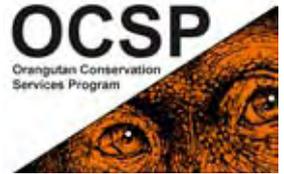




**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



# OCSP ANNUAL REPORT

APRIL 2007 – SEPTEMBER 2008

*Saving Orangutans by  
Protecting their Forests*





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FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



DONALD BASON / OCSP

Cover photograph: **Old oil palm trees in north Sumatra. The main threat to the orangutan comes from habitat destruction due to forest conversion, illegal logging, and fires. Additional threats, such as poaching and trade, are often directly related to habitat loss.** Photograph right: **Captive orangutan rescued by Forest Police in North Sumatra (see story on page 25).**



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December 2008

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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## DISCLAIMER

The authors' views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

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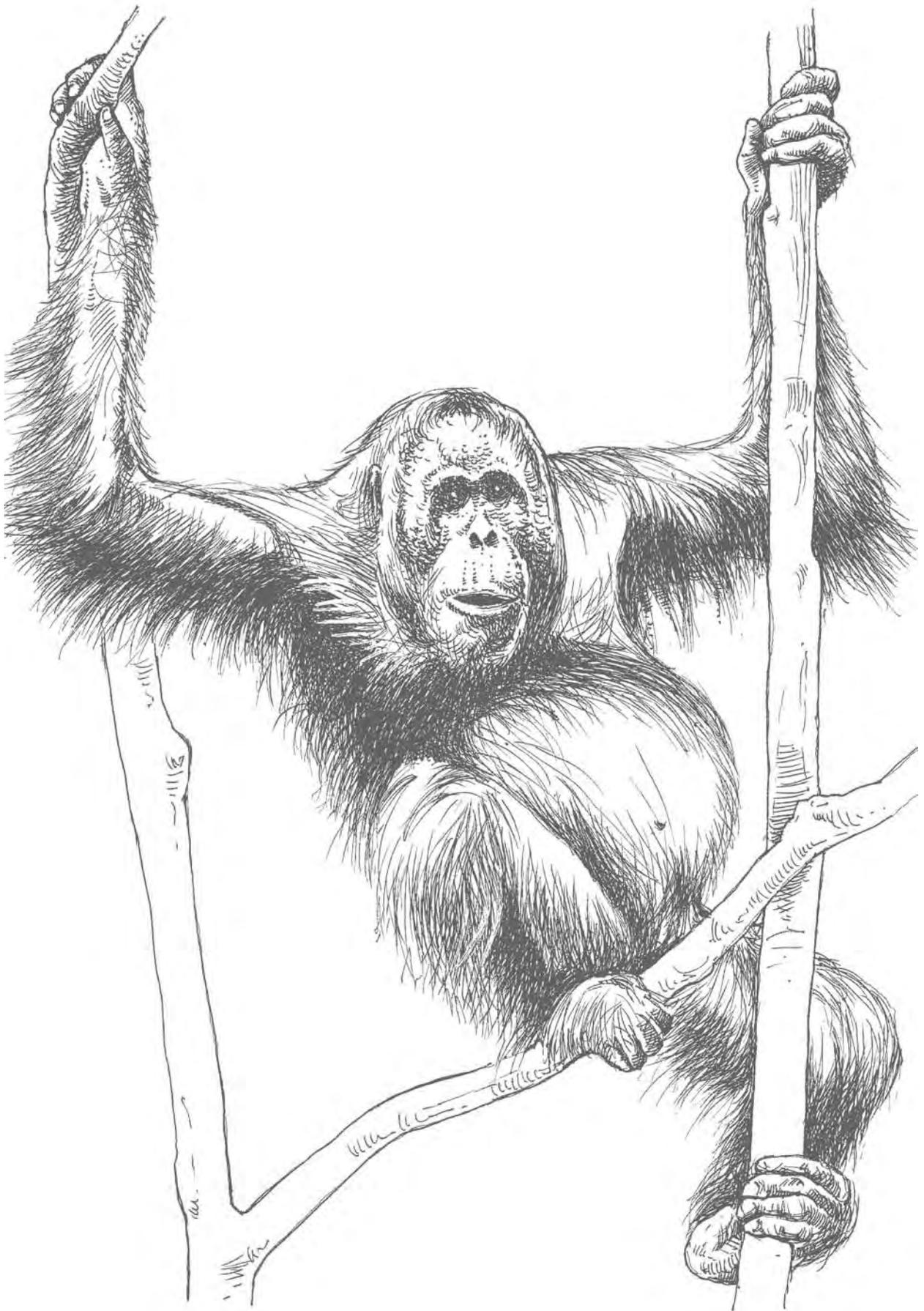
In response to a Congressional directive to conserve orangutan habitat, **USAID** initiated the **Orangutan Conservation Services Program (OCSP)**, a crisis response program aiming for long-term protection of critically endangered wild orangutans and their habitat. OCSP works to abate or eliminate threats to orangutans by focusing on major drivers behind those threats, including forest conversion, illegal and unsustainable logging, and wildlife trafficking.



# ABBREVIATIONS

AJI	Alliance of Independent Journalists
APP	Asia Pulp and Paper
APAPI	<i>Asosiasi Pemerhati dan Ahli Primatologi Indonesia</i> or the Association of Indonesian Primatologists and Observers
APHI	<i>Asosiasi Pengusaha Hutan Indonesia</i> or Indonesian Association of Forest Concession Holders
BHS	Basic Human Services office of USAID
BKSDA	Provincial Office of the Directorate of Forest Protection and Nature Conservation with the Ministry of Forestry
BOS	Borneo Orangutan Survival (Foundation)
BOSF	Borneo Orangutan Survival Foundation
BPKH	<i>Balai Pemantapan Kawasan Hutan</i> or Forest Mapping Office
CI	Conservation International
CoP	Chief of Party
COP 13	13th Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC
CoW	Contract of Work
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
CTO	USAID Cognizant Technical Officers
DAI	Development Alternatives, Inc.
DCM	Deputy Chief of Mission
DCOP	Deputy Chief of Party
DKN	National Forestry Council ( <i>Dewan Kehutanan Nasional</i> )
FFI	Fauna and Flora International
FIELD	Farmer Initiatives for Ecological Literacy and Democracy
FSC	Forest Stewardship Council
GAPKI	<i>Gabungan Pengusaha Kelapa Sawit Indonesia</i> or Indonesian Palm Oil Association
Gol	Government of Indonesia
HCVF	High Conservation Value Forest
HTI	<i>Hutan Tanaman Industri</i>
ICITAP	International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program
IUCN	The World Conservation Union
KPC	Kaltim Prima Coal
KPHSU	Coalition of Forest Crime Monitoring
KPSL	Coalition of Wildlife Trade Monitoring
KSDA	Natural Resource Conservation Agency within the Indonesian Ministry of Forestry

KUCC	Kharisma Unggul Cendratama Cemerlang (Inc., Ltd.)
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NAD	Nangro Aceh Darussalam
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
OCSP	Orangutan Conservation Services Program
OES	U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Oceans, Environment, and Science
OFI	Orangutan Foundation International
OFUK	Orangutan Foundation United Kingdom
PHKA	Directorate of Forest Protection and Nature Conservation within the Indonesian Ministry of Forestry
PHVA	Orangutan Population and Habitat Viability Assessment
PT	<i>Perseroan Terbatas</i> or Limited Company
RARE	Conservation Organisation (formally known as the Rare Animal Relief Effort)
RFA	Request for Assistance
RSPO	Round Table for Sustainable Palm Oil
RTRWP	Rencana Tata Ruang Wilayah Propinsi or Provincial Land Use Plan
SHK	Sistem Hutan Kerakyatan
SHJ	Sri Hutani Jaya - Sinar Mas Plantations
SOCP	Sumatran Orangutan Conservation Programme
SOS-OIC	Sumatran Orangutan Society – Orangutan Information Centre
SUMUT	<i>Sumatra Utara</i> or North Sumatra Province
TAMIS	Technical and Administrative Management Information System
TBD	to be documented/to be determined or to be decided
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
TNK	Taman Nasional Kutai or Kutai National Park
TPNP	Tanjung Puting National Park
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
YAYORIN	Yayasan Orangutan Indonesia
YEL	Yayasan Eco-system Lestari
USFS	United States Forest Service
USG	United States Government
WBTFB	West Batang Toru Forest Block
WCS	Wildlife Conservation Society
WCU	Wildlife Crime Unit
WE	World Education
WWF	World Wide Fund For Nature





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Extinct in the wild before the year 2050



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## State of the Orangutan

The tropical forests in Asia are among the richest in the world. In Borneo, for example, a mere 25 acres of forest frequently contains more than 700 tree species, an amount greater than what is found in all of North America. The challenge in Indonesia is that these forests continue to be lost or degraded at a tremendous rate due largely to forest conversion, illegal logging, and fires. Between 1990 and 2005, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) estimated that Indonesia lost more than 28 million hectares of forest, or nearly 50% of its total land mass. Sumatra alone has lost nearly 25% of its forest cover since 1990.

