



BLUE FORESTS
Yayasan Hutan Biru

Blue Forests
Annual Report 2022

PROTECT MANGROVES PROTECT OUR FUTURE



BLUE FORESTS
Yayasan Hutan Biru



📍 Landscape Mangrove Indragiri Hilir, Riau

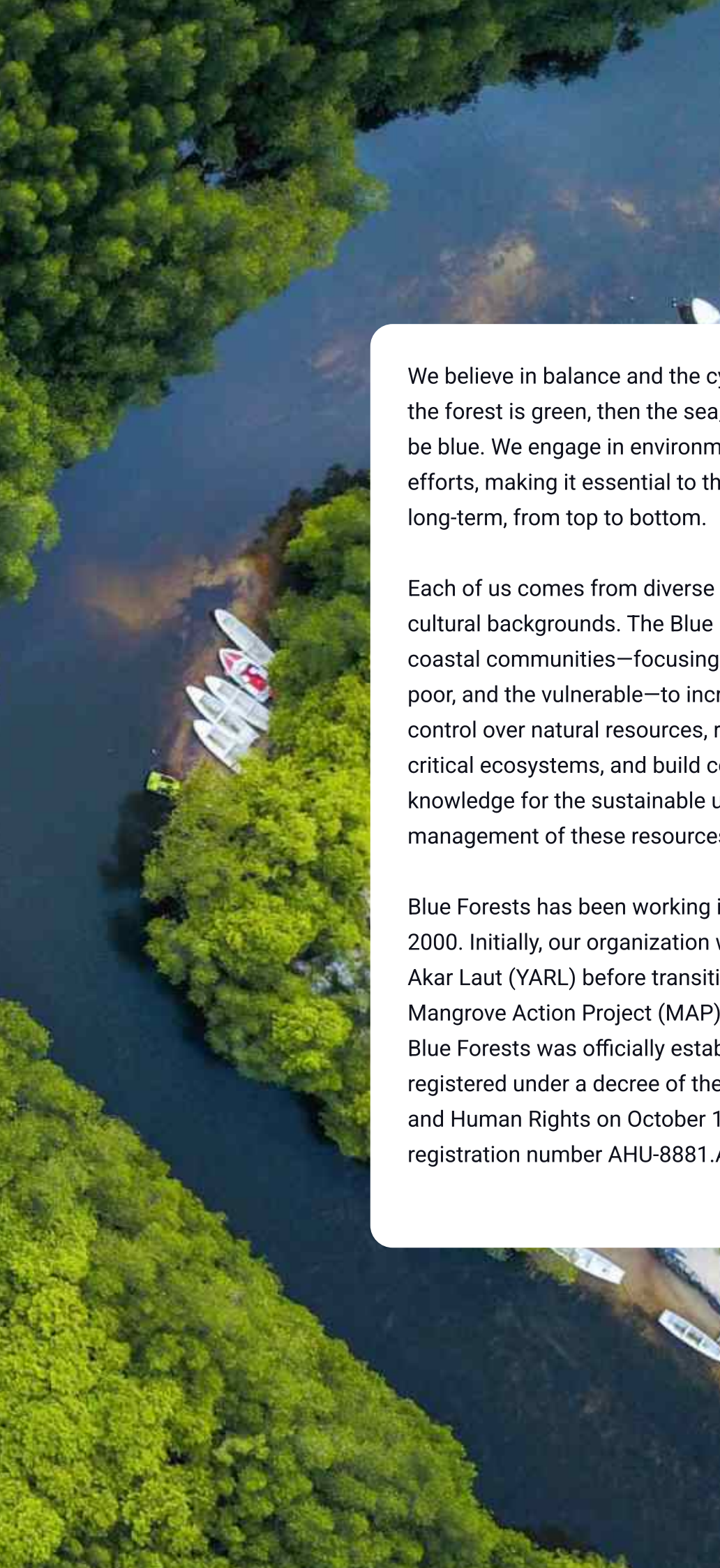
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Local to Global to Local

The **Blue Forests** collaborates with communities and stakeholders to preserve coastal ecosystems and watersheds through participatory action research and problem-solving approaches.



We believe in balance and the cycles of change. If the forest is green, then the sea, water, and sky will be blue. We engage in environmental conservation efforts, making it essential to think holistically and long-term, from top to bottom.

Each of us comes from diverse disciplinary and cultural backgrounds. The Blue Forests works with coastal communities—focusing on women, the poor, and the vulnerable—to increase access to and control over natural resources, restore and enhance critical ecosystems, and build community skills and knowledge for the sustainable use and management of these resources.

Blue Forests has been working in Indonesia since 2000. Initially, our organization was named Yayasan Akar Laut (YARL) before transitioning to the Mangrove Action Project (MAP) Indonesia in 2006. Blue Forests was officially established in 2011 and registered under a decree of the Ministry of Law and Human Rights on October 19, 2011, with registration number AHU-8881.AH.01.04 of 2011..

PREFACE



With gratitude and renewed energy, we proudly present the Blue Forest Foundation (YHB) Annual Report for the 2022 fiscal year.

After two challenging years brought on by the Covid-19 pandemic, 2022 marked a turning point for us—not just a return, but a rise marked by greater resilience and clearer vision. Where once virtual meetings were filled with the familiar refrain, “You’re on mute!”, today we hear the voices of local communities more loudly than ever.

Resilience is at the core of our journey, and 2022 is a true testament to how adaptability and innovation can bring about real change. We are not just surviving, but thriving, expanding the reach and impact of our programs. In mangrove landscapes across seven provinces in Indonesia, we run eight programs that restore coastal ecosystems and build sustainable futures in partnership with local communities.

With a local-to-global-to-local approach, we ensure that best practices from coastal communities can inspire the world—while global insights are brought home to strengthen local sustainability efforts.

The pandemic has taught us important lessons: the value of collaboration, the need for agility in the face of uncertainty, and the power of combining scientific knowledge with local wisdom to create sustainable solutions. We believe every challenge holds the seed of opportunity—and this year proves that with dedication, we can grow a more resilient future.

We thank everyone who has been a part of this journey: partners, local communities, supporters, and the entire team who have dedicated their time, energy, hearts and minds to the sustainability of Indonesia's coastal ecosystems. Without this spirit of togetherness, our progress would not be as strong as it is today.

Looking ahead, we believe that every challenge will bring new opportunities. With passion, Blue Forests will continue to move forward, build resilience, and connect people and nature in a sustainable ecosystem harmony.

