

CEPF Small Grant Final Project Completion Report

Complete the following report worksheet to provide CEPF with an overall summary of the results of your project. Within the narrative section, responses should be concise, but include sufficient detail to present a clear understanding of the development and progression of this project.

Date of Report (MM/DD/YY)
31 May 2005
Organization Information
Organization Name
Lembaga Swadaya Masyarakat (LSM) Gerakan Masyarakat Madina Pemantau Aparatur Negara
Project Name
First Anniversary Celebration for Batang Gadis National Park"
Project Dates (as stated in the contract agreement)
December 10, 2004 – February 10, 2005, extended till March 31, 2005
Partners
Conservation International Indonesia, Regional government of Mandailing Natal, NGO Harapan Madina

Project Description – Provide a brief description of the project your team implemented.

The main activity is The First Anniversary Celebration of Batang Gadis National Park (BGNP). The expected end-result from this activity was the continued support from regional and central government toward more inclusive and effective management of Batang Gadis National Park through collaborative management approach.

This activity was conducted in parallel with the activity by NGO Harapan Madina namely "*Marluhut Godang Hita Sahuta Mangholongi Harangan Taman Nasional Batang Gadis*" (*Village community big meeting to protect Batang Gadis National Park*) in January 7th – 9th, 2005. The purpose of this meeting was to strengthen community commitment in conserving BGNP.

The anniversary celebration conducted in February 24th, 2005, attended by high ranking government officials, such as Minister of Forestry- MS Kaban, North Sumatera Vice Governor-Rudolf Perdede, Director of Area Conservation Directorate General of PHKA, Head Regional of Mandailing Natal, Head of Forestry Office North Sumatera. In addition, more than 400 people also participated in this celebration, from religious schools (*pesantren*), religious leaders, NGOs, and community leaders. The celebration was initiated by water rafting activity in Batang Gadis River, Nature Crossroad in the area of Sopobaru-Sopotinjak Lake, and exhibition of the conservation initiatives of BGNP included biodiversity photographs displays, booklet and pin distribution.

The main result of this activity was strengthened central and regional government commitment to save remaining forest of Mandailing Natal region, especially BGNP. This was shown by:

1. Formalization of BGNP by Minister of Forestry in an inscription.
2. Establishment and opening of BGNP Collaborative Management Forum office in BGNP office in Panyabungan by Ministry of Forestry.
3. Declaration from Mandailing Natal Community on "The Fight against Illegal Logging and Forest Encroachment" signed by Regional Head of Mandailing Natal, Head of DPRD of Mandailing Natal, Chief of Police of Mandailing Natal, and community representatives (religious leaders, youth leaders, and NGOs). This declaration was read in front of and accepted by Minister of Forestry.

The 2nd Declaration addressed common vision and commitment in:

1. Fighting against all illegal logging and wood distribution inside BGNP and other natural forest in Madina.
2. Fighting against on going and future forest encroachment that threaten people livelihood, such as the open mining of PT. Sorikmas Mining, unsustainable forest use, opening land for agriculture and settlement in watercatchment areas and or other sensitive areas that may cause land slides, pollution, drought and floods, such as the floods that recently happened in Madina region.
3. Declaring remaining forest ± 48.600 hectares to be conserved as part of BGNP extension to protect water resources, such as forest in Tinggal Lake in West Sumatera Province, upper part of Batang Gadis river in Kulabu Mountain in Kecamatan Muara Sipongi, Tor Sungai Lamping, Dolok Batumarbolong, Tor Arsip, Dolok Partarakan, Dolok Ulana Ujon, Siampil-ampil in Kecamatan Muara Batang Gadis.
4. Re-emphasis identity and cultural value of Mandailing community, including, the cultural value of *holong* (love and care), *domu* (unity), *hita* (togetherness) and the form of participatory *ra dohot ro, ro dohot ra* (collective willingness and action), to fight

against illegal logging, forest encroachment, and save remaining forest in Mandailing Natal region.

