

Process Framework for Involuntary Restriction on Access to Resources

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3. **Grantee:** YAPEKA
4. **Title:** Development of Community-Based Marine Protected Areas on Sangihe Island
5. **Location:** Kecamatan Nusa Tabukan and Kecamatan Tabukan Selatan (Sangihe Island), North Sulawesi Province, Indonesia

6. Project Background

Sangihe Islands district is an integral part of North Sulawesi province, that has an area of 11,863.59 km² (6% is land and 94% is sea). The number of islands in the district is 105 islands (79 are uninhabited and 26 are inhabited). The Sangihe Islands are currently considered as a corridor of dugong migration path from Indonesia to The Philippines (Marsh et al., 2002). Dugong sightings are also common in some areas along the corridor, from Sangihe Islands to the mainland of North Minahasa in the North Sulawesi. Lush and rich seagrass ecosystem in the area supports the dugong's presence. Recent research by YAPEKA indicated at least 8 species of seagrass are present in the area. It is widely known that Dugongs feed on seagrass species, mainly originated from genus *Halophila* and *Halodule*. However, until this concept is written, there is no significant dugong monitoring and conservation (species and habitat scale) efforts recorded in the area. Other ecological information available is mainly information on coral reefs. Therefore, it is necessary to gather more information on other social and ecological aspect in order to identify which area would serve best for the establishment of community-based marine protected area, in accordance to the communities' consensus.

On the other hand, threats to ecosystem are increasing due to excessive exploitation of natural resources and lack of knowledge and awareness of the local populations and also local government. Small islands communities take their protein source mainly from the sea. However, should fish stock dwindles, they would take their protein source from other sources. In regards to dugong, we have found that in Sangihe Island, dugong hunting and consumption are currently present. The nature and the scale of the hunting are not yet known. With regard to the mangroves, cutting for firewood is largely responsible for the destruction of the environment. Based on the workshop held by WCS (2012), it is indicated that 45% of the region's coral reefs were showing signs of deterioration. Seagrass ecosystem in the area often is neglected or overlooked, despite of its important roles and connectivity with adjacent mangrove and seagrass ecosystem (Sifleet et al. 2011).

Deteriorations caused by human activities surrounding coastal areas as main threat are currently present in the area (Cassels et al., 2005). Coastal erosion and sedimentation have also had a negative impact on the environment, in particular on the sea grass beds. In that situation and threats to small islands ecosystem, immediate attentions are needed to conserve biodiversity. One of the efforts to conserve biodiversity has been implemented through development of marine protected areas (MPAs) in North Sulawesi, but only few MPAs sustained and maintained by local community. To reduce the possibility of erosion and sedimentation, we will seek collaboration with other institutions that are working in the terrestrial part of Sangihe island, such as Perkumpulan Sampiri.

There is no community-based MPA established yet in Sangihe Islands district. Based on our experiences, it is essential to have strong local institutions and leadership to manage community-based MPAs. It is also important that the target communities understand the social and ecological importance of coastal

areas to their livelihood. Therefore, to achieve this, it is necessary to reach a community-level agreement on coastal area conservation management (e.g. community-based MPA) and to build the capacity of the communities and local institutions in terms of MPA's planning, implementation and monitoring.

We are confident that the community will accept the MPA model we propose based on our experience implementing a successful MPA in Bahoi on the mainland of Sulawesi. The communities living in Bahoi and Sangihe are of the same Indonesian ethnic sub-group, Sanger, and they use the same littoral fishing management system that combines modern and traditional fishing systems.

YAPEKA will not always be in the target areas to assist the communities. Therefore, we need to prepare the target communities to be able to continue the management of their MPAs. To do this, integration to existing government system and a sustainable mechanism for coastal conservation needs to be initiated to ensure the sustainability of the project and to realize a more independent coastal communities.

Sangihe Islands district has high biodiversity, both marine and terrestrial. To maintain its high diversity, Marine Protected Area (MPA) is an alternative that can address such objective as well as support the local communities' livelihood and biodiversity protection. There are several examples of successful MPA managed at village level, including in the village of Bahoi. YAPEKA was a subordinate partner to WCS in Bahoi from 2008-2012.

YAPEKA is experienced in planning and implementing coastal conservation activities in North Sulawesi, in particular in Sangihe Islands. Partnering with PKSPL-IPB, YAPEKA continues to develop activities to conserve coastal resources. Both organizations and Mangengkel Solidaritas are now implementing village based MPA in North Minahasa, North Sulawesi. In Sangihe Islands, Yapeka have implemented 5 years community capacity building program (2008-2012) to promote sustainable development at village scale through PNPM Green (National Program of Community Empowerment) Consortium.

