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**PROGRAM REPORT
COMMUNITY CONSERVATION and MENTORSHIP INITIATIVE (CCMI)
JULY 2025 to JUNE 2026**

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**and
Submitted to:**



ORANGUTAN REPUBLIK FOUNDATION

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Medan, 20 July 2026

FOREWORD

This report presents the implementation and achievements of the Community Conservation and Mentorship Initiative (CCMI) implemented by Yayasan Sumatera Hijau Lestari (YSHL) from July 2025 to June 2026, with the generous support of the Orangutan Republik Foundation. The program was designed to strengthen community participation in conservation around Gunung Leuser National Park by empowering local communities, particularly women, as active partners in ecosystem restoration and environmental stewardship.

Throughout the reporting period, YSHL carried out a range of integrated activities, including community socialization, the establishment and strengthening of women's conservation groups, capacity-building training, nursery development, restoration planning, environmental education for children, and continued assistance to farmers and households in promoting sustainable agricultural practices. These initiatives reflect YSHL's commitment to combining biodiversity conservation with community empowerment to achieve long-term environmental and social benefits.

The implementation of the program would not have been possible without the valuable collaboration and support of the Gunung Leuser National Park Authority (BBTNGL), village governments, local communities, women's groups, partner organizations, and all individuals who contributed their time, knowledge, and commitment throughout the program.

While the program achieved significant progress, several challenges were encountered, particularly extreme weather conditions that affected nursery infrastructure and seedling survival. Nevertheless, the dedication of field staff, community members, and project partners enabled the program to continue moving forward and laid a strong foundation for future restoration activities.

We sincerely hope that this report provides a comprehensive overview of the program's implementation, achievements, lessons learned, and future directions. We also hope it serves as a useful reference for donors, partners, and stakeholders in strengthening collaborative efforts to conserve the unique biodiversity of Gunung Leuser National Park while improving the well-being of surrounding communities.

Finally, we would like to express our sincere appreciation to the Orangutan Republik Foundation for its trust and continued support, as well as to all partners and community members whose participation has been essential to the success of this initiative.

Medan, July 2026
Yayasan Sumatera Hijau Lestari (YSHL)

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Activity Report of Community Conservation and Mentorship Initiatives (CCMI) July 2025 to June 2026

A. Executive Summary

The Community Conservation and Mentorship Initiative (CCMI) was implemented by Yayasan Sumatera Hijau Lestari (YSHL) from July 2025 to June 2026 with the support of the Orangutan Republik Foundation. The program aimed to strengthen community participation in conservation around Gunung Leuser National Park (GLNP) by empowering local communities, particularly women, while supporting ecosystem restoration and environmental education.

During the reporting period, YSHL successfully established and strengthened two women's conservation groups in Batu Jongjong and Ujung Bandar Villages through a series of capacity-building activities, including training on basic conservation, restoration, leadership, conflict resolution, community mobilization, and GPS application. The program also supported the restoration of degraded land within GLNP through the establishment of a community nursery, production of 7,000 Damar (*Agathis dammara*) and Meranti (*Shorea spp.*) seedlings, and technical preparation for the restoration of approximately 10 hectares of former oil palm and rubber plantation.

In addition, environmental education activities were continuously implemented through two Conservation Learning Houses, reaching 37 children aged 6–12 years with various conservation-related topics. The program also continued mentoring farmers in the use of organic liquid fertilizer and supporting women in utilizing their home gardens to improve household food production while promoting environmentally friendly agricultural practices.

Overall, the program has successfully strengthened local capacity, increased women's participation in conservation activities, enhanced environmental awareness among children, and laid an important foundation for future restoration efforts within the Gunung Leuser National Park.

B. Planning and Achievement

Activity	Sub-Activity	Date of Implementation	Progress	Percentage of Progress
2. Socialization and increase capacity	2.1. Program socialization with village government	September 2025	The government supports the SHL program and welcomes the involvement of women in conservation.	100%
	2.2. Community meeting and group formation	September 2025	Two women's group have been formed in Batu Jongjong and Ujung Bandar village.	100%
	2.3. Training	October 2025 to March 2026	Six training topics; basic conservation, basic restoration, leadership, conflict resolution, community mobilization, and GPS application were delivered to	100%

			two women's groups from Batu Jongjong and Ujung Bandar villages.	
	2.4. Meeting with TNGL	August 2025	Discussion with Gunung Leuser National Park (TNGL) regarding the clearing of former oil palm land within the national park area.	100%
3. Restoration Activity	3.1. Preparation of technical restoration design	September 2025	Assisted in the clearing of 10 hectares of former oil palm land within the Gunung Leuser National Park (TNGL) area.	100%
	3.2. Formation and strengthening of restoration groups	October 2025	Basic restoration material was delivered to two women's groups in Batu Jongjong and Ujung Bandar villages.	100%
	3.3. Construction of restoration support facilities	September 2025	A 10 x 10 meter nursery was established in Ujung Bandar Village, equipped with electricity and a bore well.	100%
	3.4. Restoration seed	September 2025 to December 2026	Total of 7,000 Meranti and Damar seedlings were propagated in the nursery. However, due to unstable weather conditions and seedling mortality, only 3,669 seedlings remain alive.	100%
	3.5. Planting, enrichment and maintenance	April 2026	A follow-up land survey was conducted to assess the number of seedlings required, identify areas suitable for planting, and evaluate the availability of water sources.	-