As the forests of Indonesia have vanished, so have their inhabitants. Orangutans were once dispersed throughout Indochina and south to Java, but now their populations are restricted to the islands of Borneo and Sumatra. The conservation status of orangutans in Sumatra (*Pongo abelii*) and Kalimantan (*Pongo pygmaeus*) has reached a crisis point. Some 6,500 Sumatran orangutans survive in a much fragmented forest landscape. In Borneo 40,000–50,000 individuals remain, but they are distributed over almost 50 geographically isolated populations. Orangutan populations have been decimated over the past few decades, especially since 1998. If the current high rate of forest loss continues, orangutans will be extinct in the wild before the year 2050.

## The Challenge

Since its inception, OCSP has prioritized not merely replicating existing conservation interventions, but instead focusing on those areas that currently received insufficient focus. Several issues have fallen into this category. A national orangutan conservation action planning process that was started in 2004 was in need of reinvitalization. Involvement of the private sector in orangutan habitat management has been minimal despite the fact that 75% of orangutans in Kalimantan live outside protected areas, and a lesser percentage in Sumatra. Sumatra and Kalimantan lacked a strategic conservation spatial plan that had been agreed to by all conservation actors, and there was no process whereby orangutan conservationists could make revisions to spatial plans at either provincial or district level. There was no existing organizational structure to ensure improved decision-making and coordination between all orangutan conservation bodies, and no process existed whereby communities could participate in networks to combat wildlife crime. Finally, the orangutan conservation NGOs that have



historically shared little information or expertise between institutions, needed to coalesce and work together with a common purpose.

The necessity for such changes fed the development of OCSP's programmatic strategies, with implementation focused on minimizing further reductions to critical orangutan habitats in Sumatra and Kalimantan.

## The Approach

OCSP works to address the major drivers behind threats to orangutan populations, including forest conversion, unsustainable logging, and wildlife crimes. To achieve conservation gain for orangutan throughout their range in Kalimantan and Sumatra, the program engages cross-cutting activities that:

- improve enforcement of existing laws that protect habitat and orangutans;
- strengthen partnerships and coordination of conservation organizations, private sector, community groups, and Government of Indonesia agencies at all levels;
- broaden awareness of issues in orangutan conservation through national and international media and public education campaigns; and
- create mechanisms for long-term conservation financing.

At the site level, OCSP focuses on selected orangutan habitat in Sumatra and Borneo to achieve immediate impact and demonstrate success. Orangutan conservation ultimately relies on improved management of forest habitats that is balanced with both social and economic development needs. For this reason, OCSP initiated management activities across a range of land-use types, from production landscapes to fully protected areas. Their effective management is based on partnerships involving local, provincial and national governments, local and international NGOs, industry and other non-traditional partners.

In Sumatra, OCSP sites include Batang Toru, North Sumatra, and Leuser Ecosystem, Aceh.

Kalimantan sites are: Tanjung Puting National Park Central Kalimantan; Sungai Putri/Bukit Perai/Arut Belantikan West and Central Kalimantan; and Lesan, Wehea and Kutai National Park, East Kalimantan.



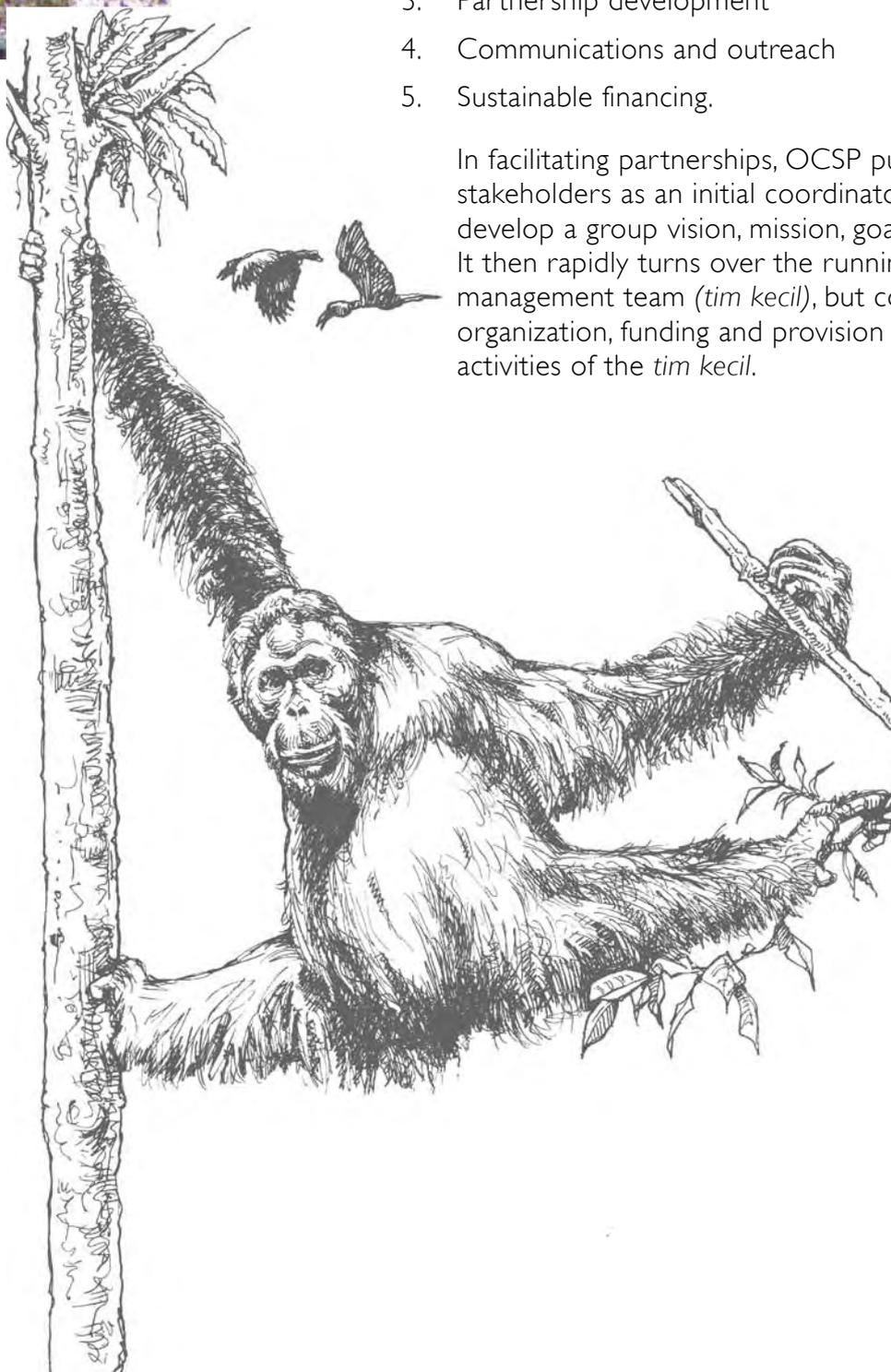
*Orangutan conservation ultimately relies on improved management of forest habitats*



OCSP implements this approach across the following five major components:

1. Management and conservation of priority populations of wild orangutans and their habitats
2. Enforcement of laws and regulations that combat habitat destruction and other threats to wild orangutan populations
3. Partnership development
4. Communications and outreach
5. Sustainable financing.

In facilitating partnerships, OCSP pulls together relevant stakeholders as an initial coordinator and /or facilitator to develop a group vision, mission, goals, objectives and activities. It then rapidly turns over the running of the group to a small management team (*tim kecil*), but continues to assist with organization, funding and provision of technical advice for activities of the *tim kecil*.



## Results

OCSP has made clear and significant contributions to orangutan conservation. It has initiated formal partnership with 25 international and local NGOs and broadened implementation of activities in focus areas to more than 3.3 million hectares of orangutan habitat containing approximately 40% of orangutans found in Indonesia. It facilitated the production of an Indonesian Conservation Action Plan at both national and regional levels.

Successful community policing has led to jail sentences for two illegal traffickers, a first for North Sumatra. Improved relationships with business has led to greater collaboration with the private sector on management practices for orangutan both inside and outside protected areas. OCSP and partners developed support systems and protocols to assist seven districts revise their spatial plans. It also directly aided local communities to create management practices to conserve orangutans.

Other conservation gains made by OCSP since its inception in April 2007 are presented below, grouped by project component.

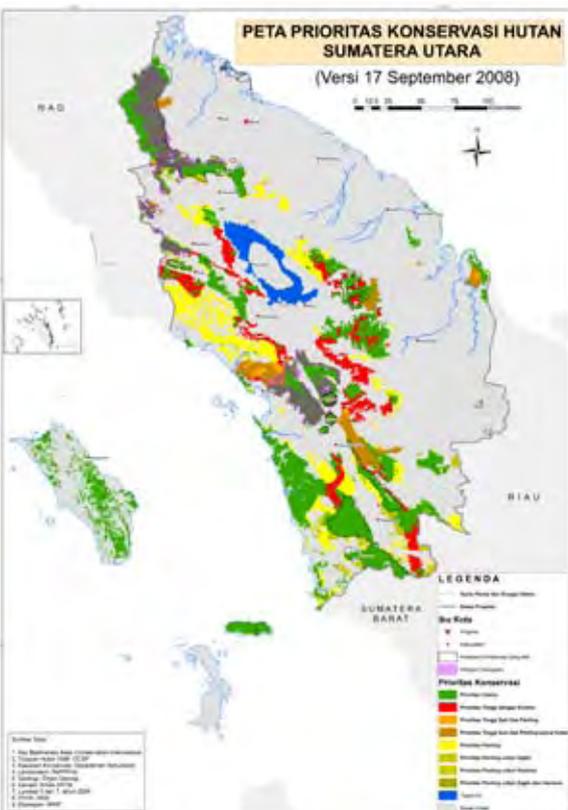
### Management and conservation of priority populations of wild orangutans and their habitats



Indonesian President, Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, announces the National Orangutan Strategy and Action Plan.