Thank you for being part of this journey. Let’s keep moving forward—together.

Rio Ahmad

Director of Blue Forests





About Blue Forests

Blue Forests is a non-profit organization with a mission to collaborate with communities and stakeholders to enhance the social, economic, and ecological systems of coastal ecosystems and watersheds by strengthening their capacity for adaptation. This, in turn, increases their resilience to change.

From west to east, we work across diverse landscapes throughout Indonesia. A primary focus, addressed holistically from the watershed to the coast, is the mangrove landscape.



VISION

Linkage of healthy, resilient communities and ecosystem, flowing from upper to mid to lower watershed.



MISSION

Blue Forests Foundation uses an action research approach and problem solving process based on the “local to global to global” paradigm. Across the mountains and out to the ocean, we hope to strengthen the socioeconomic and ecological resilience of important coastal and watershed systems.

Our Objective

This process is known as action research and problem-solving and is embedded in all programs of the Blue Forests Foundation. To achieve this, we have three interrelated goals:



Learn about the community's environmental challenges, as well as the characteristics of the watershed and nearby coastal areas, while gaining real-world experience in social, economic, and ecological studies related to these regions.

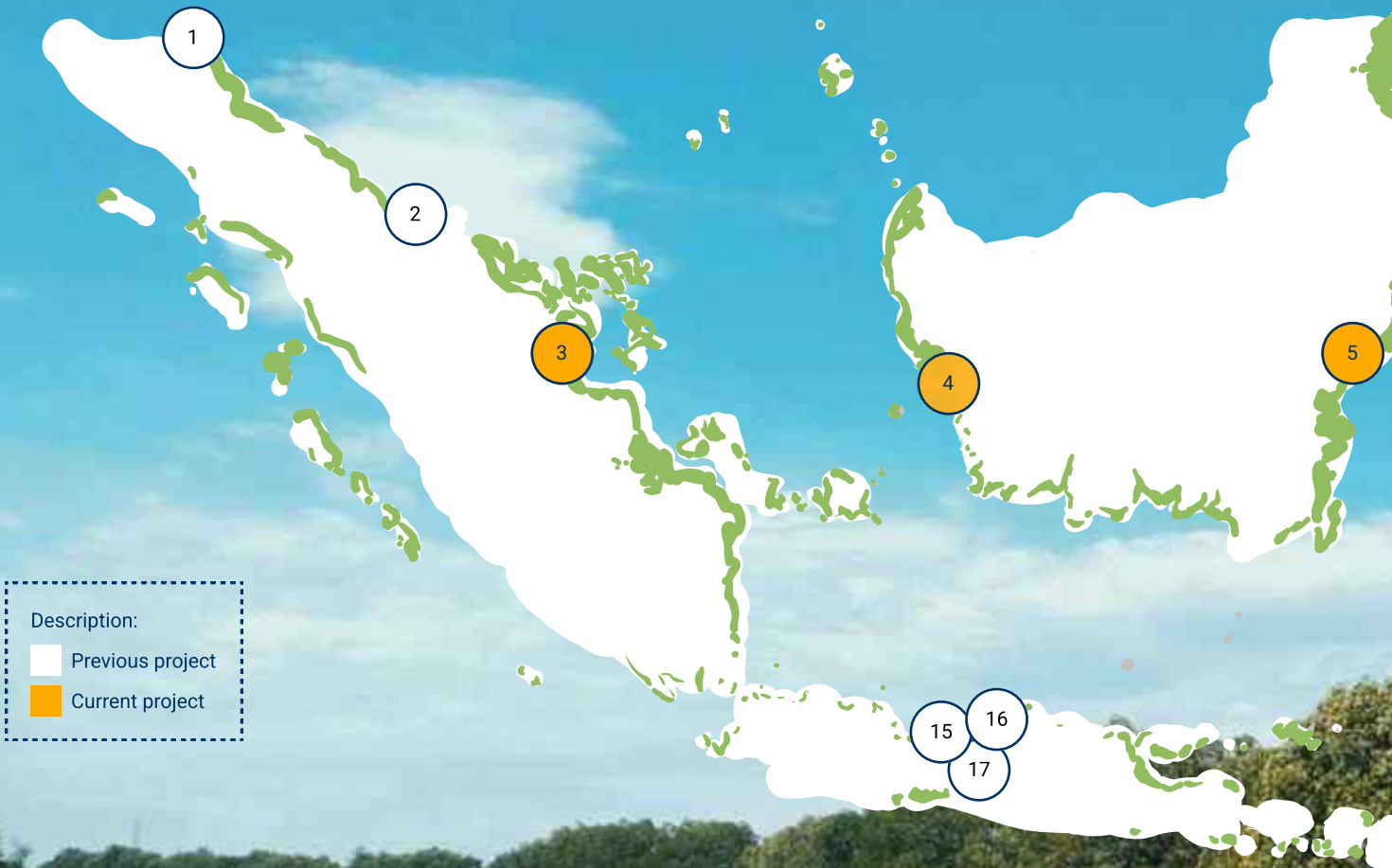


Promote intercultural communication and understanding to foster awareness of the global context, starting from local environmental issues, and highlight the importance of cultural perspectives in selecting effective problem-solving strategies.



Improve the social, economic, and ecological conditions of river basins and the communities within them. This can be achieved through: Community organizing with a focus on gender issues (social strengthening); The development of small and medium-sized businesses based on the sustainable use of watershed resources (economic strengthening); The restoration of ecological habitats; The creation of adaptive watershed and coastal management strategies, both cooperative and environmentally strengthening.