C. Activity Description

1. Socialization and Capacity Building

1.1. Preparation and Socialization

The socialization activities to the village governments were conducted to introduce the objectives of the Community Conservation and Management Initiative (CCMI) program and establish initial coordination with local authorities. The socialization also aimed to introduce the planned Mentorship activities focusing on women, with the goal of enhancing their understanding of conservation and environmental preservation efforts around the Gunung Leuser National Park (GLNP). The activities were carried out in two villages: Ujung Bandar and Batu Jongjong.

a. Batu Jongjong Village

In Batu Jongjong Village, the socialization was welcomed directly by the Village Head, Mr. Alpiamus Ginting. He expressed his appreciation for YSHL's visit and fully supported the implementation of the CCMI program in his area. He also shared that restoration activities had previously been conducted in the village by another organization several years ago. Mr. Alpiamus expressed hope that the CCMI program would align with the village's ongoing reforestation efforts and further enhance local environmental conservation initiatives.

b. Ujung Bandar Village

The meeting was held at the Ujung Bandar Village Office and was attended by the Village Secretary, Mr. Darwanta, along with several other village staff members. The Village Head, Mr. Nirwanto, was unable to attend due to medical treatment. During the meeting, the YSHL team presented the plan for the Mentorship activities and the establishment of a Women's Conservation Group in the area. The village officials responded positively to the initiative, and Mr. Darwanta expressed his hope that this program would strengthen local human resource capacity, particularly for women, in the fields of conservation and environmental stewardship.



Figure 1. Program socialization with the Head of Ujung Bandar Village

The socialization sessions were conducted through direct meetings with village officials and community representatives, during which YSHL presented the main objectives of the CCMI program, emphasizing community participation in conservation, particularly through strengthening women's capacity. Both village governments warmly welcomed the program and expressed their commitment to support its implementation. Key outcomes of the socialization include:

1. Both villages responded positively to the CCMI program, viewing it as an opportunity to strengthen community capacity in environmental management.
2. The villages openly supported the involvement of women in conservation activities, recognizing their key roles in nursery development, restoration within the Gunung Leuser National Park (GLNP), and the planned patrols around the park area.
3. The village representatives emphasized the importance of women as conservation drivers due to their environmental awareness, ability to inspire behavioral change, and strategic influence within families and communities.

The socialization activities concluded successfully, resulting in strong commitments from both village governments to support the implementation of the CCMI program. With this institutional support and the active participation of women, YSHL is confident that the program will contribute to sustainable conservation impacts in and around the Gunung Leuser National Park.

1.2. Group Formation

Women play a vital role in ensuring the sustainability of natural resources and environmental conservation at the village level. Through the *Community Conservation and Mentorship Initiative* (CCMI) program, Yayasan Sumatera Hijau Lestari (YSHL) seeks to actively promote women's involvement in various conservation activities. This approach not only strengthens individual capacity but also fosters collective awareness that women are an integral part of the solution in addressing conservation challenges.

In this regard, the YSHL field team carried out socialization and group formation activities for women in Batu Jongjong Village and Ujung Bandar Village. The activities were conducted through direct communication by visiting households to build closeness, enhance understanding, and create a more personal dialogue. Through this process, women were introduced to conservation values and encouraged to take an active role in supporting village programs related to forest and environmental preservation.

During the socialization and group formation activities, the YSHL field team approached women in both Batu Jongjong and Ujung Bandar Villages through one-on-one visits. The CCMI program was explained directly to them, allowing more personal and effective communication. In some cases, the visits were made in the evening since many of the women were occupied with household and livelihood activities during the day. The main discussion emphasized the importance of women's roles in supporting conservation at the village level. Women are considered to have a strategic role, not only in seedling production and tree planting but also in maintaining the sustainability of conservation activities through their knowledge and experience in managing natural resources around the village. Furthermore, women's involvement is expected to strengthen community collaboration, foster a sense of ownership, and ensure the long-term success of conservation initiatives.

Through this approach, women are positioned not merely as beneficiaries but as key actors capable of making tangible contributions to conservation. This process also served as the foundation for establishing women's groups that will actively participate in various CCMI activities, including seedling production, restoration, and planned patrols around conservation areas.

a. Ujung Bandar Village

The socialization in Ujung Bandar Village focused on explaining the activities that would follow the establishment of the group. One point that received strong enthusiasm was the announcement of upcoming training related to conservation and sustainable planting methods. Yuni, one of the prospective members, expressed her excitement, saying that such knowledge would be beneficial for those who own land and could apply it in practice.

The socialization activity was conducted with seven residents of Ujung Bandar Village. Of these, five agreed to join the group while two could not participate due to personal commitments. The group formation took place on Sunday, 28 September 2025, resulting in the establishment of the women's group KOMPPAK (Kelompok Perempuan Peduli Alam Kita).

Table 1. Group Structure – KOMPPAK (Ujung Bandar Village)

No.	Name	Position
1	Lasmana Wati	Leader
2	Dian	Secretary
3	Yuni Aini	Finance

4	Mariya Ginting	Member
5	Hilda Dwita Sari	Member

b. Batu Jongjong Village

A similar explanation was delivered during the socialization in Batu Jongjong Village. The women were informed that future activities would be training-based, aiming to equip them with the knowledge and skills to independently carry out conservation activities and influence others in the community to do the same. As the village also has ecotourism potential, it is hoped that these efforts will help maintain ecological balance in the area. The socialization involved five residents of Batu Jongjong Village, all of whom agreed to form a group. The group formation took place on Tuesday, 30 September 2025, resulting in the establishment of the women's group KPPA (Kelompok Perempuan Pecinta Alam).



