving 500 households and almost 2000 hectares forestland to be converted to oil palm in the near future. According to the Head of DisHutBun Aceh Barat, this will be the 'pilot' whilst the government plans to develop at least 6000 hectares of oil palm plantation under the same resettlement scheme. This all will put pressure on forest and environment in the inland area.

In the meantime, the local (district level) government does not have yet a firm planning, regulatory framework and also strong capacity to manage their NR. As present, their resources: human, hardware, data and software, are very little. Most of the government officers we met have acknowledged their limitation and upon learning that we came from a research institution, have expressed their interests in collaborating and learning together with us re agroforest and forest related issues. In particular two key persons, one from DisHutBun and one from Bappeda, are really eager to work together on spatial planning.

At this moment, among more than 50 NGOs that are still active, some already slowing down and phasing out. These NGOs coordinate among themselves by regular weekly meeting according to the sectors they work on and also the territories they work in. UN-HIC is in general looked at as the informal coordinator among them. The coordination seems to work reasonably well

Both OXFAM and Mercy Corps mentioned that they are now at the second stage of their medium to long term program. The first, emergency stage is over, and the second stage which involves medium term employment, i.e., cash for annual cropping, trading, fishing, etc, are on going. Approaching the end of the second stage, they will focus on building skills and capacities, both of the local people and the village and sub-district level governments. This is felt as a challenging step, especially because it involves the changing mindset. The third stage scheme is not yet well formulated, but some sort of loan schemes related to long-term livelihoods is foreseen. This probably will be an area

where ICRAF should work together with them for establishing an agroforestry system. As far as we know (both from the district government and the NGOs that we met) ICRAF will be the first research institution working in Meulaboh. Another area to work on, possibly with CIFOR, and district government, is spatial planning. This is an urgent task for the district government to accomplish since the area is facing a very rapid change.

Reported by Sonya Dewi and Diah Wulandari



Picture was taken at the lost village of Lhok Bubon by Sonya Dewi, ICRAF.