WORKING AREA



1

Langkat, West Sumatra
Advocating Community Based Mangrove Management

2

Bengkalis Island, Riau
Ecological Mangrove Rehabilitation And Livelihoods Program

3

Indragiri Hilir, Riau
Climate Collective Initiatives

3
4

Indragiri Hilir, Riau & Kubu Raya, West Kalimantan
Blue Forests Programme

5

Samboja, East Kalimantan
Blue Forests - ELTI Programs

6

South Sulawesi
Restoring Coastal Livelihoods (RCL)

7

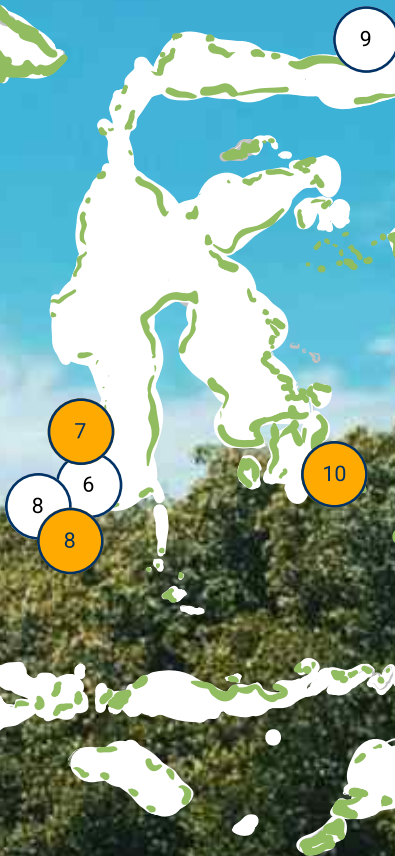
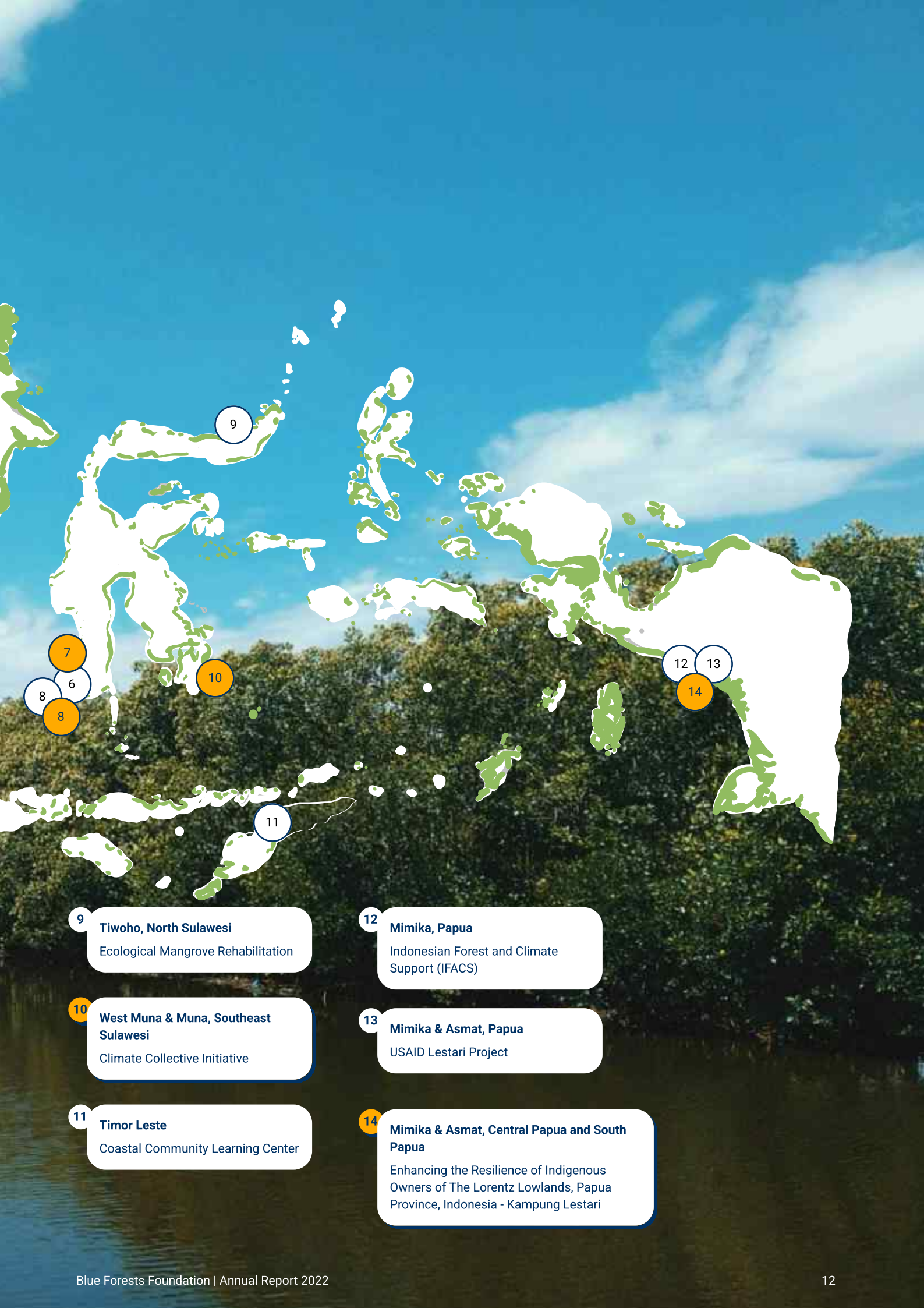
Kuri Caddi, South Sulawesi
Educational Tourism (Edutourism)

8

Tanakeke Island, South Sulawesi
Coastal Ecosystem Resilience

8

Tanakeke Island, South Sulawesi
Rehabilitation and Protection of Mangrove on Tanakeke Island



9 **Tiwoho, North Sulawesi**
Ecological Mangrove Rehabilitation

10 **West Muna & Muna, Southeast Sulawesi**
Climate Collective Initiative

11 **Timor Leste**
Coastal Community Learning Center

12 **Mimika, Papua**
Indonesian Forest and Climate Support (IFACS)

13 **Mimika & Asmat, Papua**
USAID Lestari Project

14 **Mimika & Asmat, Central Papua and South Papua**
Enhancing the Resilience of Indigenous Owners of The Lorentz Lowlands, Papua Province, Indonesia - Kampung Lestari



The pig-nosed turtle, *Carettochelys insculpta*, is being monitored in the forest monitoring group of the Nayaro Village, Mimika, Central Papua.

OUR IMPACT

For 21 years, we have accompanied coastal communities in building resilience for both communities and coastal ecosystems in Indonesia through science-based innovation, local wisdom, inclusivity, and collaboration. From the restoration and protection of mangrove ecosystems to sustainable

economies, this initiative ensures a sustainable ecosystem and increasingly independent communities. We remain committed to nurturing coastal life with a deeper, adaptive, and empowering approach.