Figure 2. Women group formation in Batu Jongjong Village

Table 2. Group Structure – KPPA (Batu Jongjong Village)

No.	Name	Position
1	Riska Maya br Karo	Leader
2	Sarah Nouelina br Sinuraya	Secretary
3	Natasya Febryanti br PA	Finance
4	Santi Yuni	Member
5	Juni br Sinuraya	Member

Through these initiatives, the YSHL team successfully fostered early participation among women in both villages. The establishment of KOMPPAK and KPPA marks an important milestone in strengthening women's roles in conservation efforts, ensuring that local women are not only participants but also leaders in promoting sustainable environmental practices in their communities.

1.3. Trainings

a. Basic Conservation

The basic conservation session was conducted on Monday, 27 October 2025, at the SHL staff mess in Batu Jongjong Village. The session was facilitated by the YSHL Field Coordinator, Nurwahyu Fitriani Samosir, and attended by 10 women participants from Batu Jongjong and Ujung Bandar villages.

The objective of this session was to strengthen women's understanding, awareness, and capacity as key actors in protecting forest and environmental sustainability around Gunung Leuser National Park. Through this session, participants were provided with basic knowledge on the meaning and benefits of conservation, the impacts of forest degradation, and practical actions that can be applied in daily life. The activity also aimed to encourage women's active involvement in conservation and restoration efforts, strengthen their roles as agents of change

at the household and community levels, and support the sustainability of the ecological functions of Gunung Leuser National Park as a vital source of livelihoods for surrounding communities.

b. Leadership



Figure 3. Women's leadership training for a women's group in Batu Jongjong Village

The leadership session was conducted on Friday, 19 December 2025, at the SHL staff mess in Batu Jongjong Village. The session was facilitated by the YSHL Program Manager, Juli Yanti, and attended by five women participants from Batu Jongjong Village.

The objective of this session was to strengthen individual capacity, particularly among women, to take active roles within their groups and communities. The session focused on building self-confidence, communication skills, and the ability to motivate and influence others to work

collaboratively toward shared goals. This leadership training also aimed to reinforce women's roles as agents of change, decision-makers, and stewards of environmental sustainability, enabling them to lead conservation initiatives, address group-level challenges, and contribute effectively to community development around Gunung Leuser National Park.

c. Conflict Resolution

The conflict resolution session was conducted on Friday, 19 December 2025, at the SHL staff mess in Batu Jongjong Village. The session was facilitated by the YSHL Program Manager, Juli Yanti, and attended by five women participants from Batu Jongjong Village.

The objective of this session was to equip participants, particularly women, with the knowledge and skills to manage and resolve conflicts in a peaceful and constructive manner. Participants learned to identify sources and types of conflict within families, groups, and communities, as well as the importance of open communication, mutual respect, and collaborative problem-solving. This session also aimed to strengthen social harmony, prevent prolonged conflicts, and support the creation of a safe and enabling environment for conservation activities and community development around Gunung Leuser National Park.

d. Community Mobilization Training

The Community Mobilization Training was conducted on Tuesday, January 27, 2026, and delivered by the Field Coordinator, Nurwahyu Fitriani Samosir. The training aimed to strengthen participants' understanding of community mobilization as a process of encouraging people to act collectively and consciously to achieve shared goals, particularly in increasing participation and independence in addressing local challenges. The facilitator explained that building awareness of social issues is a key foundation in community mobilization. The process also provides various benefits, including strengthening solidarity and cooperation within and between groups, as well as enhancing community capacity to accelerate the achievement of



Figure 4. Training participants filling out a pre-test form related to the training material prior to the session.

common objectives. In this process, the facilitator acts as a guide and motivator rather than a decision-maker, supporting participatory and sustainable empowerment. The session concluded with an emphasis that community mobilization is not a form of coercion, but a process of building awareness to encourage voluntary participation, which is essential for ensuring program sustainability and achieving shared goals.

e. GPS Application Training

The GPS application training was conducted on Tuesday, March 10, 2026. The session presented materials on the introduction and application of GPS, delivered by Gopinda Pernandes, Field Coordinator for Conflict Mitigation. The training aimed to enhance participants' understanding of the basic use of GPS. The session began with an introduction to GPS (Global Positioning System) as a modern navigation technology widely used in various fields, including mapping, transportation, agriculture, and daily activities. It was explained that GPS is a satellite-based system used to determine the precise location of a point on the Earth's surface through signals transmitted by satellites.

Furthermore, the facilitator explained the main components of GPS, including satellites, receivers, and signals. Participants were introduced to how GPS works, which requires signals from at least four satellites to determine a three-dimensional position (latitude, longitude, and altitude). This foundational knowledge is essential for enabling participants to operate GPS devices effectively and efficiently. The training was delivered through a combination of direct instruction and hands-on practice. Participants were guided on how to turn on the device, recognize its physical components, and understand basic menus commonly used by beginners. As part of the practical session, participants practiced using GPS devices by creating several coordinate points in the field, aiming to strengthen their understanding of the material presented.



