

PULOT VILLAGE

Project & location

This project is developed for ensuring long-term sustainable use of a new coastal wetland ecosystem originated after the Tsunami. The project will consist of a pilot on integrated lagoon management in Pulot Village, Aceh Besar District.

Problem description

The Tsunami in December 2004, followed with the earthquake in March 2005 has caused the existence of a number of new established coastal wetland types along the West and South West coast of Aceh. Among these coastal wetland types are lagoons, brackish-water swamps and salt water pools. One of these lagoons is located in Pulot Village of Leupung Subdistrict, Aceh Besar District.

Based on the environmental assessment work carried out by Wetlands International Indonesia Programme (WIIP) during the Tsunami response phase, it was discovered that this lagoon showed high fishery potential values to support community livelihood. Also it was found that the area shows potential for eco-tourism (such as tracking, climbing the hills, sport fishing) as the back of the lagoon is a hilly area (with spring water fed to the lagoon) and the front of the lagoon has white sand beaches and the Indian Ocean view is beautiful. This lagoon is easy accessible as it is located beside the old main road (currently being reconstructed) which connects Banda Aceh and Meulaboh.



Previously, the community in this area was mostly dependant on agriculture (paddy field), fishery (aquaculture and catching) and mixed farm land. Due to the catastrophes, most agricultural land and fish ponds were destroyed (mainly inundated with salt water and now formed a waterlogged area/lagoon, silted up by sand or tsunami mud). Therefore, community livelihoods are seriously affected. The economic values potentially offered by the newly established lagoon is a good hope for the community as one of their livelihood resource alternatives.

Recovery goals

The goal under this extended project is to continue the effort of protecting the lagoon ecosystem through community-participatory based management. The main objective during this phase will be the rehabilitation of 20 ha by planting 30,000 mangroves and beach trees.

Funding allocation

The total budget available for this project equals 8,000 Euro. In order to obtain the community-based integrated management of the coastal wetlands in Pulot Village (focusing on lagoon area and its surroundings), the funds will be allocated for the following activities:

Coastal wetlands management, i.e. mapping and zoning of the lagoon area, establishing utilization rules and community-based management for the lagoon and other coastal wetland resources.

Capacity building, i.e. including training on seedling preparation and vegetation rehabilitation.

Rehabilitation of lagoon banks and its surrounding through vegetation rehabilitation.

Awareness raising, i.e. cleaning up lagoons from debris and garbage and producing campaign and awareness materials.

Community livelihood enhancement through fishery, agriculture and eco-tourism programmes.

Beneficiaries

It is expected that 800 people will benefit from this project; the number of women participating and benefiting will be 400.

Partners on the ground

In implementing the project, WIIP works closely with the Pulot Village community. The community is actively involved in maintenance, rehabilitation and protection of their coastal ecosystems. This includes planting lagoon banks, cleaning it from debris and practicing environmentally friendly fishery techniques (e.g. using appropriate fishing techniques that not damage fish population in the sea and in the lagoon).

Results so far