2.153

Ha mangrove area rehabilitated



613.649

Ha of mangrove area improved management



+90

Village partners



+75.500

Community partners



• Sapat Village, Tembilahan, Riau

ECOLOGICAL MANGROVE REHABILITATION (EMR)

Capacity Building



3

EMR Training of Trainers (ToT)



54

participants took part in the EMR ToT program

9 Women
45 Men

EMR Implementation



56.8

hectares of degraded mangroves have been successfully restored



133

people involved in mangrove rehabilitation

47 Women
86 Men



45

people involved in monitoring the rehabilitation site

35 Women
10 Men

Blue Forests applies the *Ecological Mangrove Rehabilitation* (EMR) approach to restore degraded mangrove areas, enabling ecosystems to regain their natural functions and support surrounding environments. Based on the concept of *Nature-Based Solutions* (NBS), this method focuses on stimulating natural regeneration—helping nature to recover by addressing factors that disrupt and inhibit the natural growth of mangroves. The goal is to recreate a healthy

mangrove ecosystem with diverse vegetation, resembling that of a natural mangrove forest. In addition, this approach ensures that the tidal flow remains natural, supporting the survival of various flora and fauna species in the area. Blue Forests has implemented this approach since 2001 across several mangrove *landscapes* in Indonesia.



The people of Tanakeke Island addressed the factors disrupting natural mangrove growth by creating hydrological channels



This year, two mangrove landscapes have become the focus of Ecological Mangrove Rehabilitation (EMR) implementation: Indragiri Hilir in Riau, and Tanakeke in South Sulawesi. These areas represent a distinct mangrove geomorphology—Indragiri Hilir features a riparian mangrove system, while Tanakeke is characterized by an overwash mangrove type. In Indragiri Hilir, EMR was applied to a former coconut plantation that had become inundated by tidal waters. In Tanakeke, rehabilitation efforts focused on former aquaculture pond areas and sparsely vegetated mangrove zones degraded by logging.

Blue Forests actively facilitates knowledge-sharing and capacity-building with stakeholders—including practitioners, academics, government agencies, NGOs, and local communities—on mangrove rehabilitation methods through its Training of Trainers (ToT) program. This initiative equips participants with technical skills, ranging from data-driven planning to the application of appropriate rehabilitation techniques. In 2022, ToT programs were conducted in

Cleaning of *Acrostichum* sp. in a former coconut plantation area inundated by tidal water in Indragiri Hilir was carried out to control the invasive plants that interfere with the natural growth of mangroves

Indragiri Hilir (Riau), the Tanakeke Islands (South Sulawesi), and Bulungan (North Kalimantan).

In Indragiri Hilir, the ToT was integrated with the Restoration Opportunity Assessment Method (ROAM) to develop a Mangrove Rehabilitation Potential Map. This map identifies strategic locations, appropriate rehabilitation techniques, cost-benefit analyses, and carbon sequestration estimates. The study's results serve as a reference for stakeholders—including practitioners, rehabilitation planners, the Regional Mangrove Working Group (KKMD), and other relevant parties—in setting rehabilitation priorities.



Kampung Nayaro, Mimika, Papua Tengah

CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION



87,038

hectares of mangrove area are protected under FMU management



277,471

hectares of Indigenous peoples' management areas are protected and monitored for their utilization



3

forest guard groups routinely conduct patrols and monitoring in customary management areas



2

Community-Based Surveillance Groups (Pokmaswas) routinely conducts patrols and monitoring



1

FMLG (Forests Management Learning Group) was established

Blue Forests implements a *Community-Based Conservation and Protection* approach to safeguard coastal ecosystems and biodiversity from degradation and exploitation, emphasizing the active role of communities in sustainable natural resource management. This approach integrates a community-based model with elements of *Government-Based Management* within a *co-management* framework, ensuring close collaboration between local communities and management area authorities. Based on the principle of adaptive collaborative

management, the strategy includes community-based patrolling and monitoring, the strengthening of customary institutions, and integration of customary protection mechanisms in village and conservation area governance. The program's main focus is to ensure effective *monitoring, controlling and surveillance* functions through active community participation—aligning with the initiatives of various stakeholders, particularly the government and protected area managers.



The Forest Guard Group holds discussions to determine forest monitoring locations, with the aim of ensuring effective and efficient implementation



As part of this commitment, Blue Forests supports the establishment and improvement of the management of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) connected to mangrove landscapes, ensuring that ecosystem protection remains sustainable and benefits coastal communities. The goal is to establish an effective and participatory protection system where local communities actively protect their ecosystems while benefiting from the sustainable use of natural resources. Additionally, this approach contributes to the preservation of key species and critical habitats, including mangroves, lowland swamps, and coastal ecosystems that support biodiversity.

This approach has been applied in various programs, including Kampung Lestari in Papua and initiatives in Kubu Raya (West Kalimantan) and Indragiri Hilir (Riau). In Indragiri Hilir, Blue Forests focused on strengthening the capacity of Pokmaswas (Community-Based Surveillance Groups) through training and the development of patrol Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), enhancing the community-based monitoring system. Additionally, social,

Ecological surveys conducted by Forest Guard Groups aim to generate comprehensive data, ensuring that the proposed Marine Protected Area (MPA) not only prioritizes nature conservation but also incorporates active community participation in its management.

economic, and ecological surveys were conducted in collaboration with stakeholders to support a more inclusive and data-driven proposal for the Regional Conservation Area (Kawasan Konservasi Daerah, or KKD).

Meanwhile, in Kubu Raya, the program supports mangrove forest management by facilitating the formation and mentoring of community groups engaged in conservation. Photovoice activities were also implemented, engaging nearly 100 participants in reflecting on and documenting natural resource management issues in their villages—thereby increasing collective awareness and fostering greater community involvement in environmental protection.

In Papua, through the Kampung Lestari program, the supervision of customary-managed forest areas is strengthened by forming Forest Guard Groups (KJH), which actively conduct patrols to suppress hunting of protected wildlife. This initiative also encourages the involvement of indigenous youth in conservation education activities. The transmission of indigenous knowledge is further reinforced through joint research

between elders and the younger generation, ensuring that local wisdom in protecting the ecosystem remains sustainable. Strong support from customary leaders, tribal chiefs, and village governments also enhances the program's effectiveness in sustainably managing coastal ecosystems.