Figure 5. Training participants practiced to use GPS

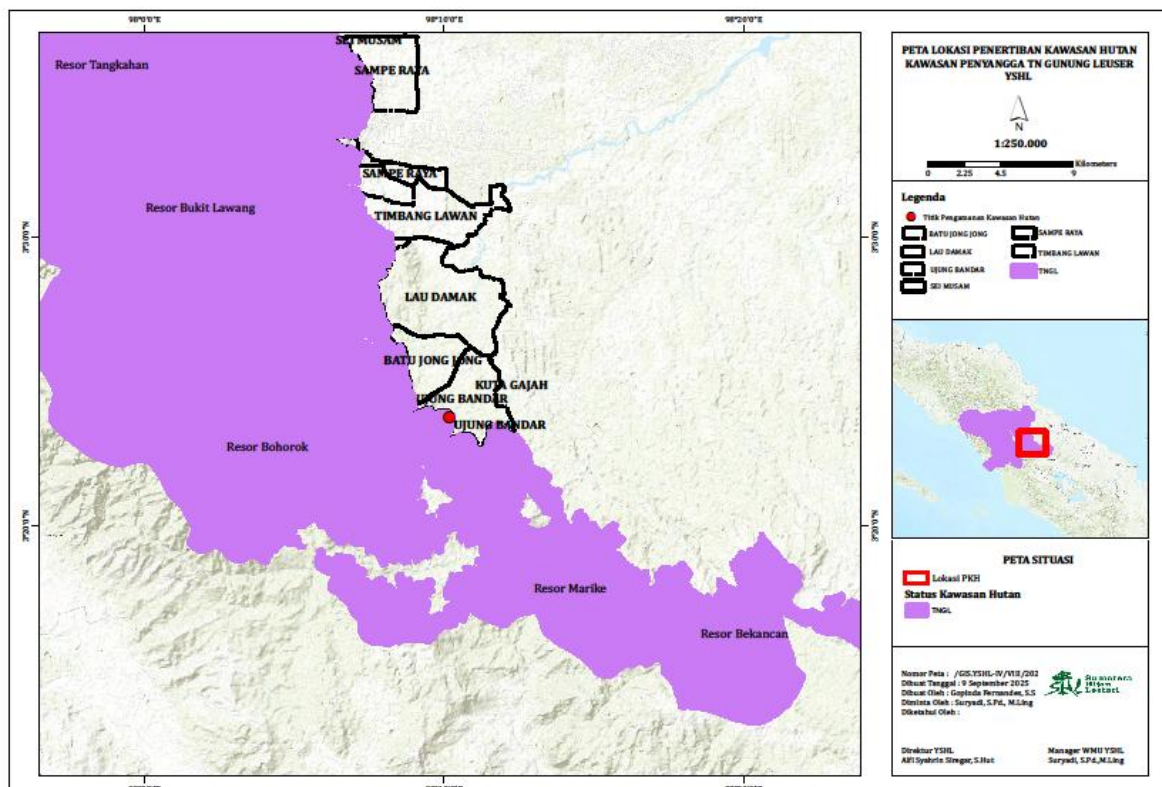
2. Restoration Activity

2.1. Preparation of Technical Restoration Design

As a partner of the Gunung Leuser National Park (TNGL), YSHL supported the clearing of approximately 10 hectares of former oil palm and rubber plantation located within the TNGL area, specifically in the Bahorok Resort, under the management of the Regional Management Division III of TNGL. The activity was conducted in early September 2025 as part of restoration and habitat recovery efforts within the park. The land had previously been used by local residents for illegal cultivation of oil palm and rubber. However, following a series of socialization meetings and constructive dialogues, the land users voluntarily agreed to hand over the area back to the government, represented by the Gunung Leuser National Park Authority (BBTNGL), which holds the official management rights over the park. The clearing activity was carried out collaboratively by BBTNGL, YSHL, and other conservation partners. To symbolize the start of the restoration process, the Head of TNGL Regional Management Division III, participated in a symbolic tree planting ceremony at the site, marking the transition of the area from illegal use to ecological rehabilitation.



Figure 6. Oil palm tree clearing within the Gunung Leuser National Park (GLNP), led by the Head of Region III of the Gunung Leuser National Park Authority (BBTNGL) at Resort V.



Map 1. Former Palm Oil Plantation Area Cleared for Restoration within Gunung Leuser National Park

2.2. Strengthening the Restoration Group



Figure 7. The delivery of basic restoration training for women's groups from Batu Jongjong and Ujung Bandar Villages

The basic restoration session was conducted on Monday, 27 October 2025, at the SHL staff mess in Batu Jongjong Village. The session was facilitated by YSHL Field Staff, Hanafi, and attended by 10 women participants from Batu Jongjong and Ujung Bandar villages. The objective of this session was to equip community members, particularly women, with basic knowledge and initial skills in restoring degraded or damaged ecosystems. Participants were introduced to simple restoration stages, including nursery establishment, plant species selection, planting techniques, and post-planting maintenance and monitoring. The

session also aimed to foster a sense of responsibility and self-confidence among participants to engage directly in environmental restoration activities, ensuring that conservation efforts are translated from concepts into concrete and sustainable actions around Gunung Leuser National Park.

2.3. Construction of Restoration Support Facilities



Figure 8. The construction of a 10 × 10 meters nursery in Ujung Bandar Village.

Figure 9. The condition of the nursery structure, which was damaged by strong winds in June 2026.