5. Rehabilitate land using hard wood crops that have economic and ecology value, either in the buffer zone of Batang Gadis NP, in destructive forest, or abandoned land.

Narrative Questions

1. What was the initial objective of this project?

The long term objective of this activity is to guarantee long term conservation activities of BGNP by increasing community awareness.

The output of this activity was to establish stronger support from Central and Regional government in the long term conservation effort for BGNP by creating conducive environment to manage the national park in a more inclusive and effective manner/approach.

This output was achieved through series of activities:

1. Formalization of Batang Gadis National Park and the collaborative management office by Minister of Forestry.
2. The establishment of Batang Gadis National Park Collaborative Management Forum.
3. The reading of Community Declaration in Saving The Nature Forest of Kabupaten Mandailing Natal, that legalized by the government of Kabupaten Mandailing Natal;
4. Conducted public awareness activities such as nature crosswalk and water rafting, environment exhibition.
5. Produced and distributed material/information about conservation of BGNP, in form of pin (theme: "*Jaga Hutan TNBG*" / Let's Save Batang Gadis NP Forest) and brochure/booklet.
6. Monitoring activity by distributing and analyzing pre and post community survey, to assess changes in community aspiration before and after activity being conducted.

2. Did the objectives of your project change during implementation? If so, please explain why and how.

No changes in project's objective during implementation. All of the expected result had been achieved relatively well. However, 2 months delay in time of implementation occurred due to the tsunami disaster in Aceh and North Sumatera Province in late December 2004.

3. How was your project successful in achieving the expected objectives?

Technical preparation initiated by the regional government of Mandailing Natal in collaboration with GEMMPAR and Conservation International played significant factor in the success of this activity. Furthermore, political support from the Region Head of Mandailing Natal – Amru Daulay SH contributed to the success in lobbying Minister of Forestry and Vice Governor of North Sumatera Province to attend this event.

4. Did your team experience any disappointments or failures during implementation? If so, please explain and comment on how the team addressed these disappointments and/or failures.

Irresponsible person who tried to stop the visit of Forestry Minister to Panyabungan City. This person were those were disadvantage by the legalization of Batang Gadis NP by Minister of Forestry.

5. Describe any positive or negative lessons learned from this project that would be useful to share with other organizations interested in implementing a similar project.

1. Community commitment to conserve Batang Gadis NP as in the “Declaration to Save Our Nature Forest in Kabupaten Mandailing Natal” had been able to influence the government policy of Kabupaten Mandailing Natal by accommodating people aspiration. Based on this declaration, Regional Government of Mandailing Natal also established and strengthened the same commitment. This commitment was included in the 2nd declaration “The fight against illegal logging and forest encroachment” which was delivered to the Minister of Forestry. In a sense, local power had been succeeded in putting pressure to the Central Government in more effective and inclusive management for Batang Gadis NP through a collaborative management effort. This was shown through the establishment and formalization of Collaborative Management Forum of BGNP, in which regional government and local community were playing big part in management of this national park.
2. From monitoring and evaluation, a positive change occurred from the participants in BGNP conservation, from their knowledge, understanding, attitude, and commitment.
3. Other positive lesson learned was that in conservation efforts, especially in BGNP, multi layered and multi stakeholder approach are needed to ensure long term conservation.

6. Describe any follow-up activities related to this project.

Periodic Publication in tabloid form using local language to disseminate various aspect of management of Batang Gadis National Park, that will be distributed to general public of Mandailing Natal to increase awareness and pride of the people toward BGNP.

7. Please provide any additional information to assist CEPF in understanding any other aspects of your completed project.

- Appendix 1. 2nd Declaration “ The Fight Against Illegal Logging and Forest Encroachment”
- Appendix 2. Minister of Forestry Speech Text
- Appendix 3. Photographs of the activity
- Appendix 4. Newspaper clippings