

### **Identification and Management** of Indigenous Community **Conserved Areas in Wallacea**, Indonesia

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#### ADI WIDYANTO / VINCENTIA WIDYASARI

5<sup>th</sup> Webinar on Indigenous Peoples and the Environment The Need for Synergy in Safeguards Approaches Asian Development Bank





## Outline

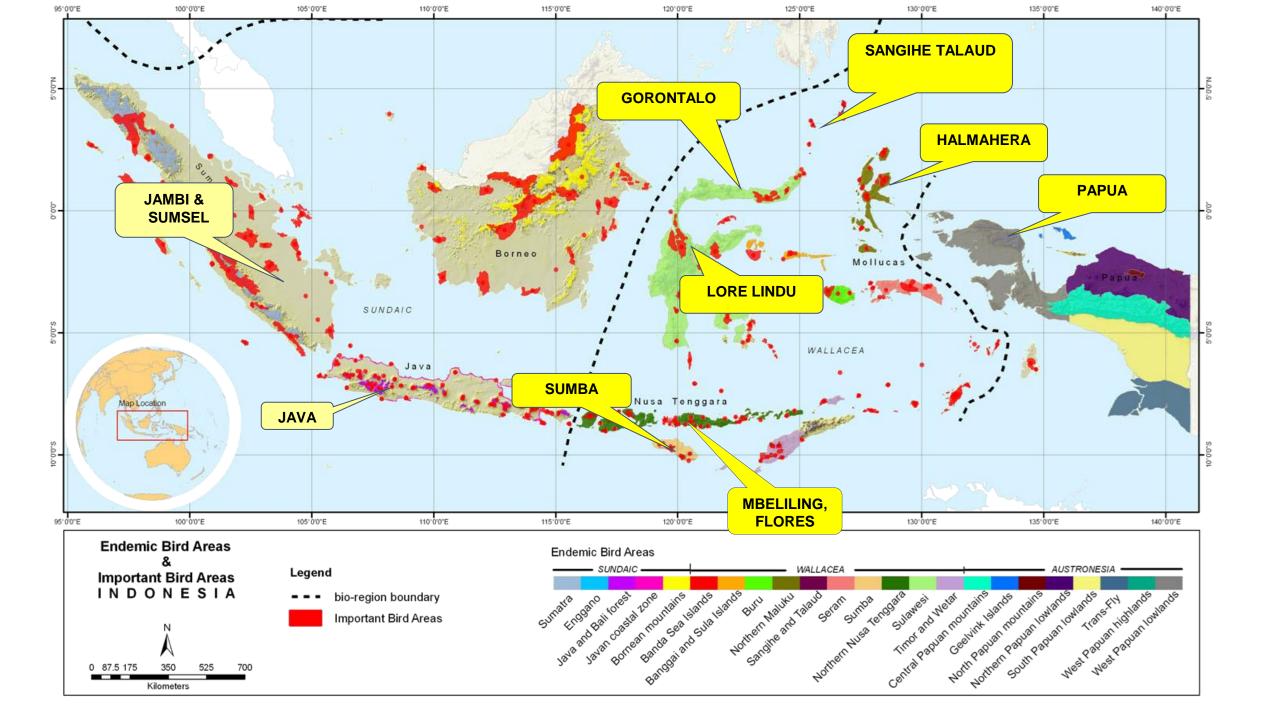
- 1. Intro on Burung Indonesia
- 2. Context : Indigenous Community and Biodiversity Conservation
- 3. Program : CEPF Wallacea phase 1 (2015 2020)
- 4. Case Studies:
  - Muro in Lembata
  - Sasi in Buano & Haruku
  - Pirong in Flores
- 5. Lessons Learned



## **BURUNG INDONESIA**

- Established as a national conservation organization on 15 July 2002
- BirdLife International's partner—the biggest conservation partnership with members from more than 120 countries
- Aims to conserve wild birds and their habitat through conservation activities as well as advocacy at the national and local levels







### National Context : Biodiversity Conservation

Biodiversity Conservation Law No. 5 year 1990, established national system of protected area:

- Nature Reserve
- Wildlife Sanctuary
- National Park
- Hunting Park
- Nature Recreation Park
- Forest Park

Government Regulation on Protected Species List No. 7 year 1999, annex revised with Minister Regulation No. P106 year 2019

Conservation regime consists of the following strategies:

- **Protection** of the life support system
- Preservation of biodiversity both in-situ and ex-situ
- Sustainable Use of natural resources and ecosystem