OCSP has worked independently and with partners during its first year to establish an improved enabling environment for activities to conserve orangutan. This includes working with local governments to minimize the amount of forestland that they re-allocate for development during the revision of their spatial plans, and ensuring that objective-driven multi-stakeholder action management plans are formulated to inform management scenarios in the OCSP focus areas - as well as for orangutan at the national level. Much work has been done to reduce and manage wild fires, and to identify areas of forest that are of high conservation value to orangutan. Specific achievements are:

- 615,474 hectares of priority orangutan habitat are under improved management.
- Formal government approval and wide international recognition was given to at COP13 to the National Orangutan Strategy and Action plan.
- Seven North Sumatra districts with orangutans were provided with assistance in factoring orangutan habitat requirements into their spatial plans.



Conservation spatial plan for orangutan and other biodiversity in North Sumatra and Aceh.

- 25 international and local NGOs allocated \$879,103 in OCSP grants for work across OCSP components.
- 14 community, district and provincial spatial plans were developed in which orangutan areas are recognized as a result of OCSP inputs.
- A conservation spatial plan for orangutan and other biodiversity developed and agreed to by all key stakeholders in North Sumatra and Aceh.
- 12 model conservation villages established in North Sumatra and Aceh impacting management of 50,000 hectares of orangutan habitat
- A multi-stakeholder plan developed and agreed to for management and conservation of the 86,000 hectare Batang Toru Forest in North Sumatra containing 380 orangutans.
- Orangutan populations identified by OCSP surveys of large-scale acacia plantations around Kutai National Park and a plan developed to improve the management of orangutan with one of these plantations.
- Wehea site in East Kalimantan awarded Schooner Prize as third best program globally in linking conservation outcomes with human and social development.

- Significant reduction in the number of fires in Tanjung Puting National Park as compared to sites outside the park through effective community engagement.
- Two High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) assessments were conducted in timber concessions containing orangutans in West Kalimantan and one landscape level HCV assessment conducted for the district of Ketapang, West Kalimantan.



- OCSP and its partner, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), coordinated conservation activities with forest and mining concessions located in close proximity to Kutai National Park. They provided advice and recommendations to conserve orangutans, based on field surveys, to the paper and pulp plantation company,
- The concessionaire, Surya Hutan Jaya, accepted OCSP recommendations and has agreed to bolster its buffer zone bordering the Kutai National Park and to rehabilitate riparian areas within the plantation boundaries through mixed species "enrichment" planting.

## Enforcement of laws and regulations that combat habitat destruction and other threats to wild orangutan populations



The Indonesian Government, both nationally and locally, lacks human and material resources to combat crime against orangutan and other protected wildlife. In some large part, protection of orangutan will depend on a change in community attitudes towards conservation of orangutan and vastly improved engagement of communities in the enforcement of wildlife laws designed to protect wildlife. Yet while it can be argued that additional regulations are still required to support enforcement activities, OCSP has already helped facilitate some success with orangutan protection.

Specific activities and achievements are:

- Six district regulations and 1 provincial regulation on spatial planning drafted and presented to government.
- Three confiscations of orangutans held in captivity as a result of information provided to law authority by OCSP developed enforcement networks.
- Eight local jurisdictions trained in law enforcement.
- 23 informants of wildlife crimes participating in a network established across Aceh and North Sumatra, as has an orangutan patrol and monitoring unit.



## Partnership development

OCSP was in part established to achieve greater coordination and combined focus between the various government and non-government organizations and agencies to gain improved conservation of orangutan. Specific achievements are:



- Five forums, working groups, private sector and government partnerships put in place improve coordination and collaboration in orangutan conservation.
  - Four regional meetings supported to implement the National Orangutan Action plan in North Sumatra, West, East and Central Kalimantan.
- 10 partnerships established with private sector to improve management of orangutan habitat within production forests

## Communications and outreach

Many Indonesians, particularly those living in remoter areas close to orangutan populations, do not have much interest in orangutan conservation. A frequent refrain is “*why do you care more for orangutan than you do for us?*” Yet these are precisely the people that need to be engaged in activities to conserve orangutan. It is, then, a real challenge to communicate to such villagers that protection of orangutan forest habitats is also essential to their quality of life. Likewise, it is important to communicate to land concessionaires that they must play a proactive role in orangutan conservation if the species is to survive. International stakeholders need to be informed of resource and funding shortfalls and the urgency of activities that are needed for orangutan conservation. Specific achievements are:



- 2150 people, including 305 women, trained in livelihood development, mapping, law enforcement, conflict management, spatial planning, and communications.
- 67 community members living adjacent to Tanjung Puting National Park and East Kalimantan orangutan habitat with improved incomes as a result of farmer training.

- 210 articles in Indonesian and International newspapers and 81 hours of radio airtime related to OCSP work.
- 34 high level government officials drew lessons through OCSP site visits including the US Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans, Environment and Science, US Congressional Staff, US Embassy officials, and officials from the Australian Government and AusAID Carbon program.



A worker from the Sibolangit Quarantine Center talks to Mrs. Dorothy Rayburn, a member of a US Congressional staff delegation.

## Sustainable financing

In Indonesia, conservation activities need to be prolonged to provide persistent protection. This requires sufficient funding so that successful orangutan conservation practices can be maintained. The National Orangutan Action Plan lays out long term goals that OCSP and its partner NGOs are working towards. In both the near and short term funding is essential to ensure that the objectives of can be attained. As such, OCSP focused on seeking funding in support of this plan.

Moreover, OCSP and its partners have also explored new instruments to secure sustainable financing for forest conservation including tapping voluntary carbon markets. Achievements to date are:

- \$1.5 million in match financing contributed by 31 public and private sector donors and NGOs.
- Two agreements signed between OCSP partner NGOs, carbon brokers and government to reduce carbon emissions and mitigate climate impacts within orangutan forest habitat.



# OCSP ACTIVITIES & ACHIEVEMENTS THROUGH FY 2008

## **Component I.** Management and conservation of strategic wild orangutan populations and their habitats

Since its inception, OCSP has focused on selected sites in Sumatra and Kalimantan to help safeguard key orangutan populations in the wild and protect their habitat.

Activities were undertaken across land-use types ranging from production landscapes to fully protected areas and via partnerships included local, provincial and national governments, local and international NGOs, industry and other non-traditional partners. Models and protocols were created for the implementation of a number of approaches, including: multi-stakeholder conservation action plans, increased community participation in conservation planning, fire prevention, area enforcement, rapid identification of key conservation forest and non-forest areas to determine their appropriate classification for industry and in spatial plans; and carbon financing pilots.



## National

The most important cross-cutting activity was the pivotal facilitation by OCSP of the National Orangutan Action Plan and the ongoing establishment of the regional forums in North Sumatra, Aceh, Jambi, and East, West and Central Kalimantan.

This plan focuses on:

- improving **management** of wild orangutans within protected areas by balancing economic and social values with the need to conserve forested landscapes; and involving communities in management of orangutan habitats;
- strengthening **law enforcement** and developing new policies to prevent further loss of forests;
- working with industry to develop more **sustainable** forest management practices within orangutan habitat;
- encouraging strong **partnerships** between the orangutan conservation community and a range of national and regional governmental institutions, extractive industries (timber, pulp and paper, oil palm, and mining), as well as research institutions;
- developing effective **communication** to inform key stakeholders about sustainable development and management of orangutan habitats, and building a national and international constituency for orangutan conservation.

### MINISTRY OF FORESTRY'S NATIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR ORANGUTAN CONSERVATION UNVEILED



*In front of a packed crowd of dignitaries, government officials and the media gathered for the Bali Climate Change Conference in December 2007, Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono announced a new plan aimed at protecting the country's orangutan population. The Strategy and Action Plan for National Conservation of Orangutans, authored by the Ministry of Forestry Directorate of Forest Conservation and Nature Protection, presents the first specific, enforceable agenda to protect the nation's disappearing orangutans. It commits to maintaining orangutan populations above critical thresholds at which their populations may fail to recover. A core target of the plan is to stabilize orangutan populations and habitat by 2017.*

*This announcement demonstrated to the world the Government of Indonesia's commitment to simultaneously tackle climate change and protect the orangutan. With more than 10,000 delegates from 189 countries gathered to seek ways to tackle global warming, President Yudhoyono linked the plight of the orangutan - the icon of tropical rainforests - to the primary focus of the conference.*

*The plan, facilitated and co-authored by USAID's Orangutan Conservation Services Program, guides stakeholders to determine conservation priorities for in-situ (wild) and ex-situ (captive) orangutans, and to design programs that enhance the viability of the orangutan population over the next 10 years. Following the Bali Conference, the Ministry of Forestry convened regional meetings, with support and assistance of OCSP, to begin implementation of the plan.*



## Sumatra

A population study in 2004 indicated that the Sumatran orangutan (*Pongo abelii*) was critically endangered, meaning that it would go extinct within one or two decades unless threats were reduced immediately. In 2008, an updated population study estimated that ca. 6,500 orangutan remained on the island, in several distinct populations, further emphasizing the need for immediate effective action.

