

# The optimizing of land use management to raise the living standard of forest communities: a study in East Kalimantan

Eli Nur Nirmala Sari

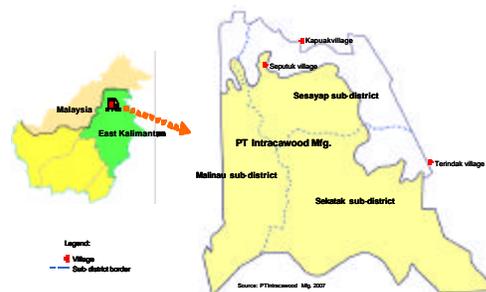
Graduate School of Environmental Science, Hokkaido University

## I. Introduction

In Indonesia, the forest concession holders are obliged to develop the communities in or around their forest area. The optimizing of land use is one of the programs done by forest concession holder in the research site which is purposed to support the forest communities' income. The forest concession holder suggested forest communities to plant *Jabon* (*Anthocephalus cadamba*) in their *jakau* (land under fallow) which is then called as *jabonisasi* program. To attain the objective of "how the implementation of *jabonisasi* program could be addressed to achieve the benefits for forest communities", three goals were set: (1) to identify the forest communities participation on the *jabonisasi* program, (2) to identify the emerged problem related to its implementation and find the solution, and (3) to identify the potential benefits from its implementation from the view point of Forest Concession Holder, forest communities, and environment.

## II. Research site and methods

This study was undertaken in and near forest area of PT Intracawood Mfg Forest Concession Holder (which is then referred to FCH in this paper) in East Kalimantan. As the *jabonisasi* program until now is done in three villages near and around FCH forest area, the study was carried out in these three villages (Seputuk, Kapuak, and Terindak villages) which are located in two districts, Malinau and Bulungan districts. The research method used is participatory approaches to research into changes after the implementation of *jabonisasi* program.



## III. Results and discussion

The *jabonisasi* program came from the idea of the FCH. This program was communicated to the forest communities in 2003 and started in 2004. Forest communities responded it positively. In the beginning the FCH realized that there were lot of *jakau* which were ignored by their owners after harvesting season has finished. The FCH then started the *jabonisasi* program to optimize the utilization of these "empty lands".

In the future, the implementation of *jabonisasi* program hopefully could give benefit for the factory of FCH to support the wood supply for its plywood industry. The FCH is managing also the plywood factory which its materials were supplied from its managed natural forest. The other benefit of this *jabonisasi* program implementation is improving the relationship between FCH and forest communities. The *jabonisasi* program is also expected supporting the households' income.

## IV. Conclusion

The results suggest that the *jabonisasi* program done by the FCH for forest communities brings not only the benefit for the FCH, forest communities and environment but also the new problem of social jealousy. The problem of "social jealousy" appeared as the implementation of *jabonisasi* program can not be spread evenly to all of the forest communities. The result also showed that the new system may be applied for the success of *jabonisasi* program implementation.

Corresponding author: elinns@exfor.agr.hokudai.ac.jp