Monitoring of customary-managed forest areas is strengthened by the formation of Forest Guard Groups (KJH), which actively conduct patrols to prevent the poaching of protected wildlife. This initiative also encourages the involvement of indigenous youth in conservation education activities





📍 Sapat Village, Indragiri Hilir, Riau

SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD



5

Coastal Field School (CFS) units with themes of capture fisheries, seaweed cultivation, organic farming, Non Timber Forest Products and processed fisheries, and tour guiding.



5

business units were assisted in their development, namely Jeruju tea (*Acanthus tea*), Nypa sugar, stingless bee honey, sago flour, and seaweed nurseries.



161

people engaged in Sustainable Livelihood initiatives through CFS

90 Women

71 Men

Blue Forests facilitates communities to develop sustainable livelihoods that balance natural resource utilization and ecosystem conservation. This approach focuses on diversifying ecosystem-based income sources, such as sustainable fisheries, non-timber forest product (NTFP) management, sustainable aquaculture and increasing the added value of local products.

The goal is to create a resilient economic system for coastal communities by reducing dependence on exploitative practices that damage the environment while improving their welfare through sustainable business models. Blue Forests developed a **Coastal Field School** as a participatory learning

method based on hands-on field experience to support this. The coastal field school encourages communities to understand agroecosystem analysis, sustainable cultivation techniques, and local wisdom-based resource management. In addition, Blue Forests also conducts **business mentoring, facilitates the development of community-based business models and strengthens the value chain of local products** to ensure more adaptive and sustainable livelihoods.



Women from the CFS group engage in discussions about fishing areas and marine space utilization to support community livelihoods on Tanakeke Island

In Kubu Raya, fishermen who are members of the Capture Fisheries Field School have identified a solution for small-scale fisheries management by piloting river opening and closing systems and continuing management efforts through the monitoring of mangrove crab fishing at three fish landing sites. Efforts to build synergies with the government and other stakeholders are also strongly encouraged to support the sustainability of ongoing conservation initiatives. These conservation efforts are integrated with small business development, such as Jeruju tea, Kelulut honey, and Nypa sugar. Community capacity is further strengthened through training in business management, accountability, and improved bookkeeping.



In Tanakeke, a Seaweed Field School was conducted to deepen understanding of seaweed cultivation based on the unique characteristics of Tanakeke Island. One of the key challenges in seaweed farming on the island is frequent harvest failure, often without clear understanding of the causes. Through participatory field-based learning, the community is encouraged to identify

suitable methods, seasons, and seaweed species for sustainable cultivation.



The CFS group processes Jeruju leaves into tea as part of efforts to diversify ecosystem-based income. The women involved are successfully creating value-added products that enhance local livelihoods



Similar field school programs were conducted in Mimika and Asmat, where Indigenous communities identified the status of food sources from their forests, rivers, and seas. They also began exploring land-based food production around their villages, utilizing household yards for vegetable gardening to meet family nutritional needs. In Nayaro, communities have started developing dry sago processing techniques.

Meanwhile, in Kuri Caddi, Maros, women manage fishery and mangrove products such as crab crackers and fish sauce to supplement household income—especially during the off-season for fishing. Additionally, local youth are engaged in the Tourist Guide Field School, where they learn about mangroves and coastal ecosystems and share their knowledge with visitors.





The background features a banner with a green landscape and several logos at the top. The main text on the banner is in large, bold, orange letters. Below the main text, there is a smaller line of text in white on a red background, preceded by a location pin icon. The banner also includes an image of a village with traditional houses.

Integrasi Isu-Isu Pro Mangrove-Perikanan Mutan di dalam RPJM Desa

Tembilahan, 23 Februari 2022



INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE

Institutionalization



1

Forest Management Unit (FMU or KPH) has developed an inclusive long-term management plan (RPHJP) for a management area covering 87,038 hectares



13

coastal village governments has increased their capacity in developing mid-term planning (RPJMDes)



1

Multi Stakeholders Forum (MSF) implemented

Capacity Building



4

trainings on village mid-term planning (RPJMDes) preparation to include mangrove management and sustainable fisheries issues



121

people involved in RPJMdes drafting training

25 Women

96 Men



2

Indigenous Coastal Field Schools in Papua

Effective natural resource governance must be inclusive, evidence-based, and able to balance the interests of various stakeholders, especially local communities who depend on coastal ecosystems. Blue Forests encourages Inclusive Governance by integrating customary mechanisms, village institutions, and formal policies in the natural resource management system. This approach ensures decision-making that is participatory, adaptive, and sustainable.

Blue Forests implements Inclusive Governance by strengthening local institutions, ensuring active community involvement in natural resource management and facilitating synergies among stakeholders. This approach includes facilitating inclusive planning, increasing the capacity of village governments and management units, and facilitating cooperation between stakeholders.

Our goal is to strengthen community rights, access, control, and roles in natural resource governance, so that welfare benefits can be achieved through sustainable, equitable, and locally grounded management. With active participation in decision-making, communities become not only beneficiaries of policy but also key actors in maintaining and protecting ecosystems.

By integrating local knowledge and traditional practices that have proven effective over time, this approach supports governance systems that are more resilient, adaptive, and sustainable.



Together with KPH Mandah forest rangers, members of the Forest Ranger Partner Community or Masyarakat Mitra Polhut/MMP in Igal village delivered an appeal to suspected mangrove loggers, urging them to stop cutting mangroves for use as charcoal raw material.

KPH Mandah Unit XXVI, which manages an area of 87,038 hectares, continues to develop more inclusive governance planning. The Long-Term Forest Management Plan (RPHJP) document was revised with a participatory approach, ensuring the involvement of various stakeholders. In addition, the technical capacity of the FMU team was strengthened through GIS training and the introduction of the Mangrove Monitoring application (Monmang) to support more data-driven planning and management.



At the village level, Blue Forests and partners facilitate capacity building for village governments in the preparation of RPJMDes, emphasizing the principle of inclusive governance. This process not only addresses the technical aspects of document preparation, but also ensures the integration of community rights, access and control over natural resources, particularly in mangrove and coastal management. A total of 16 villages, including 2 villages in Tanakeke Islands and 1 village in Maros (South Sulawesi), 3 coastal villages in Muna, 5 villages in Indragiri Hilir (Riau), and 2 villages in Kubu Raya, have participated in this training. This approach involves various stakeholders, including village governments,

communities, technical agencies, forest and area management units, the private sector, and academics.

