

Mini Training Course on Seed Handling and Nursery Establishment of Sandalwood Species (*Santalum album*) and Inventory of *Santalum album* in Kukung Village

Reok—Flore, 14—19 May 2006



Cendana (*Santalum album*) has been identified as one of **priority species in Indonesia for Genetic Resources Conservation Strategies Development**. World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF-SEA) and Winrock International in close collaboration with Seed Technology Centre (BPTH) in Denpasar and 3 local NGOs in East Nusa Tenggara as local partners have prepared a strategic plan for genetic resources conservation of this species. There are 3 main activities were agreed to be implemented during 5 years, that is:

1. Establishment of seed sources of sandalwood species in Bali, Timor and Flores. The genetic materials (seeds) were collected from identified mother trees (more than 100 trees) in East Sumba, Western Flores and West Timor. This is an *Ex-situ* conservation strategy.
2. Strengthening the technical capacity of BPTHs staff, NGOs staff, staff of Forestry District office and farmers through implementing training activities on seed handling, nursery establishment and cultivation technique of sandalwood species (*Santalum album*).
3. Preparing a series of regulation on conservation of cendana (*S. album*) at village level up to district level.

On 14-19 May 2006, Yayasan Ayo Indonesia organized and facilitated a **mini training** on seed handling and nursery establishment of cendana (*S. album*) in Reok, Manggarai District and **inventory** of sandalwood plants which is naturally growing on farmers land in Kukung village, Kecamatan Cibal, Manggarai District. These two activities were supported by ICRAF-SEA/Winrock International. The mini training was attended by 20 participants, which is consist of 12 farmers, 7 NGOs staffs and 1 Forestry District officer (Dinas Kehutanan Kabupaten Manggarai). While the inventory of sandalwood were attended by 35 farmers (25 men and 10 women), 4 NGOs staff, 1 BPTH staff, 1 Forestry District staff and 1 ICRAF staff.

The objective of these two activities are 1). to strengthen the technical knowledge and skills of farmers, NGOs staffs in seed handling and nursery techniques with focus on sandalwood species; 2). to learn a participatory method on inventory of sandal-

wood; 3). to obtain the actual information of natural distribution of sandalwood on farm land which can be used for preparing the strategy of sustainable conservation at community level. **Joko Iriantono** from Seed Technology Centre (BPTH Denpasar) and **Fransiskus Harum** from ICRAF-SEA involved in both activities as resources person. Topics were discussed during mini training course are:

- Concept of Seed quality
- General information on sandalwood (natural distribution, utilization (market), botanical description, flowering and fruiting, fruit harvesting, host plants, etc)
- Seed handling (seed collection, seed drying, seed sorting, seed storage)
- Various tools and materials for seed handling
- Seed pretreatment
- Nursery technique
- Establishment and management of small-scale sandalwood plantation on farm
- Regulations on protection and utilization of sandalwood

Follow Up:

On last day, all participants prepared the action plan that they will follow up after training course. They have agreed to carry out the following activities: 1). Establish a small nursery of *Santalum album* (seeds were provided by Ayo Indonesia), 2). Provide mini training on *Santalum album* for other farmers, NGOs staffs, 3). Exchange seeds of *S. album* between farmers for next harvesting season (2007), 4). Establishment and management a small-scale plantation of *S. album* (1 ha in 26 locations). Ayo Indonesia will monitor and supervise the implementation of their activities.

The experience of ICRAF-SEA/Winrock International in strengthening tree Germplasm security for local NGOs and small holder farmers will be gradually adopted by national and local government agencies. **Seed Technology Centre** (Balai Perbenihan Tanaman Hutan Bali-Nusra) in Denpasar has agreed with farmer group in Kukung village, farmer group in Kuwu village, Ayo Indonesia Foundation and Forestry District Office of Kabupaten Manggarai to establish 1 ha of farmer demonstration plot of *S. album* (sandalwood) and 1 ha of 12 upland indigenous species during 3 years (2006 – 2008).