### National Context : Indigenous People

Recognition of Indigenous Communities in Indonesia:

2<sup>nd</sup> amendment of Indonesian Constitution, par. 18 B (2)

"The state recognizes and respects indigenous peoples and their traditional rights as long as they are still alive and in accordance with the development of the broader society and the principles of the unitary state of the Republic of Indonesia"

Other sectoral law:

- 1. Law Number 5 Year 1960 concerning Basic Agrarian Principles (UUPA);
- 2. Law Number 41 Year 1999 concerning Forestry;
- 3. Law Number 26 Year 2007 concerning Spatial Planning;
- 4. Law Number 32 Year 2009 concerning Environmental Protection and Management;
- 5. Law Number 6 Year 2014 concerning Villages;
- 6. Law Number 23 Year 2014 concerning Regional Government;
- 7. Law Number 39 of 2014 concerning Plantation.

#### **Critical milestone:**

Constitutional Court Ruling No 35 year 2012 : "Customary forest is excluded from the state's forest"

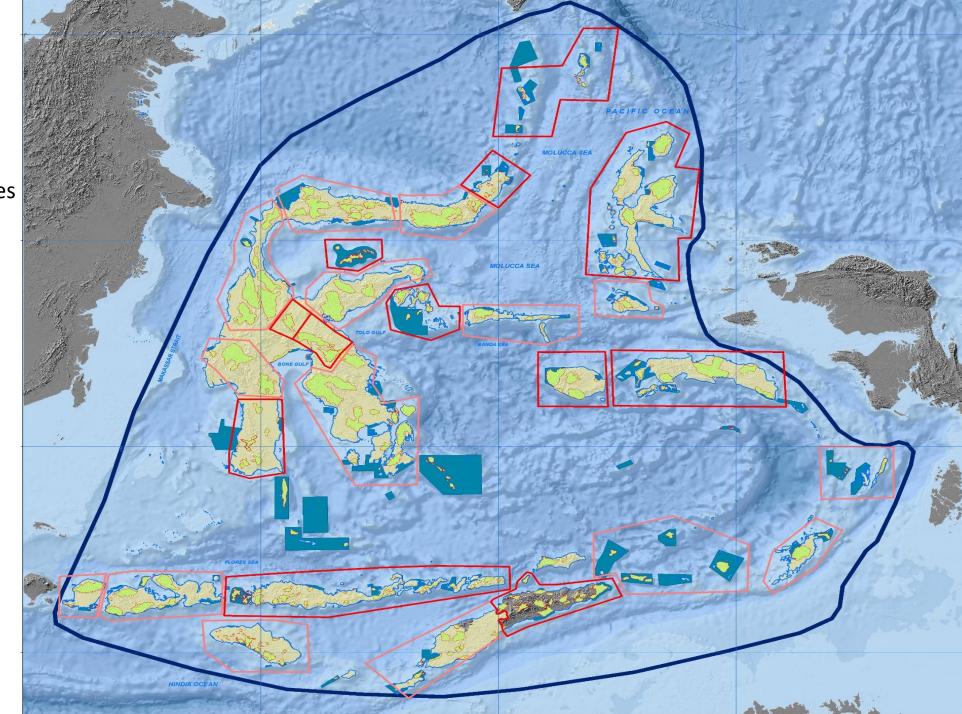
#### Wallacea Program

Conservation Outcomes: 560 globally threatened species 391 key biodiversity areas 8 priority corridors

65 Globally Threatened Birds Species and 282 Globally Threatened Marine Species

Home to hundreds of indigenous and resourcedependant communities

Funded by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund





### **PROGRAM OBJECTIVES**

#### CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES

- Main threats to at least five terrestrial and three marine species are reduced
- Rate of habitat loss in terrestrial KBA is halved
- Coral cover is maintained no less than the cover at the beginning
- KBA outside official protected areas is conserved
- Increase of 10% (from 2.7 million to at least 3 million hectares) in the area of terrestrial KBAs under formal protection
- Increase of 50 % in the area of Marine KBAs with formal protection as KKP/KKPD

#### **EMPOWERMENT OBJECTIVES**

- Indigenous and resource-dependent communities assisted to document and map customary ownership and/or use rights
- The rights of relevant local communities over natural resources are acknowledged and respected by other stakeholders
- Community institutions, capacity, plans and agreements with other stakeholders are in place and resourced
- Community systems for management of marine resources are recognized and supported by government
- Conservation management of all CEPF-funded marine KBAs includes creation or strengthening of community groups