In Kubu Raya, Blue Forests also facilitates multi-stakeholder forums to discuss natural resource management issues and harmonize various initiatives. In addition, Customary Field Schools in Mioko (Mimika) and Yepem (Asmat) villages were strengthened to support customary-based natural resource management, as well as integrate customary laws and mechanisms with state policies.

The village government in Yepem-Asmat conducted discussions on the preparation of the village midterm plan-RPJMDs, emphasizing the principle of inclusive governance





ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION



2

Environmental Education
implemented



10

schools (elementary and
junior high schools)
implement Environmental
Education



34

teachers involved in
Environmental Education
ToT



294

students participated in
the Environmental
Education

Environmental Education (EE) is not just about raising awareness, but also shaping critical thinking and collective responsibility in protecting ecosystems. Blue Forests applies Participatory Action Research (PAR) and problem-solving approaches, emphasizing Kolb's experiential learning cycle. This approach allows communities to learn from hands-on practice, reflect on experiences, and design and test real solutions to environmental challenges.

The program encourages community-based learning, where communities-including children and youth-are involved in environmental observation, natural resource mapping, and threat analysis of coastal and mangrove ecosystems. Cross-generational dialog is also an important part, ensuring that traditional knowledge on environmental management is passed on through customary mechanisms and open discussions.

In addition, environmental education is integrated into the formal and non-formal learning systems. Blue Forests works with schools, villages and district governments to include conservation materials in the local education curriculum. Public awareness campaigns, environmental literacy programs, and youth involvement in ecosystem restoration actions are part of a broader strategy to build a more aware, adaptive and proactive community in protecting the environment.

Environmental Education programs have been implemented in various regions by involving schools, teachers, and students to strengthen awareness of coastal ecosystems. In Muna, Environmental Education support began with coordination efforts involving five schools to introduce coastal environment-based learning methods.



Students learn to understand how ecosystems and local commodities are utilized in their environment.



Meanwhile, in Kubu Raya, teachers from Batu Ampar and Medan Mas participated in a Training of Trainers (ToT) program to implement mangrove and peatland topics into the schools' local content curriculum. The five assisted schools are actively engaged in various Environmental Education activities, with the curriculum developed in collaboration with ICRAF, BRGM, and WWF. These teaching materials are integrated into science, social studies, and Indonesian language lessons at both elementary and junior high school levels.

In Kampung Lestari Timika, the Environmental Education ToT (Training of Trainers) involved teachers and members of the Forest Guard Group (KJH) in strengthening environment-based education. Mentoring is also provided at SMKN 2 Mimika, while KJH members share their experiences and facilitate EE activities at local elementary schools.

The Seacology program in Kuri Caddi incorporates Environmental Education as part of the local school curriculum to instill environmental awareness from an early age. This initiative reinforces environmental education both within the formal education system and in local communities, ensuring that conservation values become part of everyday learning and practice.

Youth members of the Jaga Hutan (KJH) group share their experiences and facilitate Environmental Education (EE) activities in elementary schools.





Dusun Kuri Caddi, Maros, South Sulawesi

COASTAL COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER (CCLC)

Blue Forests in collaboration with Seacology Foundation initiated the Coastal Community Learning Center (CCLC) as an interactive learning center to address the limited access of coastal communities to information, technology, and training. CCLC is a collaborative space for communities to share experiences, develop skills, and access innovations in coastal resource management. In addition to focusing on environmental aspects, the center also covers economic empowerment, community health, and local leadership capacity building.

Through CCLC, communities receive technical training, incubate natural resource-based businesses, and facilitate community discussions to develop local solutions to challenges faced. In some locations, CCLC also plays a role in developing community-based business models, such as sustainable fisheries processing and the production of

non-timber forest products, which support the economic resilience of coastal communities.

This year, the CCLC was built in Kuri Caddi Maros, South Sulawesi on a 10 x 15 meter plot of land with preserved bamboo as the main material, involving the village government, community, and local artisans to encourage knowledge transfer. Upon completion, the center was immediately utilized as a community meeting space as well as a production site for natural resource-based preparations, such as crab crackers, mangrove tea, powdered shrimp paste, and chili sauce. The inauguration of the CCLC by the Regent of Maros further strengthened the community's enthusiasm in developing sustainable businesses based on local potential.



The inauguration of the CCLC by the Regent of Maros further strengthened the community's enthusiasm for developing sustainable businesses based on local potential.



■ Batu Ampar Village, Kubu Raya, West Kalimantan

FOOD RESILIENCE AND COMMUNITY HEALTH



24

cadres actively conduct household visits for health counseling.



306

people attended counseling and health checks in collaboration with the Puskesmas.



50

households received health education in two villages.



2

waste management task forces were formed and developed a list of issues to be addressed in village regulations.

Blue Forests promotes and assists food resilience in assisted locations by optimizing food sources from the forest, sea, and surrounding land to ensure adequate food and nutrition for coastal families. This approach aims to ensure that communities are not dependent on external supplies that are vulnerable to disruption, but are able to utilize natural resources sustainably. By integrating ecosystem-based farming practices, responsible catch management, and local wisdom in food production, Blue Forests helps coastal communities build food systems that are more self-reliant, resilient to environmental change, and still maintain ecosystem balance.

The main approach applied is the sustainable utilization of natural resources to support food security, including sustainable fisheries, coastal agriculture, and management of non-timber forest products (NTFPs) such as Nypa and marine products. The program also develops community assistance in healthy consumption patterns, including education on food safety, food processing based on local resources, and the implementation of village policies that support food resilience. Some Blue Forests programs also strengthen the capacity of village health cadres to drive community health initiatives, waste management and strengthening the performance of health services.

Health counseling and examination activities were carried out by community health cadres in collaboration with Puskesmas staff in Batu Ampar Village





As part of the food security and community health program, mentoring and capacity building were conducted this year for cadres in Batu Ampar and Medan Mas villages to strengthen their roles in community health education. The trained cadres actively carry out household visits to provide health counseling and raise awareness about healthy lifestyles. In collaboration with the local Puskesmas, the program also engages adolescents through counseling sessions and health check-up activities.

In addition, the program promotes environmental sustainability by establishing waste management task forces in both villages. These task forces have compiled a list of waste management issues and challenges at the hamlet level as a first step toward developing more systematic and sustainable village regulations.