A 10 x 10 meters nursery was constructed in October in Ujung Bandar Village, involving local community members as the construction workers. The nursery serves as a critical component in restoration preparation, functioning as a centralized facility for the sustainable production of high-quality seedlings. It enables controlled nursery processes, including species selection, seed sowing, seedling care, and preparation for planting, thereby improving the success rate of restoration activities. Within the context of community-based conservation, the nursery also serves as a learning and empowerment platform for women's groups and surrounding communities, fostering a sense of ownership and supporting the long-term sustainability of environmental restoration efforts. The main challenge encountered in the nursery during this reporting period was extreme weather, particularly heavy rainfall and strong winds. These

conditions frequently caused the wooden and bamboo support structures of the nursery to break or collapse, damaging and crushing the seedlings underneath, which resulted in additional seedling losses. Furthermore, repeated repairs to the nursery structure required operational expenses beyond the original budget allocation, increasing the overall cost of nursery management.

2.4. Restoration seed

Seedling maintenance activities, including watering and weeding, were carried out collaboratively by field staff and women's groups in Ujung Bandar Village. In October, water for irrigation was sourced from nearby households, requiring participants to transport water manually to the nursery. In November, SHL installed electricity and constructed a bore well to facilitate more efficient and consistent seedling watering.

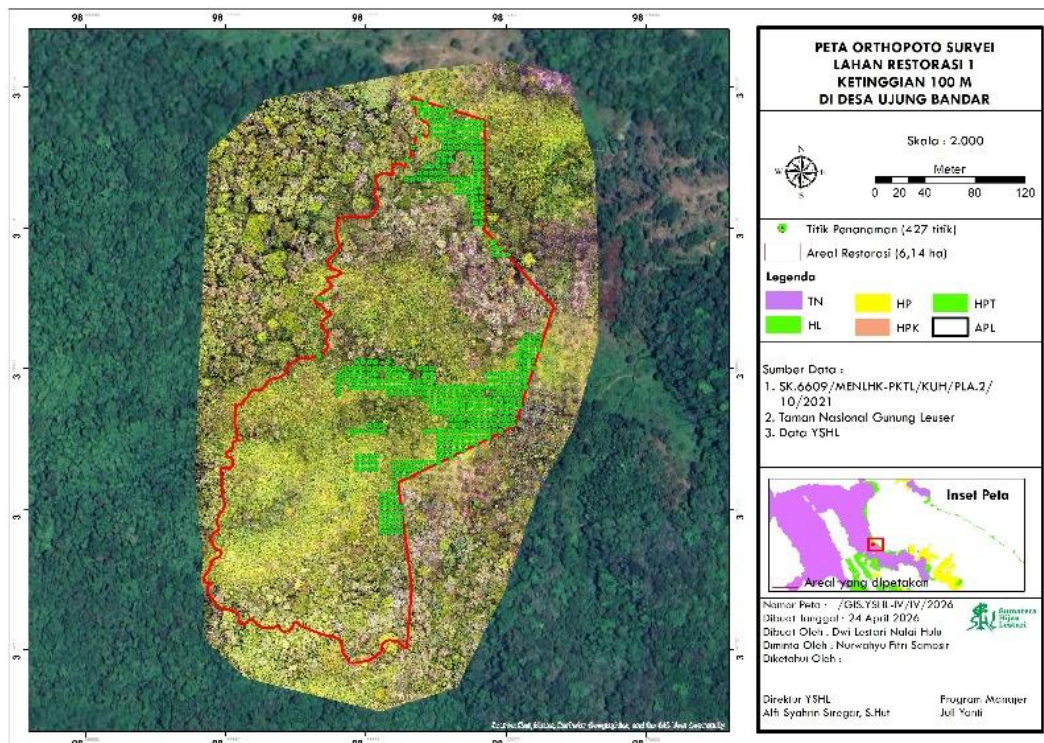
By the end of March 2026, a total of 7,000 tree seedlings consisting of Damar (*Agathis dammara*) and Meranti (*Shorea* spp.) had been successfully propagated in the nursery. However, by the end of June 2026, the number of surviving seedlings had declined to 3,669 seedlings. This reduction was primarily caused by extreme and unpredictable weather conditions. Heavy rainfall led to waterlogging, which significantly increased seedling mortality. In addition, strong winds caused the wooden and bamboo support structures of the nursery to collapse, crushing a number of seedlings and resulting in further damage and mortality. These conditions highlight that the primary challenge in nursery management during this reporting period was weather instability, which had a direct impact on seedling survival rate.



Figure 10 and 11. The women's group assisted with sowing tree seedlings in the nursery.