### **CONSERVATION OUTCOMES**



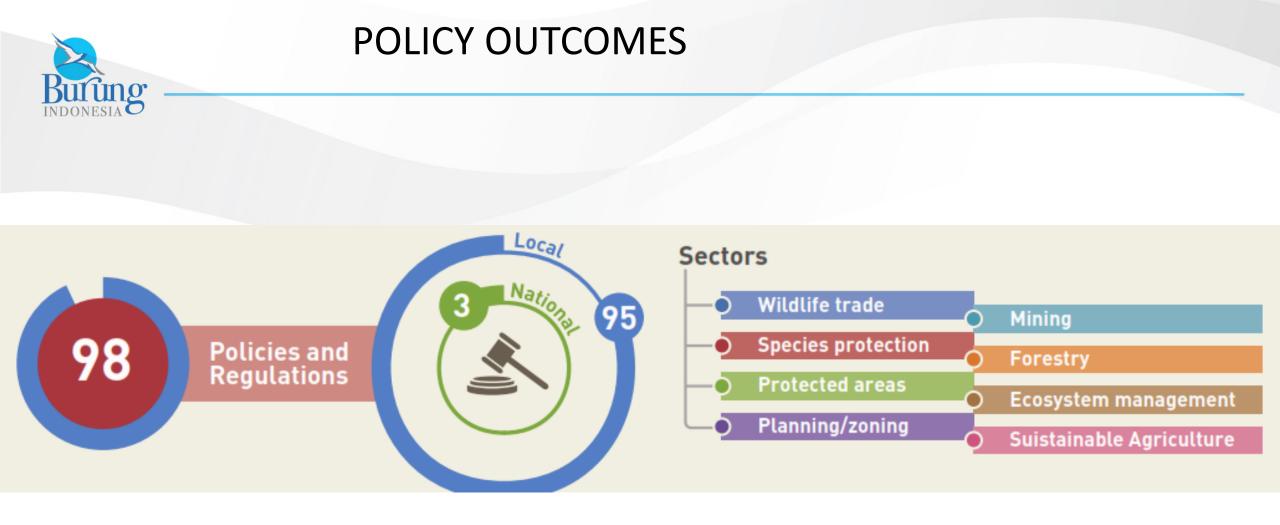
Iarge grant (33 projects)



### **COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT OUTCOMES**









# Pirong - Flores

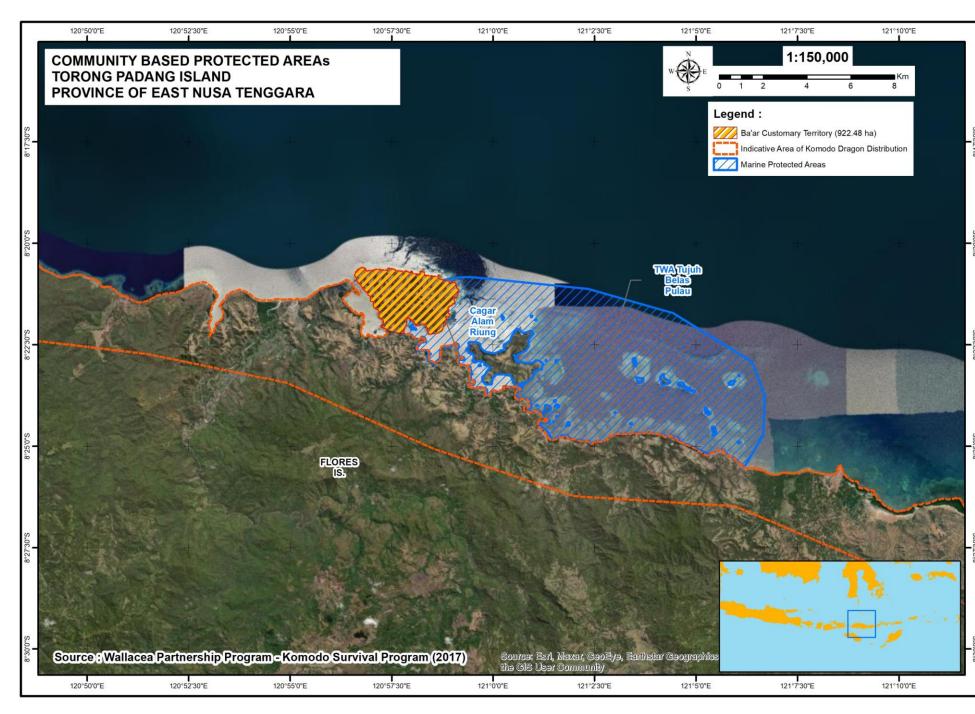
1<sup>st</sup> phase : human - komodo dragon conflict mitigation