RESEARCH, CAPACITY BUILDING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Blue Forests actively conducts research, capacity building, and technical assistance to support the sustainable management of coastal ecosystems and watersheds. Through a Participatory Action Research approach, Blue Forests develops community-based social, economic, and ecological studies, ensuring that the solutions produced are relevant to local needs. Capacity-building programs focus on technical training, environmental education, and strengthening formal governance systems and policies. In addition, Blue Forests provides technical assistance to governments, communities, and partners in planning, mapping, and implementing ecosystem restoration strategies. This approach promotes multi-stakeholder collaboration to build resilient and sustainable ecosystems.

Blue Forests conducted a Resilience Assessment in Konda, Arar and Segun villages in South Sorong and Sorong districts. This assessment measures the social-ecological-economic resilience of communities in the face of environmental and economic changes. The results provide strategic guidance for the development of programs that are more adaptive and based on local needs.

In North Kalimantan, Blue Forests provided technical assistance to conduct a mangrove rehabilitation study in the villages of Sajau Hilir, Tanah Kuning, and Mangkupadi. The study analyzed biophysical, social, and economic factors to determine the most suitable sites for rehabilitation. Using the Site Selection Metric, seven sites were identified as highly ecologically suitable. However, the primary challenges identified were related to land tenure and long-term management. The findings formed the basis for recommendations on rehabilitation techniques tailored to the degradation characteristics of each site.

Through collaboration with CIFOR under the Restoring Coastal Landscape for Adaptation and Integrated Mitigation (ReCLAIM) project, Blue Forests conducted a study in four villages in Demak District, Central Java—Morodemak, Tambakbulsan, Onggojoyo, and Betahwalang. The study aimed to understand the relationship between mangrove ecosystems and the livelihoods of coastal communities. It employed various methods, including focus group discussions (FGDs), semi-structured interviews with fishers and fisheries officials, and household surveys using the Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) approach.



The results highlighted the critical role mangrove ecosystems play in supporting small-scale fishers' livelihoods—both through direct harvests and the ecological services they provide to fish stocks. However, mangrove degradation caused by coastal abrasion, land conversion, and environmentally harmful fishing practices has led to a decline in fishers' incomes. A key finding was the use of destructive fishing gear, such as sodo and arat, which has worsened the condition of local fisheries by catching large quantities of mixed species, threatening marine resource sustainability.

The study also underscored the important role of women in the fisheries value chain, particularly in processing and marketing the catch. Despite government-led mangrove rehabilitation efforts since 2005, there has been little impact on the recovery of fishers' catch levels. Based on these findings, the report recommends the development of community-based conservation strategies, stricter regulations on destructive fishing gear, and capacity building for fishers to support sustainable fisheries resource management.





Timika City, Mimika, South Papua

KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

A 25-minute documentary video entitled "Mangroves: Between Conservation & Development"

Explores the utilization of mangroves for building material (cerucuk) in Indragiri Hilir Regency, Riau. The video documents the use of mangrove timber for construction—beginning with the logging process through to its use as building foundations—highlighting the associated challenges. It also covers current practices and potential future uses of mangroves, showcases good practices for sustainable protection and utilization, and presents the perspectives of various stakeholders on mangrove use in Indragiri Hilir.

The video is available on [Blue Forests' YouTube channel](#)



Ecological Mangrove Rehabilitation Train-the-Trainer Module

This module for trainers adapts the Ecological Mangrove Rehabilitation (EMR) approach and methodology. This approach includes six steps developed by Robin Lewis, Mangrove Action Project (MAP) and Yayasan Hutan Biru (YHB). Key to this approach is a deep dive into the characteristics and needs of mangrove rehabilitation at the site level before undertaking mangrove rehabilitation. This guide is expected to be applied in training-of-trainers sessions. The aim is to increase the capacity of rehabilitation actors and practitioners in both planning and conducting rehabilitation.

Modules can be downloaded from the [blue-forests.org](#) website.





One book of Customary Law Community (Masyarakat Hukum Adat or MHA) profile of Kamora Village

This book contains a profile of the indigenous people of Kamora village, Mimika, Papua, which consists of 7 chapters, namely: (1) history, (2) customary management area, (3) customary law, (4) customary institutions, (5) customary property, (6) belief system and (7) biodiversity. The process involved focus group discussions with customary elders and in-depth interviews with several community/ indigenous leaders. The information in this book has been reviewed by customary elders and community leaders in Kamora Village.

The book is available for download on the blue-forests.org website.

Kubu Raya mangrove and peat curriculum

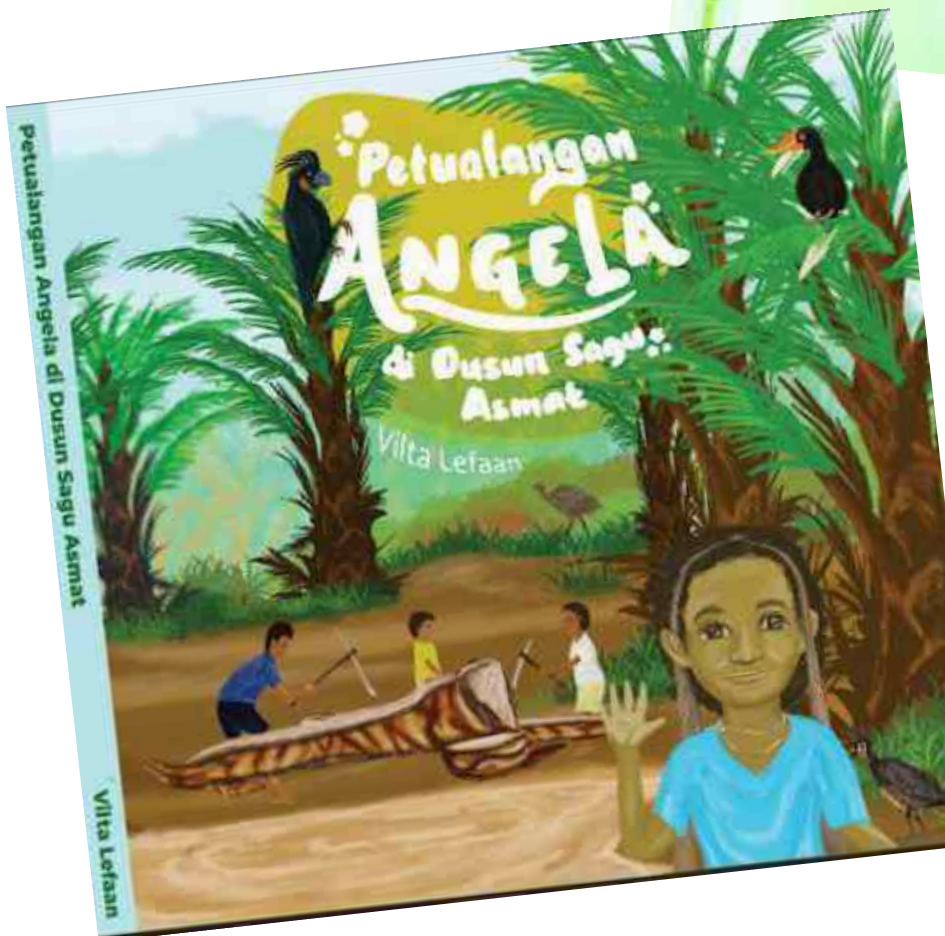
The curriculum was developed in collaboration with ICRAF, BRGM, and WWF, in partnership with the Education and Culture Office of Kubu Raya Regency, West Kalimantan. A total of five curricula were created and have been implemented in schools. These teaching materials are integrated into science, social studies, and Indonesian language lessons at both elementary and junior high school levels.



