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NEWS RELEASE

Rehabilitation of Social Forestry Area Launched with Simpang Tiga Sembelangaan Community

Jakarta, 25 June 2021 – On Saturday 19th June 2021, the inaugural planting of a joint company-community Social Forestry programme took place in the Simpang Tiga Sembelangaan village. The company representatives, government officials, children from our schools and the local community gathered to celebrate the start of the project and widely praised the initiative to rehabilitate the Gunung Tarak Forest together with the village community.



The social forestry permit awarded to the village management body allows these communities to control the land for a period of up to 35 years, taking advantage of its sustainable management. During the first five years of our partnership, we will restore 100 hectares of the previously burned forest areas with fruit- and non-timber forest product yielding trees such as *jambu*, *klengkeng* and *petai*. This will create new alternative income opportunities for the rural communities participating in the management of these areas, with the potential to improve their livelihoods in a sustainable and equitable manner. Besides offering economical benefits, the restoration of forests and the natural resources within them decreases the risks of fires, protects lower lands from flash floods and replenishes local water sources.

Once fully developed, this partnership and its sustainable forest management activities have the potential to transform the rural village into an independent and resilient community. We hope that this programme and similar collaborations with other villages across our operations in West and Central Kalimantan will increase the forest cover and improve the region's biodiversity, while strengthening our relationship with the local communities, providing a platform for mutual growth and prosperity.



The external articles linked below provide further details on the positive impression this project has made so far on the many of the stakeholders that attended the launch event.

<https://pontianak.tribunnews.com/2021/06/21/masyarakat-hutan-desa-simpang-tiga-sembelangaan-bersama-bga-tanam-pohon-di-lahan-bekas-terbakar>

<https://www.suarapemredkalbar.com/read/ketapang/21062021/masyarakat-hutan-desa-simpang-tiga-sembelangaan-bersama-bga-tanam-pohon-di-lahan-eks-terbakar>

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