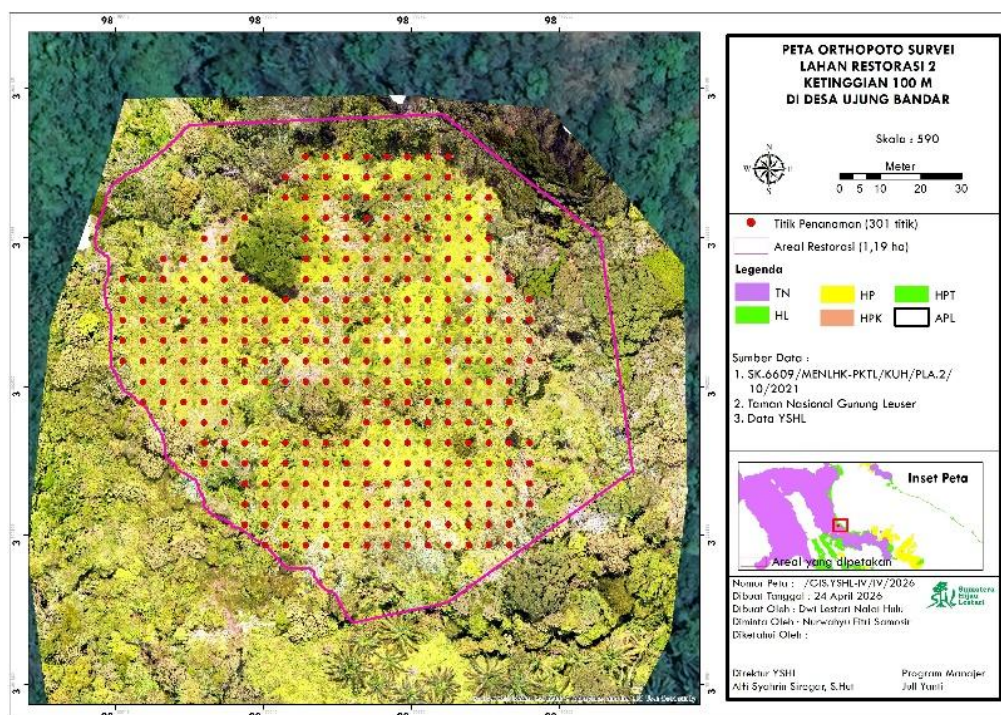
2.5. Planting, Enrichment and Maintenance

A land survey was conducted in April 2026 across a proposed 10-hectare restoration site. The survey was carried out jointly with staff from Gunung Leuser National Park (GLNP) to verify areas that were genuinely open and suitable for planting, particularly sites where oil palm trees had previously been felled. This assessment was undertaken to ensure that the selected planting areas were appropriate for restoration activities.



Map 2. Land Survey of Location 1

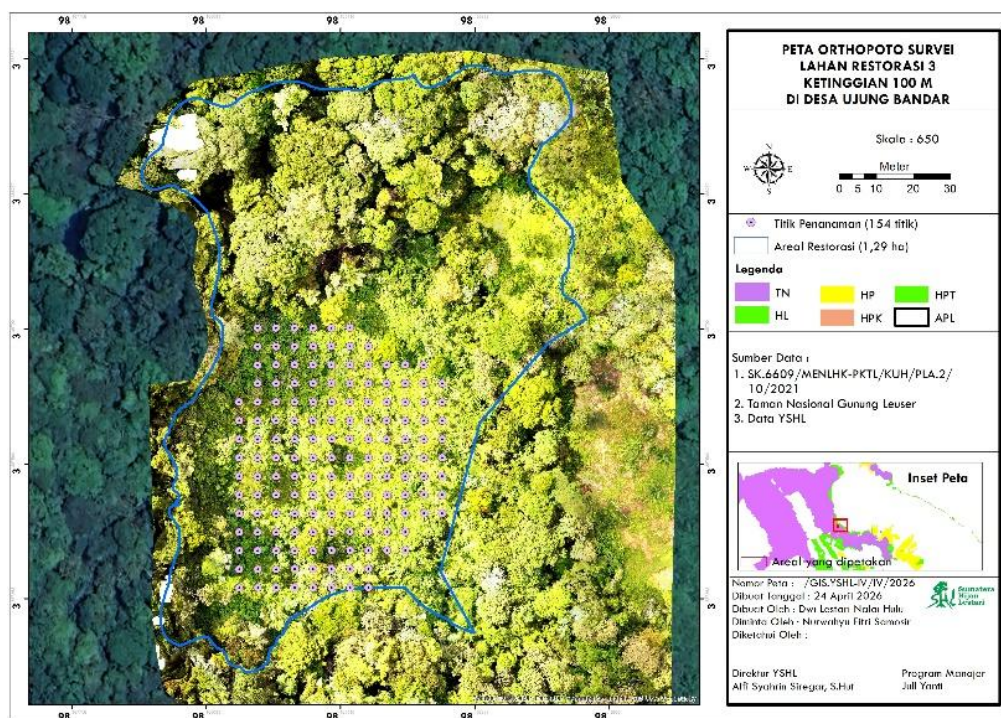
The first site is located closest to the main nursery and covers an area of 6.14 hectares. Although oil palm trees had previously been cleared, regrowth was still observed, still need additional clearing to prevent further regrowth before planting. Only part of the site is currently open and suitable for restoration. Based on the site assessment and seedling requirements, the area will require approximately 472 seedlings at a planting spacing of 5×5 meters. To facilitate implementation, the site has been divided into three planting blocks.



