

Press Release

Land4Lives National Exposé 2024: Strengthening Climate Change Efforts at Community, Landscape, and Provincial Levels

Jakarta, 26 June 2024 – Current strategies for climate change mitigation and adaptation, especially those concerning food security and livelihoods, are insufficient if implemented only at the community level. There is a critical need to enhance landscape management and bolster cross-sectoral policy and planning support.

This was the key message delivered by Jarot Indarto, Director of Food and Agriculture of the National Development Planning Agency (Bappenas), during the Land4Lives National Exposé titled "Toward Sustainable Landscapes for Climate-Resilient Communities" at the Fairmont Hotel, Jakarta.

"Climate change has real impacts on food security and people's livelihoods. We have and will continue to take and prepare steps to mitigate and adapt to these major challenges. Therefore, collaboration and strong, integrated commitments are needed across parties, sectors, and governments in sustainable landscape management, both at the local, landscape, and broader jurisdictional levels," he stated.

The Land4Lives project, known formally as Sustainable Landscapes for Climate-Resilient Livelihoods in Indonesia, employs a multi-level approach. Implemented by ICRAF, the World Agroforestry, under the guidance of the Directorate of Food and Agriculture, Ministry of National Development Planning/Bappenas, and funded by Global Affairs Canada (GAC), the project aims to build resilience against climate change.

Land4Lives has been running for more than three years and has made many achievements. The National Exposé is a forum to report on the various achievements of Land4Lives so far, to gather input from policymakers, academics, and civil society, and to open up collaboration for similar activities at national and regional levels.

H.E. Jess Dutton, Ambassador of Canada to the Republic of Indonesia and the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste said in his opening address: "We're proud to be working with the Government of Indonesia and ICRAF on the Land4Lives project, which is helping farmers become more resilient to climate change and improving food security and livelihoods."

"The Land4Lives project demonstrates that we don't need to sacrifice the environment to promote economic growth. In fact, economic opportunities can expand when we prioritize environmental sustainability," the Ambassador added.

Climate change in Indonesia has impacted millions of people who depend on natural ecosystems for their livelihoods and food security. This challenge is becoming more urgent with the projected impacts of climate change on agricultural productivity and the livelihoods of farmers who depend on subsistence and commercial crops.

In the Final Draft of the RPJPN 2025-2045, climate change is identified as one of Indonesia's main challenges over the next two decades. The potential economic losses from climate change during the period 2020-2024 are estimated to reach Rp544 trillion and will continue to increase if adequate ecological resilience is not built.

Sonya Dewi, Lead Researcher for Land4Lives and Director of CIFOR-ICRAF Asia, explained that the challenges of climate change to food security and livelihoods can be addressed by building resilience at the local, landscape, and provincial levels. "All of this is done with a scientific and gender-sensitive approach," she emphasized.

Land4Lives aims to strengthen the food security and livelihoods of vulnerable communities, especially women, in addressing the impacts of climate change. This research-action activity works with local governments in three provinces, namely South Sumatra, South Sulawesi, and East Nusa Tenggara.

In an effort to build climate resilience, Land4Lives adopts an approach that works at three levels:

- **At the local level**, by strengthening community food security and livelihoods.
- **At the landscape level**, by promoting sustainable landscape management that involves multiple stakeholders.
- **At the provincial level**, by supporting policies and development planning so that economic growth takes into account environmental carrying capacity.

Sonya further explained that Land4Lives is also designed to help Indonesia meet its national commitments to climate change mitigation and adaptation. One of these is the Enhanced Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 32% with domestic efforts and 43% with international support by 2030. In addition, Indonesia has established the LTS-LCCR 2050 (Long-Term Strategy for Climate Resilience and Low Carbon) which includes climate change adaptation and mitigation activities as well as land and peatland restoration.

Asirah Rasyid, a member of the farmer learning group in Turu Adae Village, Bone Regency, South Sulawesi, said that there have been many activities that she has participated in with Land4Lives in her village. Among these activities are establishing a nursery house, providing training on climate-smart agriculture, and creating home gardens to meet family nutritional needs.

According to Asirah, the training series provided by Land4Lives has rekindled farmers' interest in planting cocoa. Previously, due to declining cocoa productivity, many people only planted corn (monoculture). "Now the community is starting to create mixed gardens so they are more resistant to climate change," she said.

Yanti Nomnafa, a member of the vegetable garden farmer group in Neke Village, NTT, also reported a change in the way farmers in her village manage their land after participating in Land4Lives activities.

"If we used to only wait for the rainy season to plant corn, we don't do that anymore. After the corn is harvested, the land is planted with various kinds of vegetables or vegetable gardens," she said.

"These vegetable gardens are very helpful to meet the nutritional needs of families and then to help the family economy."

Considering that Land4Lives will continue until at least 2025, Bappenas Director of Food and Agriculture Jarot Indarto emphasized the importance of strong cooperation between the government, academics, civil society, and international partners to make this activity a success.

"The government hopes that this Land4Lives program can provide real contributions and bridge various parties and interests in building a sustainable landscape for better food security and livelihoods for the community," he concluded.

Find out more information about Land4Lives at lahanuntukkehidupan.id

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