- Baar Indigenous group descended from the mountain to settle in the coastal area of Northern Flores
- Part of their subsistence is hunting deer in Torong Padang peninsula
- Traditional hunting held every year for 3 days
- Conflict with Komodo sparked as deer population plummeted and dragon preyed on livestocks
- Project's intervention was providing awareness, transition of livestock rearing and set up mechanism for tackling conflict with komodo
- The first year implementation reported no dragon killed/harmed



- Community understanding of biology and natural behavior of komodo dragon
- Community observation of komodo in national park as tourism attraction
- Agreement to set up *Pirong* (customary rules) on komodo protection, livestock rearing, deer hunting and grass/forest burning
- Development of ecotourism initiative





# Muro - Lembata

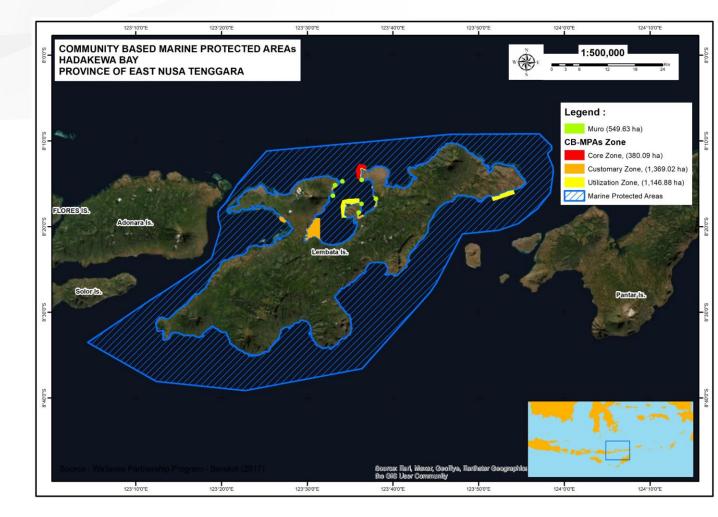
- Traditionally means area that is prohibited from certain (destructive) activities for certain period
- (area of) *Muro* is traditionally recognized through declaration of *Puro* (oath) by the elders of designated sub-clan of Tokojaeng indigenous group
- The purpose is to protect the availability of resources for the community such as timber or fish, usually triggered by certain event in the community's territory
- Three periods of Muro declaration by the Tokojaeng elders:
  - ✓ Muro against burning of forest and land (1978)
  - ✓ Muro against destructive fishing (1985 2005)
  - ✓ Expansion of the marine Muro (2018 2019)
- Rooted in the tradition, highly influenced by external forces





# Muro - Lembata

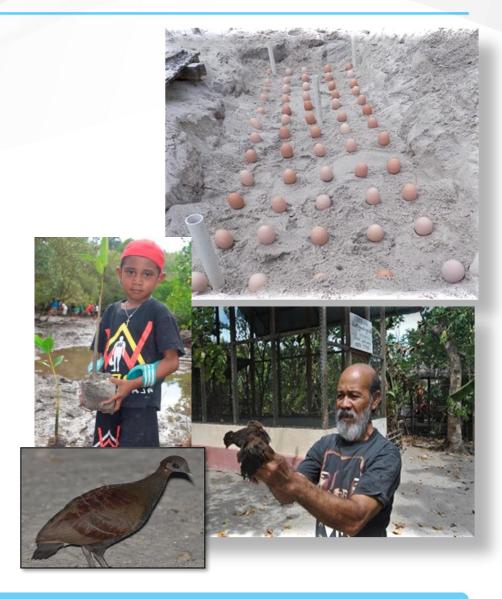
- Social assessment of traditional values in resource management
- Participatory mapping of Muro area
- Biodiversity survey and mapping
- Consultation on *Muro* expansion and its declaration through *Puro* ritual
- Muro expanded from 90.8 to 549.5 hectares and legalized by government as part of provincial MPA
- Marine species protected : rays, sharks, turtles, dugong, parrotfish, dolphin, sea cucumber, giant clam, corals, crabs
- Sustainable fishing gear allowed *Bubu*, *Nere*, floating house