Map 3. Land Survey of Location 2

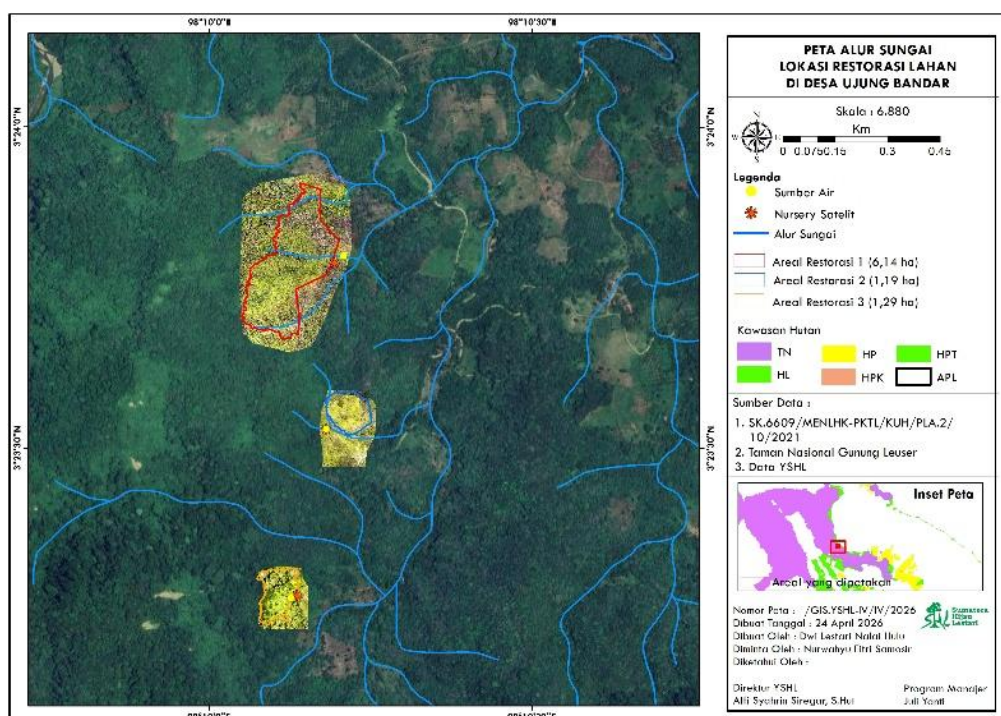
The second site is a former rubber plantation covering an area of 1.19 hectares, where all rubber trees have been felled. The site is largely open, although some areas are naturally regenerating with native trees and shrubs. Dense *Imperata cylindrica* (cogon grass), other invasive grasses, and scattered rubber logs make access to the site difficult. In addition, parts of the area are elevated and steep, while others are relatively flat with no valleys. Site clearing and preparation will therefore be required before planting activities can begin. Based on a planting spacing of 5×5 meters, approximately 301 seedlings will be required for this site. Considering the site conditions and the availability of only one nearby water source located outside the restoration area, the site is recommended to be divided into two planting blocks.

The third site is the farthest from the nursery and is also a former rubber plantation. This site has undergone natural regeneration and is now dominated by various forest tree species. These conditions provide good ecological potential; however, planting activities need to be carefully planned to avoid disturbing the existing vegetation. The third site covers an area of 1.29 hectares and will require approximately 154 seedlings at a planting spacing of 5×5 meters. Only part of the area is open and flat, while the remaining area is covered by large naturally grown trees and steep terrain. This site is recommended to have only one planting block, as it has one relatively gentle and less steep area suitable for planting. In addition, the water source is quite far from the site, with only one small stream located within the restoration area.



Map 4. Land Survey of Location 3

The restoration area has adequate natural water resources to support planting activities. Three stream channels were identified at the first site, while the second site contains two nearby stream channels, making it suitable for the establishment of a temporary satellite nursery. The third site has one small stream that will provide the primary water source for restoration activities and seedling maintenance.



Map 5. Water Source



Figure 12 and 13. Land survey at Location 1 and 3.

3. Assistance to Conservation Learning House

This year, we supported two Conservation Learning Houses, located in Batu Jongjong Village and Ujung Bandar Village, Bahorok Subdistrict. Each learning house was visited one to two times per month, resulting in a total of 20 visits throughout the year. A total of 37 children, consisting of 13 boys and 24 girls, aged 6 to 12 years, participated in the program. The learning sessions were designed to strengthen children's environmental knowledge, encourage positive attitudes toward nature, and inspire them to become future stewards of their local environment.

The topics covered during the sessions included:

- The Importance of Forests and Trees – to help children understand the ecological functions of forests, including providing wildlife habitat, producing oxygen, regulating water resources, and supporting human well-being.

- Forest Fires – to raise awareness of the causes and impacts of forest fires and encourage children to adopt behaviors that help prevent them.
- Climate Change – to introduce the causes and effects of climate change and promote simple everyday actions that contribute to climate change mitigation.
- Waste Recycling – to teach children how to reduce, reuse, and recycle waste, fostering environmentally responsible habits from an early age.
- The Importance of Oxygen – to explain the essential role of oxygen in sustaining life and highlight the contribution of trees and forests in producing clean air.
- The Benefits of Coconut Trees – to demonstrate the economic, social, and environmental value of coconut trees, emphasizing that nearly every part of the tree can be used to support local livelihoods.
- Natural Disasters – to improve children's understanding of common natural disasters, their causes, and basic preparedness measures to help reduce disaster risks and build community resilience.