7. Participatory Implementation

At village level, participatory method will be applied in data collection, planning, management, and monitoring of the MPA establishment both in Nusa Tabukan and Tabukan Selatan. The data collected will include ecological and socio economic information as a basis to determine the MPA delineation. In addition, reports on dugong sightings in the past will also be considered into the delineation process. Data collection process will intensively involve local community through direct consultation and key person interview, e.g. chief of the village (Kapitalaung) and Majelis Tua Tua (Village Board of Representatives) to accommodate community's point of view to the matters. Delineation itself will be consulted with the community and village government/councils. Based on the socio-ecological assessment results, we will present MPA restriction options to the village. For example: total closure, fishing tools limitation, time based restriction, or combination of zone systems to ensure sustainability of coastal resources. Type of traditional coastal management system such as *mane'e* and *seke* (see Reference 1 and 2 in the proposal) will be referred during this process to improve level of acceptance.

To legally support the MPAs, we will also consult on and make an agreement with the community and village government/councils regarding restrictions, rules and regulation through the inclusion of the MPA in the village's RPJMDes (five-year village development plan) and PerDes (village regulation). In district level, we will also work together with related government agencies such as Office of Marine Affairs and Fisheries and Office of Village Empowerment, as well as create a multi stakeholder

consultation for the governance and management of the MPAs. A field coordinator will be based in Tahuna to cover consultation in district level, and two community organizers in each sub-district will be based in the target villages to work in village-level.

8. Criteria for eligibility of affected persons

Criteria for eligibility of affected persons are local people in areas surrounding the project area, particularly those who make a living as fishermen. These fishermen from neighboring villages most likely will be affected by fishing restriction applied in the MPAs, be it a no-take zone or fishing tools restrictions. Complete criteria are following:

- a. Fishermen, typically small scale fishermen indicated by:
 - i. Ownership of a small boat
 - ii. With outboard engine below 15hp
 - iii. Fishing range below 12 miles
- b. Operates undesired fishing tools because of its destructive nature to ecosystem and/or dugong
- c. Lives in the target villages (Bukide, Nipa, in Nusa Tabukan Sub District and Batuwingkung, Leasbe in Tabukan Selatan Sun District) and potentially surrounding villages in the same sub districts.

9. Measures to assist the affected persons

Measures to assist the affected persons will be addressed during the project's implementation, which is inviting the representatives of the neighboring villages in the consultation in the planning stage, where they can participate in negotiating their fishing rights.

Intensive awareness raising activity will be made to raise awareness about the benefits of village-based MPA and dugong protection status. Campaign and capacity building will also introduce or emphasize alternative environmentally friendly, dugong friendly fishing tools.

YAPEKA will communicate with local government (village and District level) to set-up alternative livelihood.

10. Conflict resolution and complaint mechanism

YAPEKA will set up a complaint handling mechanism through its program structure. The project will provide a contact phone number and secretariat address to ensure people can speak freely about their concerns regarding the project. They can contact project personnel by phone or through consultative meeting in the program secretariat in Sangihe. YAPEKA will open Suggestion Boxes to include inputs/concerns from people who hesitant to speak directly.

YAPEKA will also provide the phone number and contact information of an appropriate party at Burung Indonesia, should the interested party not feel comfortable contacting YAPEKA.

In addition to above mechanisms, YAPEKA will participate in village meetings, usually held in Village Meeting Halls every month to provide communities to discuss directly with project staffs and discuss their concerns. YAPEKA will work with Chief of the Village and Majelis Tua Tua (Board of Representatives) to create close coordination to mitigate conflict/complain.

11. Implementation Arrangements

- Raise awareness on need for MPAs: Community Organizers: Saddam Onthoni and Jhonlihar Mamuka.
- Manage participatory data collection and MPA delineation: Field Coordinator (TBD), Community Organizers (Saddam Onthoni and Jhonlihar Mamuka), Ecologist (Laely Hidayati), Socio Economic Expert (Topan Cahyono), village government representatives.
- Facilitate formal decrees by Village Government, ensuring that input from participatory process facilitated by YAPEKA is incorporated, or that a period of public consultation and comment is included: Project Manager (Ami Putriraya) and Field Coordinator (TBD)
- Ensure MPA Management groups that are created include representative stakeholders: Field Coordinator (TBD).
- Ensure 6 months meetings are held by MPA Management Groups including local stakeholders to allow for continued community input, comment, or complaint: Project Manager (Ami Putriraya) and Project Supervisor (Akbar A. Digdo).

12. Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation will be done quarterly as a part of the project's quarterly report. Observation report from Field Coordinator and Community Organizers will be taken into account to anticipate the activities in the next quarter. Visit by the Project Manager and Project Supervisor to the target villages will also be done every 6 months.

13. Reporting

Monitoring and evaluation will be done by consultation with stakeholder in village level or district level (depends on in what level the affected members' origin). Affected members will be identified and facilitated towards alternative livelihood, alternative fishing location, and/or use of permitted fishing tools. This facilitation, then, will be informed to other community members. Annual discussion or 6 months discussion with District Government, particularly Office of Marine Affairs and Fisheries and Office of Rural Empowerment will be done to solicit support for alternative livelihoods.

YAPEKA will submit a semi-annual report on compliance with this safeguard as an annex to its overall Project Performance Report (Component 5 in the Logical Framework). This report will summarize consultations held (including how many men and women participated), summarize new restrictions on access to resources/land/area, discuss affected persons, describe compensation or agreed actions (if any), and record grievances raised (if any) and describe responses to those grievances.