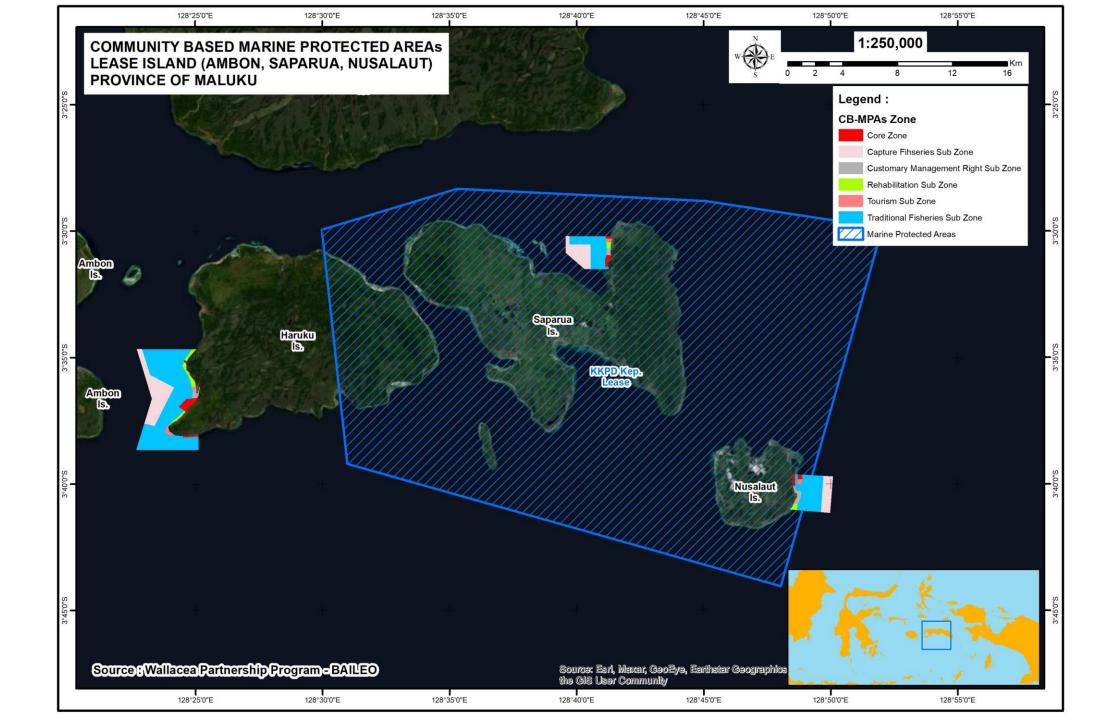




# Sasi - Haruku

- Traditionally Sasi means prohibition, often for certain period of time over *Petuanan* of certain *Soa*, or a *Negeri*
- Negeri (village) is administratively led by a Raja (village head)
- There is division of Sasi darat (terrestrial) and Sasi laut (marine), all aimed at regulating sustainable use against resource depletion
- Proposal for Sasi can come from *Dati* (clan). Once agreed by *Soa* meeting it will be declared by *Raja* and enforced by *Kewang*, who consists of clan representatives
- The Kewang and people of Haruku has exercised its power significantly over time, making it grows even stronger
- Kewang members gradually adapt and open to social and ecological dynamic, accepting ideas on biodiversity conservation
- Proactively prepare the youth Kewang by providing cadetship, including environmental education