Over 90% of Sumatran orangutans survive in relatively well protected areas, mostly in the Leuser Ecosystem. OCSP focuses on working in protected forests within the Leuser Ecosystem and areas that have been proposed for protection in the Batang Toru Forest Block.

Key activities were:

- i) **Spatial planning** - A strategic conservation spatial plan and associated protocol were completed in September 2008 for North Sumatra and Aceh. It was facilitated by OCSP, in concert with other stakeholders, including NGOs and governments. The plan represents the first time there is universal support within the conservation movement in northern Sumatra for a conservation spatial plan. This will allow for these groups to speak with one voice when brokering the set-aside of habitat important to orangutan and other forest species. A working group was established to further develop this strategic plan and promote its use as a basis for land-use planning over the island of Sumatra. This strategic plan was also made available to the Aceh council that is re-designing the future of Aceh Forests.

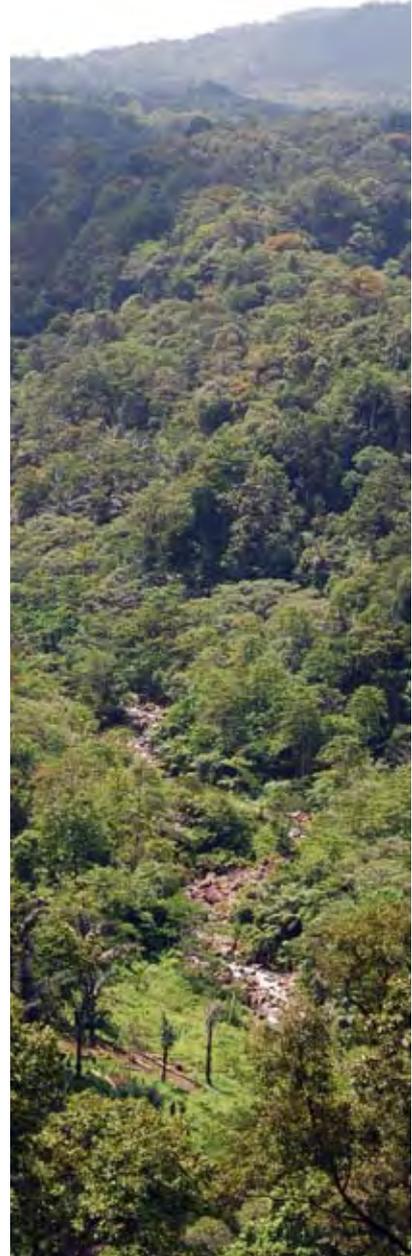


OCSP Regional Coordinator, Darrell Kitchener, presenting the Orangutan Conservation Spatial planning results to stakeholders in Sumatra

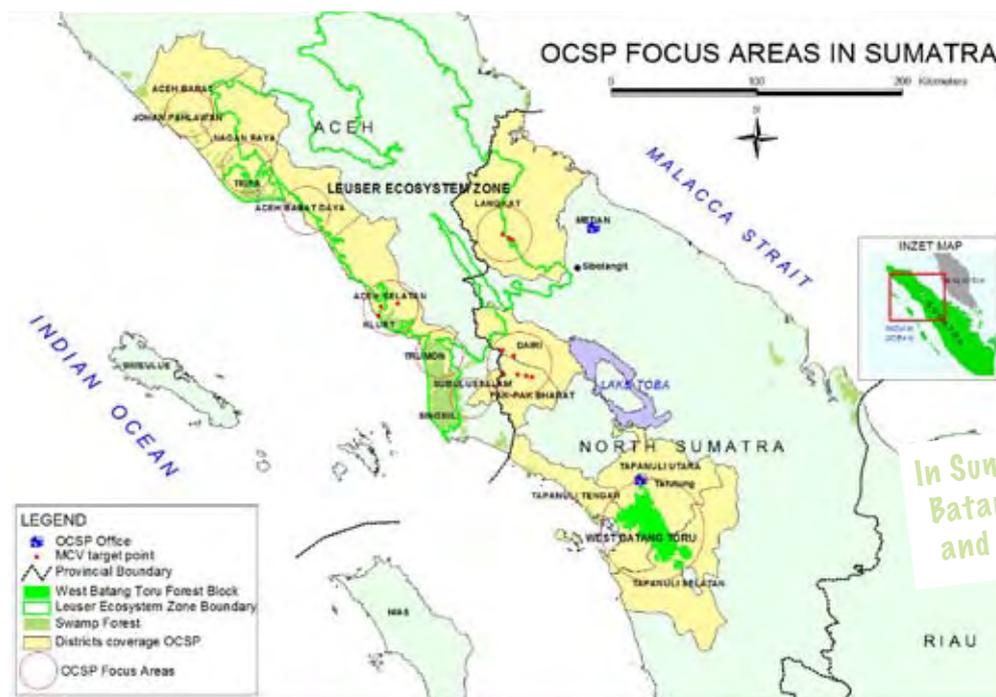
OCSP produced a protocol to assist provinces and districts evaluate existing land-use options. At the request of six of the seven districts in North Sumatra that have forests inhabited by orangutan, OCSP then provided assistance in revising their spatial plans. As a further means of assistance, three GIS training courses were provided to their staff at the provincial and district offices, and at Gunung Leuser National Park. In total 35 people were trained. There was also collaboration with the Regional Forestry Planning Agency in Medan and the Leuser National Park Office to share spatial data and technical expertise.

ii). **Improved conservation management for West Batang Toru Forest Block** - The 86,000 ha West Batang Toru Forest Block contains the largest population (400-550) of orangutan south of Lake Toba. OCSP facilitated the development of a conservation management plan for these forests, which was completed following 11 meetings and workshops between November 2007 and September 2008. This was achieved through a series of steps including :

- Facilitating improved collaboration among conservation actors including developing an organization for collaborative management of the Forest Block
- Promoting conservation values of the Block by highlighting its rich biodiversity and biogeographic significance.
- Providing spatial planning assistance to three local governments including assisting local governments in the revision of their spatial plans to factor in orangutan habitat
- Monitoring and assisting Grantee YEL in the implementation of its approach to spatial planning in the Block
- Providing technical assistance to private sector in identifying areas suitable for conservation set-asides and development of SOPs for conservation of wildlife
- Assisting implementation of the conservation plan.



West Batang Toru Forest Block, North Sumatra



*In Sumatra, OCSP sites include Batang Toru, North Sumatra, and Leuser Ecosystem, Aceh*

- iii). **Model Conservation Villages** (MCVs) established to improve management in 50,000 ha of orangutan habitat
- As part of OCSP's efforts to improve land management, the project established Model Conservation Villages (MCVs) to engage local communities in practical orangutan conservation activities. Villagers were empowered by developing existing human capital - without deep financial investment from OCSP. Management of existing village and individual finances is assisted by training in Credit Unions and alternative livelihoods.

A total of twelve MCVs were established in North Sumatra and Aceh through OCSP grants to two consortiums - each comprised of three local NGOs. Through a grant to the Pusaka Consortium, 6 MCVs were established Sidiangkat Forest Block, North Sumatra, which is an area of 30,300 ha (once connected by forests to the Leuser and Sicikeh-cikeh Forest Blocks). It has a known population of 134 orangutans, but recent OCSP nest surveys suggest that this population could be larger. A follow up survey is planned for early 2009. Activities to date include:

- Survey conducted of biodiversity values, issues, threats, situation analysis for areas ecologically connected to MCVs (orangutan density pre-survey completed)
- Facilitated conservation action plans for 6 MCVs and 2 districts (Dairi & Phakpak Bharat)
- Provided GIS & spatial planning assistance to local government in Phakpak Bharat, North Sumatra.

A further six MCVs were established through a grant to FP3-Alive, a consortium of three local NGOs. Three of the MCVs were in Aceh Selatan and three in Langkat, North Sumatra. Activities to date include:

- Village facilitators selected and assigned to work together with local communities in field schools
- Village conservation action plans identified and in process of finalization
- Credit Unions established in all villages and monitored by routine meetings. A total of 129 women & 80 men are now members of the FP3-FIELD Credit Union.



Credit Union development in Aceh Selatan

OCSP worked with grantees to provide technical expertise on conservation issues in upper catchments areas linked to MCVs. This work included background assessments of district-wide conservation issues, threats, stakeholder and situation analyses. In addition, Phak Pak Bharat district was advised on the revision of their proposal to the provincial government that included spatial plans and an assessment of forest allocation.

- iv). **Gunung Leuser National Park Management Zonation Plan** - This park, with an area of 950,000 ha, is of utmost importance for the conservation of orangutan and other wildlife in northern Sumatra. It is both a Biosphere Reserve and a World Heritage Site. OCSP is providing technical support for the re-design of a conservation management zonation spatial plan for this park.

