



Small Grants Programme by the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity at Way Kambas National Park (Indonesia)

Way Kambas National Park

Covering 125,600 hectares in Lampung province, South Sumatra, Way Kambas National Park (WKNP) is known for cradling the most extensive protected area of pristine lowland, evergreen rainforest in Indonesia and for being one of the best bird-watching locations in Asia.

This ASEAN Heritage Park (AHP) is an important habitat for the critically endangered Sumatran elephant (*Elephas maximus ssp. sumatranus*), rhinoceros (*Dicerorhinus sumatrensis*), and tiger (*Panthera tigris ssp. sumatrae*).

It plays a crucial role in providing livelihood and other ecological services to locals in surrounding villages.

However, WKNP is threatened by forest clearing due to poaching, illegal logging, unsustainable fishing, and the increasing population's heavy reliance on agriculture.

WKNP's significant biological resources and the challenges it faces make it a suitable pilot site for SGP I. The park received a total of **EUR 882,312** distributed across **37** grants (16 small grants and 21 micro-grants). SGP I at WKNP covered the entire park and 12 buffer villages.

Meaningful partnerships fostered

The following agencies and organisations worked together to achieve wins through the SGP:

- Directorate of Biodiversity Conservation Species and Genetics (KKHSG), the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Republic of Indonesia (*the implementing agency*)
- WKNP park management
- Penabulu Foundation (*the service provider that managed the implementation of SGP I in Indonesia*)
- Civil society organisations and community-based organisations (*grantees*)
- ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity
- Federal Government of Germany through the KfW Development Bank
- GITEC Consulting Group

Launched in 2014, the **Small Grants Programme** by the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (SGP) is an initiative aimed at sustaining biodiversity in the ASEAN Heritage Parks (AHPs) in line with the interests of local communities who directly depend on the selected parks, providing alternative livelihood opportunities to the locals, and strengthening the role of the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) in promoting biodiversity conservation in the ASEAN region.

SGP I was implemented in four AHPs in Myanmar and two AHPs in Indonesia.

Small grants, big impact

The numerous small grants under SGP I touched the lives of local communities within WKNP and nearby locations and created a wave of impact.



"Generally speaking, SGP shows good results in the improvement of biodiversity conservation efforts and livelihoods. In the context of WKNP, these two interlinked themes are relevant, especially by including ecotourism development in the programme. WKNP attempts to transform biodiversity conservation with ecotourism development in collaboration with the local communities. The SGP is very timely to accommodate our aims by supporting the micro and small grants related to these interconnections."

Kuswandono, S.Hut., M.P.
Head of Way Kambas National Park



Sustaining biodiversity, changing lives with small grants

SGP I supports a range of conservation and livelihood activities that fall under several thematic areas.



Livelihood Enhancement

SGP I helped reduce the pressures on biodiversity by offering alternative sources of livelihood.

- Supported livelihood projects amounting to **EUR 636,622** or **72%** of the total grants in WKNP
- Supported the production of more than **20** biodiversity-based products such as pineapple dodol, honey, salted egg, cassava chips, fish nuggets, and souvenirs like headscarf hijab
- Empowered **1,005** beneficiaries through capacity building on community economic empowerment and **591** beneficiaries through direct capacity building on ecotourism
- Backed the development and improvement of **nine** ecotourism sites including the creation of ecotourism opportunities such as the eco-tour packages of POKDARWIS Braja Harjosari and Yayasan Kanopi Indonesia



Habitat and Species Management

SGP I helped improve environmental conditions in the park by funding rehabilitation efforts.

- Supported biodiversity conservation initiatives amounting to **EUR 245,690** or **27%** of the total grants in WKNP
- Supported **12** wildlife research studies
- Supported the creation of task forces or groups focused on mitigating human-tiger and human-elephant conflict
- Supported the empowerment of **271** women to implement conservation



Community Outreach and Conservation Awareness

SGP I enhanced community awareness among locals about their crucial role in biodiversity conservation.

- Supported the launch of awareness campaigns including Pendidikan Konservasi dan Lingkungan Hidup's (YAPEKA) efforts to save the Sumatran rhino
- Backed efforts to collect and share data on fauna and flora including Yayasan Konservasi Elang Indonesia's research and compilation on **302** species of bird found in WKNP
- Supported Yayasan Indonesia Badak Inisiatif's (Indonesian Rhino Initiative) use of the Way Kambas National Park Art Performance to drum up support for the new vision of the Way Kambas National Park management



General Park Management

SGP I increased local communities' sense of ownership of park management as they participated in co-management of WKNP.

- Supported the strengthening of the park management's existing collaborations, including those with **seven** forest farmer groups or Kelompok Tani Hutan (KTH) to reduce the negative interactions between elephants and humans
- Supported several human-elephant conflict mitigation efforts including the preparation of a standard operating procedure on conflict mitigation in Tegal Yoso Village and the training of local communities
- Funded the use of modern technology including monitoring the movement of Sumatran elephants using GPS collar and SMART patrol and upgrading of early warning systems
- **6,764** hectares protected through conflict mitigation patrols

Scan this QR code to know more about the various grants and interventions implemented in WKNP.



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