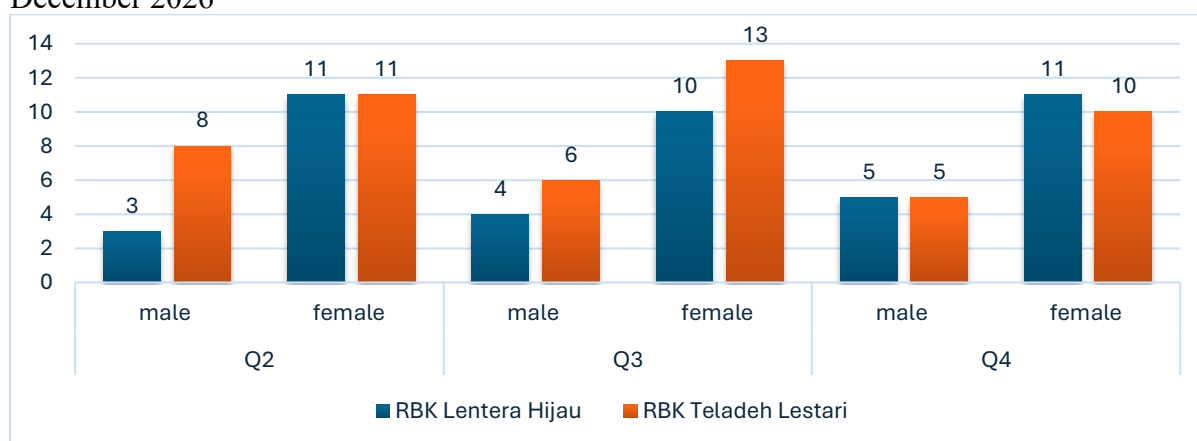


Image 14. Children at the Lentera Hijau Conservation Learning House creating artwork using leaves.



Image 15. Children at the Teladeh Lestari Conservation Learning House learning about oxygen.

Chart 1. Number of Children Attending the Conservation Learning Center from April to December 2026



4. Monitoring Farmers in Using Organic Fertilizer

This activity was a continuation of the Community Education and Conservation Program (CECP) implemented in previous years. Unfortunately, most farmers have not been consistent in producing and applying organic liquid fertilizer to their crops. The main challenges are that

the fertilizer must be prepared regularly, and many farmers have limited time to collect the materials needed for its production.

This year, we continued to support only three farmers who remained committed to producing and using organic liquid fertilizer, although they still combined it with chemical fertilizers. Despite this, they recognized that producing their own organic fertilizer has significantly reduced their farming expenses, as they no longer need to purchase as much commercial fertilizer.

One of these farmers is Mr. Supriono, from Lau Damak Village, who shared that the use of organic liquid fertilizer has brought many benefits to him personally. Encouraged by the positive results, he has recently begun applying the organic liquid fertilizer to his oil palm plantation, demonstrating his confidence in its effectiveness and his willingness to expand its use to other crops.



Figure 16 and 17. Monitoring organic fertilizer use on Mr. Surpriono's watermelon plants in Lau Damak Village

5. Monitoring Housewives in Home Yard Utilization



Figure 18 and 19. Monitoring home garden plants in Batu Jongjong and Ujung Bandar Village.

Ten women from Batu Jongjong and Ujung Bandar villages continued to consistently utilize their home gardens to grow vegetables such as chilies, long beans, and eggplants. This activity

has helped encourage household food production while promoting more sustainable use of available land.

One of the main challenges encountered in this program is that many participants are still reluctant to produce their own seedlings. Instead, they continue to rely on YSHL to provide vegetable seedlings each month. Strengthening participants' capacity and motivation to independently produce seedlings will therefore remain an important focus of future program activities.

D. Challenges

The most significant challenge was extreme weather conditions, particularly prolonged heavy rainfall and strong winds, which repeatedly damaged the nursery structure and caused substantial seedling mortality. These conditions also increased operational costs due to the need for frequent repairs to the nursery infrastructure.

Community participation also remains an ongoing challenge. Although the women's groups actively participated in training and nursery activities, additional mentoring is needed to strengthen their technical skills in restoration monitoring and independent nursery management. Likewise, many home garden participants still rely on YSHL to provide vegetable seedlings rather than producing their own, indicating the need to build greater self-reliance.

In the organic fertilizer program, only a small number of farmers continued to consistently produce and apply organic liquid fertilizer. Most farmers cited limited time and the routine effort required to collect raw materials as the main reasons for discontinuing the practice. Although several committed farmers have demonstrated positive economic benefits from using organic fertilizer, wider adoption will require continued technical assistance and motivation.

Despite these challenges, the strong commitment demonstrated by local communities, women's groups, village governments, and BBTNGL, has enabled the program to continue progressing toward its conservation objectives.

E. Conclusion

The implementation of the Community Conservation and Mentorship Initiative during the 2025–2026 reporting period has demonstrated that community-based conservation can effectively strengthen both ecosystem restoration efforts and local community capacity. Through collaboration with village governments, BBTNGL, women's groups, farmers, and local communities, YSHL successfully established a solid foundation for long-term restoration within the Gunung Leuser National Park.

The program has strengthened women's participation in conservation, increased environmental awareness among children, supported sustainable agricultural practices, and prepared restoration sites for future planting activities. Although several technical and environmental challenges affected nursery management and seedling survival, these experiences have provided valuable lessons for improving restoration planning and implementation in the coming years.

Moving forward, continued investment in community capacity building, restoration monitoring, nursery management, and community ownership will be essential to ensure the

sustainability of restoration efforts and to maximize the long-term ecological and social impacts of the program.

Follow-up Plan

Based on the activities implemented during the 2025–2026 program period, we recommend the following priorities for the 2026–2027 implementation period:

1. Conduct advanced capacity-building training for the women's groups, particularly on monitoring activities in the restoration areas planted during the previous year. The training should focus on strengthening participants' skills in GPS operation, SMART Patrol, field monitoring, and documentation to support effective restoration monitoring and reporting.
2. Continue nursery operations and tree planting within the Gunung Leuser National Park to support ecosystem restoration.