### **Beneficiary Story - A LOCAL VILLAGER'S PASSION TO CONSERVE ORANGUTANS**

*Muhammad Nasir Siregar is a 34-year-old villager from Simaninggir, in the Batang Toru area of North Sumatra. Nasir is better known by his nickname Siregar par Mawar – which means “Siregar who takes care of the orangutans” Nasir has been watching these primates since he was a young boy, frequently disappearing into the forest for many hours to observe orangutans feeding or moving around. His observations became more professional following an accidental forest meeting with Cristian Simanjutak, Reni Joyo Asmoro, and Birute Galdikas - distinguished research scientists from the Orangutan Foundation. Nasir started working with these scientists and quickly learnt the basics of observation and scientific recording, which he now continues privately.*

*Nasir has contributed much valuable information to the conservation of orangutans in Batang Toru, as well as challenging some scientific assertions. For example, he has concluded that in Batang Toru orangutans do not play a significant role in the dispersal of seeds. He believes that when orangutans consume fruit they do not swallow the seeds, and so do not disperse these seeds when they defecate. He has also noted that they never consume fruit far from the trees where it is obtained.*

*Nasir considers that as our closest relative, orangutans have great importance for humans and can teach us much. He has observed them eating certain plants as a medicine when they are sick and feels that such plants may also have value in the treatment of human illness. He is acutely aware that forest conversion is endangering orangutans in Batang Toru and is passionate about the need to forge compromises between orangutans and human requirements in the area.*

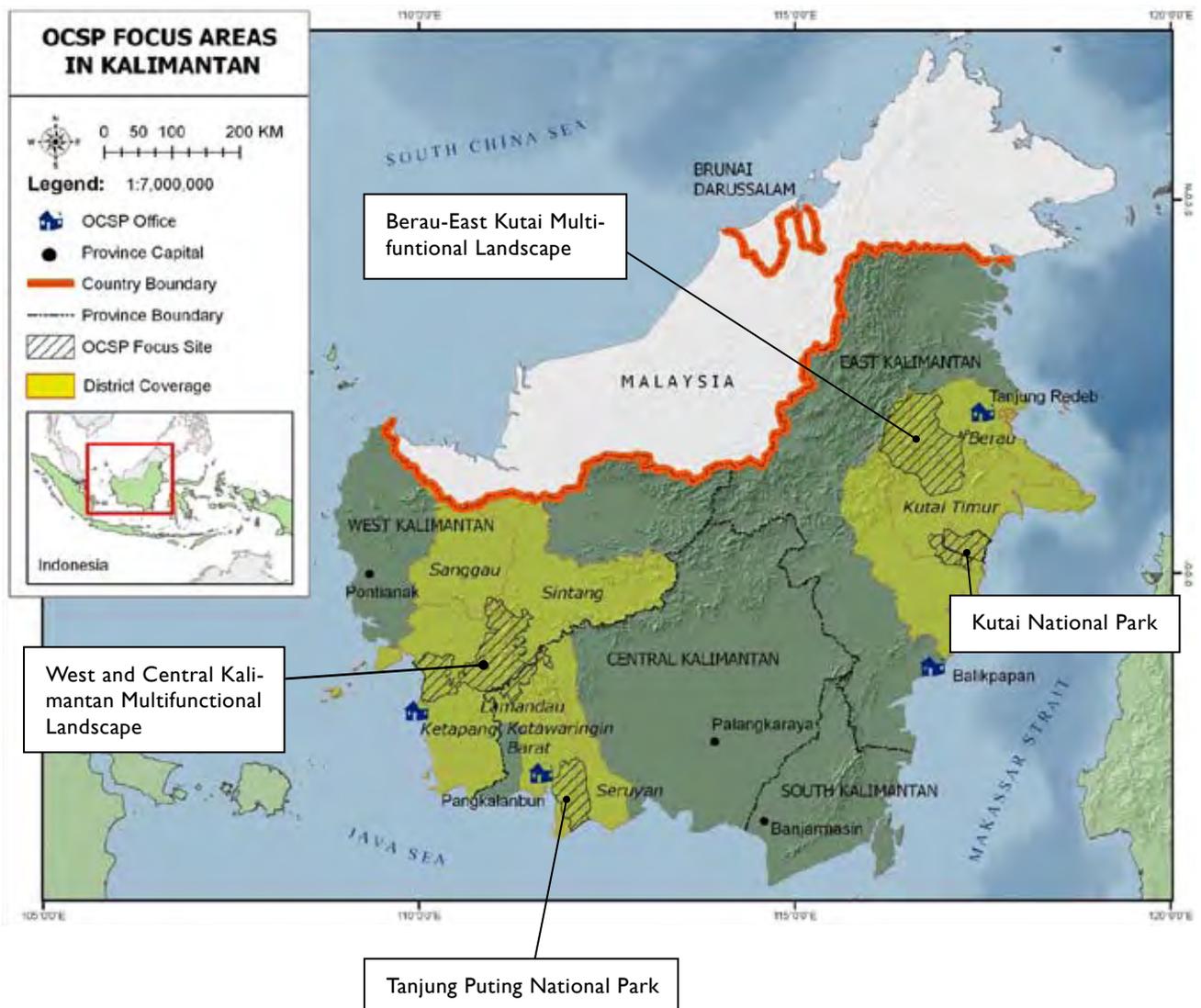


**Muhammad Nasir Siregar**

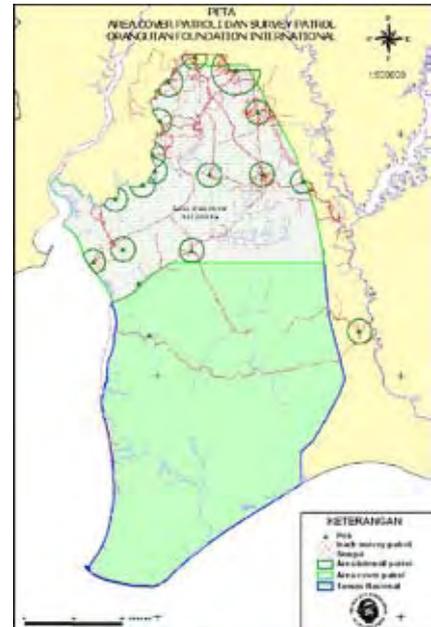


## Kalimantan

The Bornean orangutan (*Pongo pygmaeus*) survives in larger numbers than the Sumatran species. An estimated suggested 40,000-50,000 animals remain, distributed over more than 50 distinct populations. This species is, however, also endangered. Seventy-five percent of all Bornean orangutans occur outside the protected area network. With conservation authorities stretched beyond their limits, it is clear that protected areas, while still critically important, do not by themselves guarantee effective management of threats to orangutans. Therefore, in Kalimantan, an approach was developed that focuses on the conservation and sustainable development at site within two national parks with orangutan populations – Tanjung Puting and Kutai – and two large multifunctional landscapes.



- i) **Management of Tanjung Puting National Park (TPNP)**  
 - OCSP partners, World Education (WE) and Orangutan Foundation International (OFI), worked to improve patrolling, provided alternative livelihoods for communities, and suppressed and managed wildfires in Tanjung Puting National Park (TPNP). Through use of sixteen enforcement posts, OFI conducts regular, intensive patrolling for illegal hunting, logging and incidence of fire inside and in the buffer zone of the park. Routine patrols are made twice a week, but in locations adjacent to oil palm development on the parks eastern – PTT KUCC plantation – and northern borders – PT Wana Sawit Subur Lestari plantation – monitoring is performed almost daily. The area of the park covered by patrols has increased from 50% up to 70%.



Green circles represent OFI regular patrol areas in Tanjung Puting National Park



Wildfires in Central Kalimantan's peat forests threaten orangutan habitat in Tanjung Puting National Park and release massive amounts of carbon.

Wildfires are one of the biggest current threats to the park and its 6,000 resident orangutan. In 2006, approximately 56,000 ha of the southern part of the park burned. Since then, WE and OFI, with support from OCSP, have involved local communities to develop a plan to monitor and control fires in the southern part of TPNP. Through a series of meetings, communities in three villages were involved in a process to identify the causes of forest fires in each of the 2006 hotspots in their villages. They also identified areas in their villages with a high potential to burn – and developed plans for fire prevention. In 2006, a total of 207 hotspots occurred in these three villages. Now this has been reduced to just 15 hotspots. While some of this can be attributed to a wetter than usual dry season, forest fires outside TPNP remained prevalent. However, according to satellite maps within TPNP not a single hotspot was recorded.

Drafting of village ordinances to address village spatial planning issue and resource use began with mapping of natural resource in three villages: Sungai Cabang, Teluk Pulau and Sekonyer. Development of alternative economic initiatives for communities around the park was initiated in seven villages. The activities included development of rubber and jelutung (*Dyera lowii*) gardens in 9106 ha, multiculture gardens in 11 ha, vegetable gardens, and freshwater fish farming. These has improved incomes 56 community members living adjacent to Tanjung Puting National Park.