Two Papuan Children's Storybooks

These books feature stories about children from the Kamoro tribe in Mimika and the Asmat tribe in Asmat, Papua. The first book is titled “Takjubnya Tadeus pada Hutan Mangi-Mangi Mimika”, and the second is “Angela's Adventure in the Sago Forest, Asmat”.

Both books are available for download on the blue-forests.org website.





OPERATIONS, FINANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES

FUNDS MANAGED AND FUNDING PARTNERS

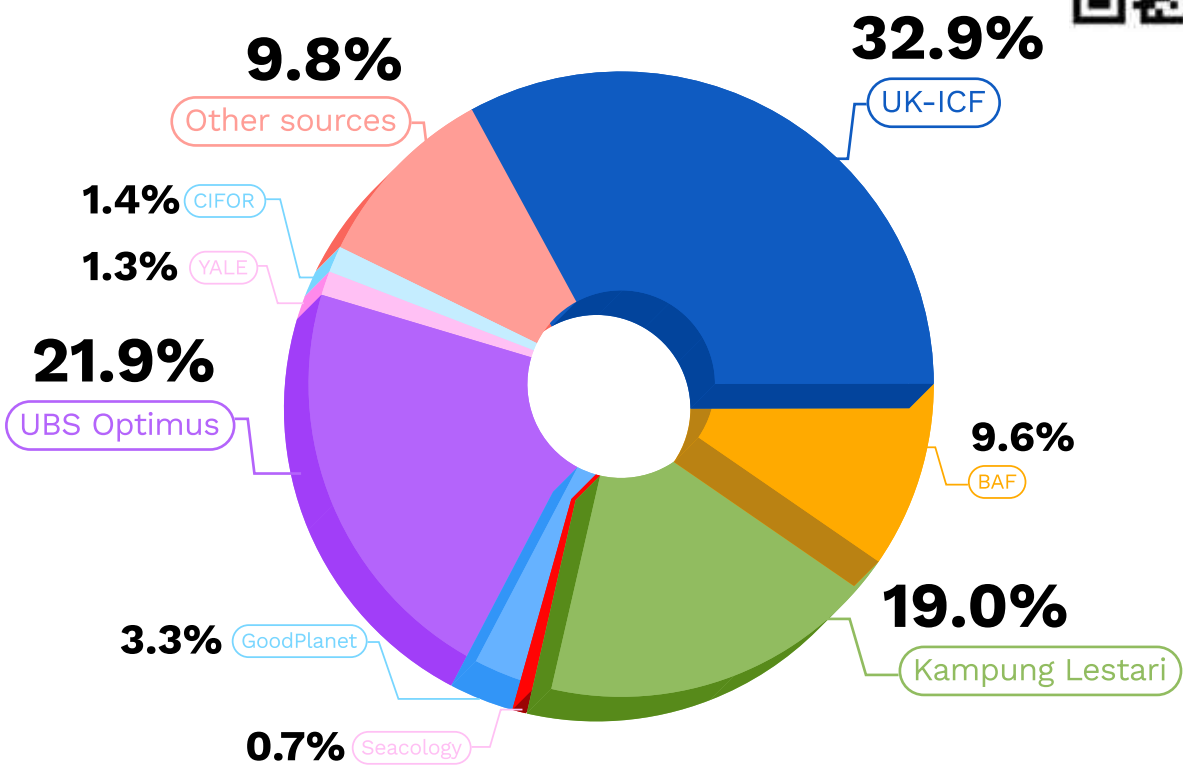


In 2022 Blue Forests managed **8 projects** with a total revenue of

IDR10,719,886,175

We work in 7 provinces namely Riau, West Kalimantan, East Kalimantan, Southeast Sulawesi, South Sulawesi, and Papua with 8 funding partners from organizations and philanthropy. The biggest revenue is from UK-ICF. In addition to projects, our implementation also provides technical assistance and expertise services on several consultancy projects from related partners.

The annual financial report can be accessed at:





OUR TEAM

Board of Trustees Dody Priosambodo

Supervisory Board Andi Muhammad Ibrahim M.

Executive Board

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Secretary Yusran Nurdin Massa

Vice Chairman Ratnawaty Fadilah

Treasurer Fransiska

Institutional Management

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Jajang Sonjaya

Environmental Technical Advisor

Yusran Nurdin Massa

Socio Economic Technical Advisor

Ratnawaty Fadilah

Technical Specialist

Restoration and Conservation Specialist

Akhzan Nur Iman

MEL and Knowledge Specialist

Regista

Silviculture Specialist

Lely Puspitasari

Governance and Knowledge Specialist

Wahyudin

Operations

Finance Manager

Fransiska

HR Manager

Rieski Kurniasari

Grant and Partnership Officer

Muhammad Iqram

Administration & Procurement Officer

Andi Zaenab Astriani

Finance and Administration Assistant

Yolanda Julita

OUR TEAM



18

Women



22

Men



6 personnel

Mimika & Asmat

5 personnel

Indragiri Hilir, Riau

4 personnel

Jakarta, Jogja, Darwin, & Samboja

7 personnel

Kubu Raya, West Kalimantan

2 personnel

Muna, Southeast Sulawesi

16 personnel

Home Office, Makassar



BLUE FORESTS
Yayasan Hutan Biru



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<https://blue-forests.org/>

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