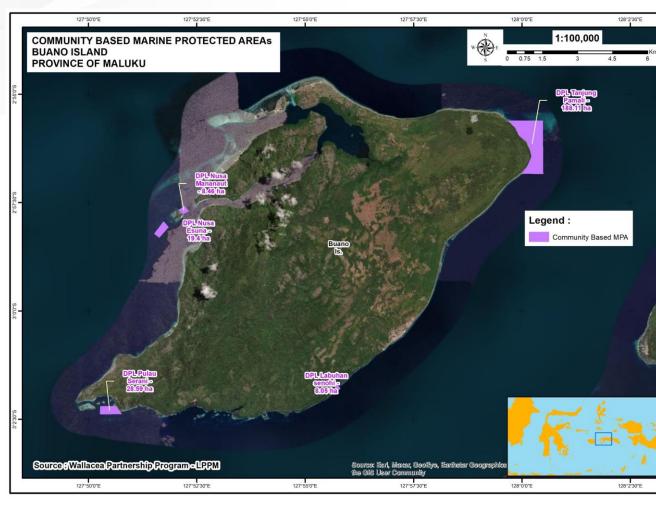






# Sasi - Buano

- Similar customary structure with Haruku : Soa, Dati, Raja, Kewang, etc.
- The influence of state authority and church is very strong, even replaces customary institution
- Beside Sasi adat, there is also Sasi gereja (church)
- Attack and demolition following sanction given to Sasi offender from the neighboring village has led to cessation of Kewang institution
- In absence of Kewang, destructive fishing become uncontrolled practice among islanders and outsiders
- Community based conservation initiated by rebuilding Kewang institution prior to identification and establishment of local MPA
- Integration of local MPA and customary rights over coastal resources into provincial marine spatial planning and MPA designation
- Declaration of provincial MPA (Buano, Lease islands) accommodating indigenous territories





## Key Lessons & Recommendations

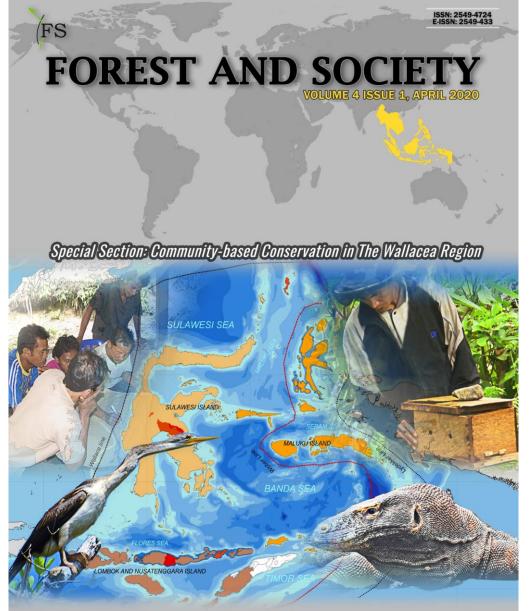
- 1. In Wallacea, indigenous institutions still plays important role in natural resource management. The control over the land and marine territories and the resources within is vested in social institution that has code of conducts, rules and regulations. Customary institutions have successfully governed the utilization of natural resources long before government and state were established. The prohibition or allowance to use certain resources is inspired by life experience then become wellbeing strategy, thus represent holistic view of nature and life that depends on it.
- 2. Indigenous institution is a dynamic entity, it changes overtime, can be influenced by internal or external forces. When it gets weak it can be reinforced, a continued rejuvenation process is also required to keep it strong and relevant. The more indigenous institutions exercise their roles the more recognition they will obtain from the community and other institutions.
- 3. The role of external institutions can strengthen or weaken indigenous institutions. In the case of Haruku, beside their internal strength they have long been building strong relationship with NGOs and academics to strengthen the institution. In the case of Buano, the absence of such support in times needed the most has led to the dawn for indigenous institution (kewang).
- 4. The current policy and regulations provide arena for amalgamation of indigenous and modern institutions to exercise certain function related to conservation or natural resources management. The participatory approach built on locally existing institutions will lead to better success than the top-down strategy
- 5. Indigenous communities effectively manage resources and use it sustainably in absence of on the ground management by the government apparatus. Since conservation is still regarded as cost-centre in state's budget, allocation has never been significant to cover surveillance and monitoring costs. Local community living nearby and whose life dependent on nature takes care their resources as a given role. Recognition of their roles and careful provision of support will guarantee resources sustainability and cost effective measure
- 6. The future of Kewang and customary management of resources could be replaced by external forces that aims to take over such institution, such as state and religious institution. The Kewang institution has its internal issue of meeting their operational cost, while at the same time sub-ordination or amalgamation into state's structure could guarantee financial support. There is a need to transform the spirit and values of traditional institutions into the modern one, or in the more ambitious way acknowledging and supporting the existence of indigenous institutions

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Articles discussing the program results:

- 1. Protecting the Mbau Komodo in Riung, Flores: Local Adat, National Conservation and Ecotourism Developments
- 2. From Hunter to Protector: The Invention and Reinvention of the Nuri Talaud
- 3. An overview of illegal parrot trade in Maluku and North Maluku Provinces
- 4. The return of the Muro: Institutional bricolage, customary institutions, and protection of the commons in Lembata Island, Nusa Tenggara
- 5. A Tale of Two Kewangs: A comparative study of traditional institutions and their effect on conservation in Maluku
- 6. The Importance of Being Political: Emergence of a Multistakeholder Forum at the Lake Malili Complex, South Sulawesi



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