- ii). **Collaboration with stakeholders to conserve Kutai National Park** – Protected since the 1930s, Kutai National Park, or Taman Nasional Kutai (TNK), was established in 1982, in East Kalimantan Province. Located between the cities of Bontang and Sangatta, TNK has suffered from human disturbance since the beginning of its existence. In 1982/1983, fires destroyed 60% of the protected forests. In 1995 the park was reduced in size from ca. 300,000 ha to 198,628 ha. Currently a great deal of illegal logging, agriculture, mining and settlement occurs within the park.

OCSP and its partner, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), coordinated conservation activities with forest and mining concessions located in close proximity to Kutai National Park. Advice and recommendations to conserve orangutans, based on field surveys, were provided to two paper and pulp plantations in the area (Hutan Tanaman Industri [HTI] Sumalindo Jaya Lestari Unit II and Surya Hutan Jaya). Surya Hutan Jaya accepted these recommendations and agreed to bolster its buffer zone bordering the National Park and rehabilitate riparian areas within the plantation boundaries through mixed species “enrichment” planting. While the response of Surya Hutan Jaya is most acceptable, conservation of orangutan in the park, estimated in the thousands, requires a much broader landscape level approach. This will involve a network of conservation set-asides and further collaboration between the various concession actors and the park. This will require concessionaires to adopt best management practices, perhaps including enrichment of riparian forest corridors to connect the production areas with contiguous and preferable locally or nationally protected forests, and rehabilitation of “core” forest areas so that they may become an effective refuge for orangutans currently residing in concessions.



Sumalindo is currently working on a strategy to develop a natural forest corridor between their plantation and the national park. This corridor would pass through the concessions to its north so they will need to gain agreement from both concessionaires and the national park. OCSP is ready to work with them and other stakeholders in the area to improve habitat management for orangutans.

## **PENGY AND THE HELMIATI FAMILY**

*The story of Pengky is one of an orangutan that lost his home in the forest. It is a story rooted in forest destruction that raises questions about the long-term survival of this species in the wild. But it also tells us something about people's concern for wild animals and commitment to save an endangered species.*

*Pengky, a three year old baby male orangutan, was taken to office of Kutai National Park in May 2008. He had been looked after by the Helmiati family after being orphaned when he was just two months old due to forest loss caused by the development of the Bontang-Sangata road near the National Park. Helmiati raised Pengky as she did her three children; so Pengky grew use to rice, porridge, snacks and milk. He slept together with the children on a mattress wearing diapers and was 'trained' to take two baths a day. In short, Pengky was habituated to humans and responded to them in a loving and humorous way that the children adored.*



*Helmiati spent almost two million rupiah each month on Pengky, which was the total salary of her son. Eventually this cost was too much to bear for the family and they were forced to give Pengky up to the Park officers. Mr Agus Budiono, Head of Kutai National Park, said that this was the first such case in 2008 although last year local people had given them a five-year-old male orangutan from a rubber plantation near Bontang.*

*Releasing orangutans back into their natural habitat is a complex process. Captive orangutans need a long rehabilitation process, regular health checks, socialization with other orangutans and an organized return to suitable habitat previously inhabited by similar genetic stock. Initially, the Park authorities wanted to send Pengky to an orangutan rehabilitation center in Samboja managed by BOSF (Borneo Orangutan Survival Foundation). Unfortunately, this rehabilitation center was full and their resources fully committed. However, at the end of*

*May, BOSF sent technical staff and experts to provide information and training to Kutai Park staff on how to assist Pengky survive in the forest. Seven months later Pengky remains in a cage at the Park headquarters.*

*The fate of Pengky and other orangutan that have lost their habitat cannot depend in the long-term on ex-situ solutions. There are just too many individual orangutans now surviving only in expensive captive situations. The only real long-term solution for the survival of orangutans is to preserve large landscape tracts of their natural forests. We can still redeem this situation, but Pengky's story indicates that while there are many people who are prepared to help save endangered wildlife, they do not always have the knowledge or resources to properly help. We must work with local communities to make sure their efforts go into stopping forest destruction, thereby ensuring that orangutans like Pengky remain in their natural habitat, and not with a human family.*

**The author of the story, Dedi Nurhidayat, is a member of the Kutai National Park authority staff and is based in Bontang, East Kalimantan.**

- iii). **Management of a Multi-functional landscape in West and Central Kalimantan** - OCSP grantee, Fauna and Flora International (FFI,) and its partners Orangutan Foundation-UK, Yayasan and Sekala target a landscape spreading over 1.5 million hectares from the coastal peat swamp forest of Ketapang in West Kalimantan, east and northwards across the foothills of the Schwaner Mountains into the Belantikan Hulu watershed of Central Kalimantan province. Orangutans occur throughout this area but the habitat available to them is decreasing rapidly due to. Illegal and commercial logging, mining and conversion to oil-palm. Plantations have already cleared, degraded or fragmented extensive tracts of lowland and peat swamp forests, and the remaining large contiguous forest areas continue to be severely threatened.

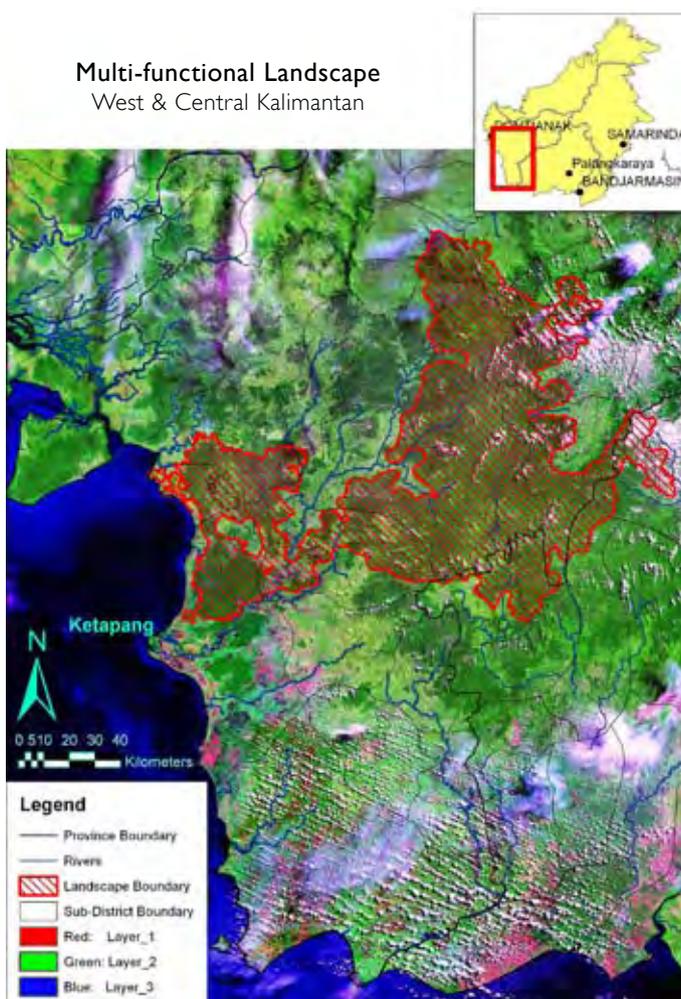
The grantees are working to minimize the level of threats to orangutans at a landscape level through reduction of deforestation and degradation of contiguous orangutan habitat. This is being undertaken through three sets of interventions including: i) development of landscape-based orangutan conservation plans and recommendations for

a conservation sensitive review of district spatial plans; ii) technical assistance for oil palm, forestry and mining concessionaires within the landscape to adopt the protection of HCVF into their management plans; and iii) development of multi-stakeholder constituencies and sustainable financing strategies, to promote collaborative multi-stakeholder management for orangutan conservation priority sites.

Related to this last intervention, a strategy to reduce carbon emissions through avoided deforestation is being implemented in the Sungai Putri peat swamp forest, which is currently zoned for conversion to oil palm. A 2006 survey indicated that between 300 - 700 orangutans reside within these forests, [see story on page 39],

For the Rongga - Perai and Arut - Belantikan population, FFI and their partners have initiated collaboration with forest concessionaires to identify orangutan habitat and high conservation value forests and

**Multi-functional Landscape**  
West & Central Kalimantan



develop recommendations for protection zones and the adoption of reduced impact logging in HCVF. HCVF assessments were completed for PT. Suka Jaya Makmur and Sari Bumi Kusuma, two logging concessions in Ketapang District. Another assessment is being prepared for PT Karla Trader in Central Kalimantan.

FFI also completed a landscape level HCVF assessment for the district of Ketapang, West Kalimantan. The findings and recommendations of this 'landscape-level' HCVF have been presented to the district government so that they may be used to revise spatial plans that take in considerations of HCVF.

PT. SMART Tbk and FFI signed an MOU to have HCV assessments conducted in two oil palm plantations. The plantation holder, as expressed in the MOU and based on RSPO Principle and Criteria National Interpretation, is committed to identify and effectively protect high conservation value forests within their permit/ concession area for any of its new plantation development.

- iv) **Conservation collaboration within production forests in East Kalimantan** - In East Kalimantan Province, OCSP works through its partners World Education and TNC on a multifunctional landscape approach for an 800,000 ha forest habitat area entirely within production forests. Initiatives have been undertaken to mainstream orangutan conservation into the management of five timber concessions containing orangutan habitat in Berau and East Kutai: Amindo, Aditya, Wanabakti, Mahardika, and Narkata.

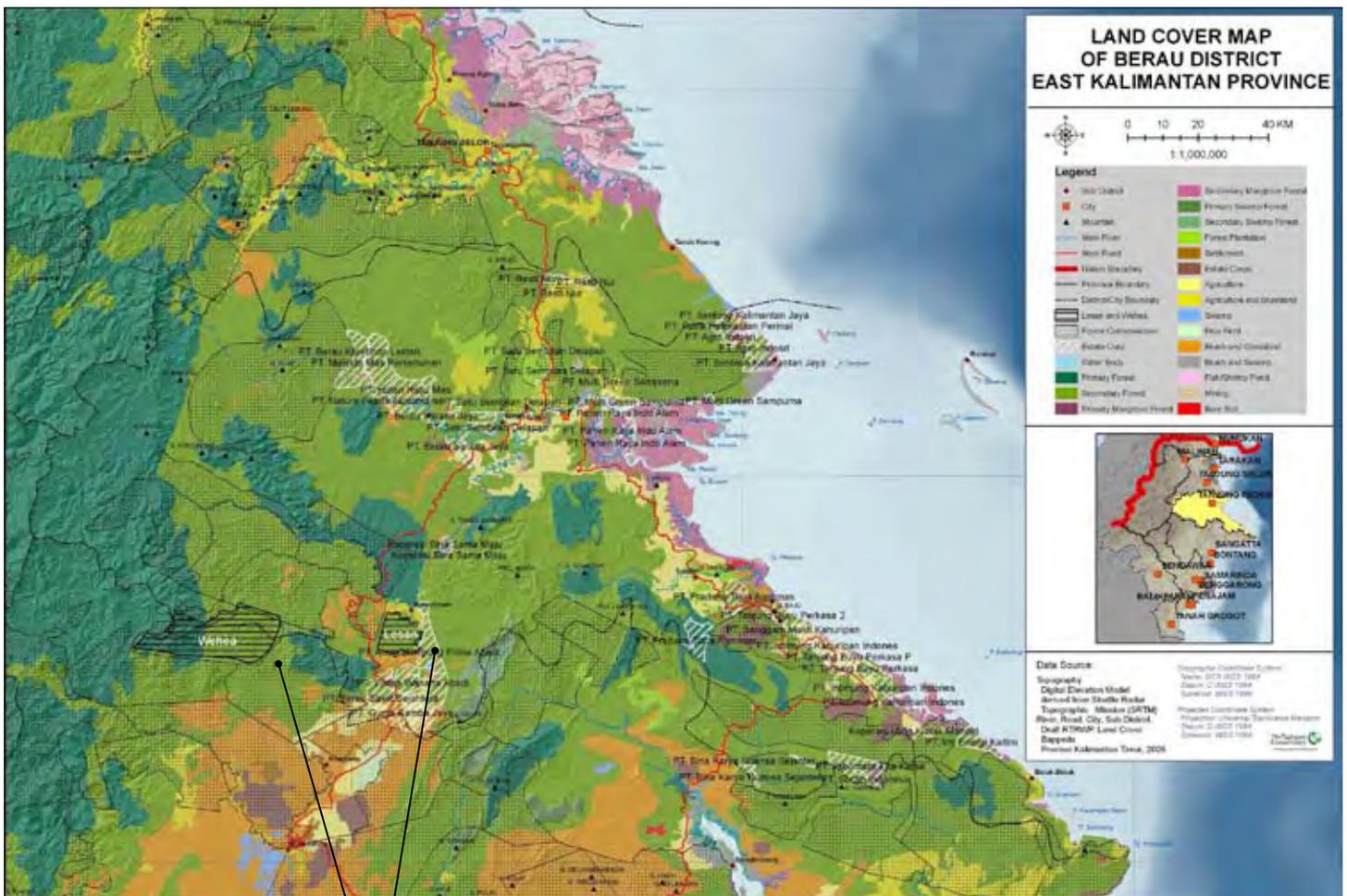


Oil Palm nursery in Lesan with forest slated for conversion in the background

OCSP also responded to the imminent threat of conversion to oil palm of the Lesan River Protected Forest. Due in part to TNC's on-going work in tandem with local communities, the Lesan River Protected Forest and its orangutan populations continue to be relatively well protected. The project has been, however, focusing intensively on minimizing the impacts of the rapid encroachment of oil palm plantations outside Lesan that threatens the forest and could erode wildlife habitat and corridors.

Outreach was made to PD Yudha, the principal oil palm company in the region, through a set of meetings to discuss oil palm expansion. This resulted in agreement that:

- i) the company will accept technical assistance from TNC and other groups to help them effectively set-aside areas in their concession that should legally be protected;
- ii) TNC will assist the company to identify areas of High Conservation Value Forests within concessions; and
- iii) the company will consider a possible land swap such that they may allocate parts of their concession with high social and ecological value to deforested lands near Lesan.



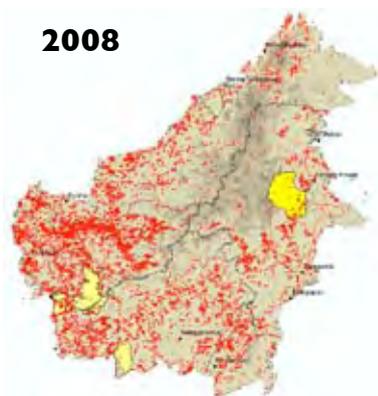
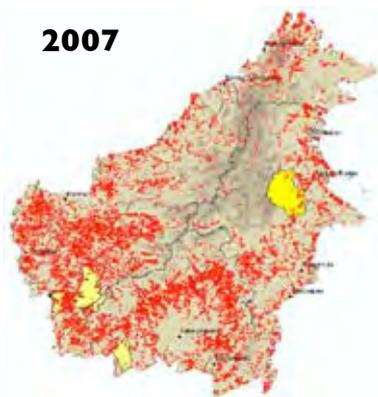
Wehea and Lesan (black hatched areas) make up part of the Berau-East Kutai Multi-functional Landscape site

- v). **Community based conservation** (Wehea CONEX Award)
- The community-based conservation program in Wehea, a former timber concession 38,000 ha in size, has been running for several years and remains strong. Of special concern is the legal status of Wehea, which is classified as a timber concession at the national level despite its recognition as a protected area by the district and province. Also, there have been illegal incursions by timber workers from the neighboring Gunung Gajah timber concession into the area. Timber was removed from the Wehea-Gunung Gajah boundary in conflict with concession management regulations and patrol teams came across hunting parties from Gunung Gajah. These issues have been taken up by Wehea's customary law council and a formal complaint has been submitted to the company.

A highlight for Wehea was its selection as third best project for the *Schooner Prize*. This is a new prize that links conservation outcomes to human/social development outcomes (or vice versa). The prize recognized that World Education, through its agricultural extension work, boosted local harvests and community income. This went hand in hand with renewed attention for local traditions, especially those related to rice harvest and forest conservation. The traditional revival then brought in much media attention, to the extent that the annual rice festival has become one of the best known traditional events in East Kalimantan. The District Head has indicated that he will use the Wehea success to leverage further support from local businesses and government for this project. And this has been reported in the local and national (Kompas) media, which has generated high-level government support for conservation and community involvement in the area.



Traditional Law Chief of Wehea, Pak Wong



vi) **Monitoring of forest loss and fires** - As indicated in the table (below), the efforts of OCSP and its partners in Kalimantan seem to be leading to success in decreasing loss of forest. This is indicated by fewer recordings of hot spots in OCSP sites compared to sites where OCSP is not active. It can be extrapolated that this is primarily due to more careful and consideration of land use planning, patrolling and management. Because of wetter climatic conditions there has been a general decline over the last three years in the number of fires in Kalimantan (23,128 hotspots in 2006; 10,409 in 2007; and 8,946 in 2008 – measured until September and forecasted to the end of the year).

	Total hotspots	Total in OCSP sites	Total in OCSP sites%	Total in non-OCSP sites	Total in non-OCSP sites%
2006	23,128	1047	4.53%	22,081	95.47%
2007	10,409	395	3.79%	10,014	96.21%
2008	8,946	235	2.63%	8,710	97.37%

**Fire occurrences - Kalimantan 2006-2008**

However, a significant part of the reduction of fire occurrences in OCSP sites can be attributed to reduced fires in Tanjung Puting National Park, where the annual number of hotspots declined between 2006 and 2008 from 287 to 11 to 5. Also, some of the timber concessions in the FFI/OF-UK/Yayorin managed multi-functional landscape in West and Central Kalimantan had much lower fire occurrences, which may be related to a reduced allocation of land for oil palm and the related forest clearing. This decline has also been pronounced in TNC East Kalimantan sites.

### **Beneficiary Story - FROM DEER HUNTER TO FARMER**

*A major threat to Tanjung Puting National Park is derived from the unsustainable harvest of Park resources by poor farming communities. In April 2007, World Education through a grant from OCSP, commenced an integrated conservation and development program. Farming communities were provided with training and technical assistance to develop more productive, ecologically sound and sustainable agriculture and agro-forestry practices and so reduce the need to extract resources from the Park.*



**Pak Jamin tending to his crops**

*Pak Jamin is one of more than 50 hunters who have now stopped hunting and turned to farming. Although he owned 10 ha of land he lacked the capacity and knowledge to gain a living from it. World Education was able to demonstrate to a sceptical Jamin just how he should utilize and manage this land. Initially Pak Jamin had doubts, but now he is able to manage his own plantation and successfully earn Rp 1,200,000/month. He has planted 6 ha with rubber trees and 2 ha are mixed. These days he is busy with his wife and three children taking care of the plants, and he knows that the rubber trees are an investment for the future. He says that while he was a hunter his family was always in debt. Now, he does not have any debt. Being farmer is easier and he likes farming more than hunting.*



## **Component 2.** Enforcement of laws and regulations that combat habitat destruction and other threats to wild orangutan populations

Orangutan habitat loss and population decline caused by forest conversion, unsustainable logging, and wildlife trafficking are often a consequence of inadequate legislation, poor implementation of existing laws and weak law enforcement. To prevent destruction of forest habitat and reduce illegal trade in orangutans, OCSP and partners achieved the following through enforcement and policy strengthening activities at the national, regional and local levels.

### **National**

- i) **WCS Gap analysis of laws & regulations** - OCSP, through its grantee the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), conducted a gap analysis of laws and regulations in the wildlife and forestry sectors. A specific focus was placed on Conservation Law number 5 of 1990, which is the primary law governing conservation in Indonesia. Indonesia has a complex series of laws and regulations pertaining to the protection of orangutan and its habitat. These are further supplemented by presidential, ministerial and regional government decrees. One of the gaps in these laws and regulations is that while they protect orangutans as an endangered species, they do not specifically protect its habitat. The analysis also described the distribution of authority between regency/municipality and provincial governments vis-à-vis the legal and policy context and content of orangutan conservation.

WCS reviewed 12 Laws, 17 Government Regulations, and other implementation regulations that directly govern the conservation of orangutans and their habitat. Work is underway to examine additional 277 laws and regulations that have indirect implications to orangutan conservation. Detailed analysis on existing legal and governance systems has produced a synopsis, authority matrix and law tress of conservation law in Indonesia. These results will be used as references for a series of public consultation forums to develop a road map for policy reform.

With reference to Law No. 5/1990, the assessment identified weaknesses and inconsistencies contained within that reduce its effectiveness in the protection of orangutan and its habitat. Special attention is needed for articles in the law on wildlife protection, habitat protection, government authority and law enforcement.

The analysis also described the distribution of authority between regency/municipality and provincial governments regarding the management of forest and natural resources that affects orangutan habitats. These findings have been communicated to the expert group discussion on policy reform, OCSP grantees and other partners.

- ii) **ICITAP** - Joint efforts have been undertaken with US Department of Justice International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program (ICITAP) to implement a coordinated approach on enforcement of wildlife crime. ICITAP has strong links with the Indonesian police and has provided investigative training and equipment to them. They have worked especially closely with Indonesian Marine Police, who have indicated that the three most commonly smuggled items are fish, timber and coal. As a result of ICITAP's support, the marine police have begun to look at wild life crimes including illegal logging and trafficking of rare or endangered animals.

OCSP provided inputs into the ICITAP wildlife crimes training materials and detailed illegal logging hotspots that impact orangutan habitat in Kalimantan and Sumatra. In late 2008, OCSP also invited ICITAP to East Kalimantan's Kutai National Park to get a sense of illegal logging issues first hand.



Jamartin Sihite, OCSP Deputy COP, and Bob Barlow of Department of Justices' ICITAP program serve as part of the USG delegation to the workshop on International Cooperation in Preventing and Combating Illicit International Trafficking in Forest Products, held in Jakarta on 26-28 March 2008

## Sumatra



Confiscated tiger skin, North Sumatra

- i) **Networks providing information on wildlife hunting, poaching & trading** - To prevent destruction of forest habitat and reduce illegal trade in orangutan, OCSP facilitated the development of two enforcement working groups in North Sumatra consisting of 23 civil society organizations to deal with crimes against endangered species and forests: the Coalition of Wildlife Trade Monitoring (KPSL) and Coalition of Forest Crime Monitoring (KPHSU). These working groups evolved out of a training OCSP provided for NGOs on investigation techniques on wildlife crimes as a joint declaration by participants. Information provided by the network of NGOs to the Ministry of Forestry's regional conservation office led to the capture of illegal poachers who attempted to sell tiger cub skins. One individual was prosecuted and received a two year ten month sentence and a one million rupiah fine. While this case wasn't related to orangutan trade, it demonstrates success of the information network. The prosecution also creates a precedent for future court cases on wildlife crime as it represented the first case ever of a wildlife crime in North Sumatra resulting in a jail sentence.

OCSP and partners provided four basic training exercises to 128 people, including 22 women, in Sumatra for wildlife hunting, poaching and trading investigation procedures.

- ii) **Combating Wildlife and Forest Crimes through investigation, reporting and capacity building** - Through a grant to WCS, OCSP worked to improve reporting of forest crimes through a crime reporting system, development of a database on wildlife trade, advocacy, and training in law enforcement. A formal collaboration which includes a detailed work-plan, standard operation, communication protocol, and job description was developed between WCS and the Ministry of Forestry's North Sumatra regional office to operate a Wildlife Crime Unit (WCU). To carry out activities in the work-plan, an Orangutan Patrol and Monitoring Unit was created to keep tabs on illicit trade of orangutan and other protected wildlife species, forest encroachment, and human-orangutan conflict.

WCS employs a wide-ranging informant network made up of community members, forest police and others to compile information for investigation. A network of 23 informants and contact persons has been established across Aceh

and North Sumatra. An orangutan patrol and monitoring unit hotline number was established and a simple database system to collect wildlife crime information, patrols, and monitoring was developed. Information provided through this informants network led forest police to confiscate two orangutans held in illegal captivity. The first was held by a private individual in North Sumatra and the second was confiscated from the PT. Al Ichwan garment factory also in North Sumatra.

A training on investigate techniques was conducted for informants and orangutan patrol and monitoring units in Sibolga, North Sumatra in July 2008. The training was attended by informants now stationed in important hotspots in Aceh and North Sumatra. A wildlife identification training workshop for law enforcement agencies was held in Bogor in July 2008. The training, attended by 30 participants – 15 from the Ministry of Forestry – aimed to improve species identification skills.



Information provided by the Wildlife Crime Unit led police to find this young orangutan held captive

## Kalimantan

- i). **Informant system to report on illegal trading in orangutans**  
- In West Kalimantan, OCSP grantee, Titian, strengthens law enforcement through compiling and reporting cases of orangutan trade and hunting to law enforcement officials, monitoring court cases, and strengthening capacity of law enforcement officials and institutions. Titian uses an informant system similar to that of WCS. Through its investigations, materials were collected and turned over to Forest Police. This included 12 cases of orangutan trading, 17 cases of orangutans being held in captivity and 18 cases of souvenir trading of orangutan bones. Unfortunately, to date the Ministry of Forestry's regional conservation office in West Kalimantan has yet to act on any of this information. Having cases like these pursued represents a big challenge that OCSP will attempt to overcome through NGO advocacy and media attention in FY 09.

Titian conducted two trainings in support of enforcement strengthening. The first for communities and enforcement officials was on identification of protected species and handling of animals. The second was on "Application of HCVF Principles and Criteria in Oil Palm concessions."

## Component 3. Partnership Development

OCSP viewed collective action and joint focus on mission as a powerful tool in progressing orangutan conservation. This involves catalyzing strengths of conservation organizations, increasing their effectiveness at both the national and international levels, and engaging industry and communities as part of the solution.

### National



GIS Forestry training in East Kalimantan.

- i) OCSP played a major role in improving coordination between key government, civil society and private organizations involved in orangutan conservation in Indonesia. This led to a more strategic and better coordinated approach to orangutan conservation. The low-profile but important role OCSP plays in convening and shepherding important planning processes has led to general acceptance of the program by partners. In the case of policy development, OCSP played pivotal coordination and brokering roles that resulted in the formal government approval of the National Orangutan Strategy and Action plan and its international recognition at COP13. Associated with OCSP's national role has been the continued identification and development, with key partners, of appropriate structures to sustain conservation momentum of both the program and commonly agreed initiatives.

To support the implementation of the National Action Plan, OCSP, in conjunction with local partners, facilitated Regional Meetings in Pontianak, West Kalimantan on the 7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> of April 2008, Medan, North Sumatra on June 3<sup>rd</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008, Samarinda, East Kalimantan, June 26<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup>, 2008 and Central Kalimantan, August 12<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup>, 2008. The meetings aimed to engage numerous organizations from government, private sector and civil society at the regional level to actively participate in identifying programs currently being implemented in support of the Action Plan, analyzing the gaps between planning and implementation of these programs, and strengthening synergy amongst key

stakeholders to support orangutans and the conservation of their habitat. Forums were created to coordinate national orangutan conservation policy and practice. These included a Multi-stakeholder forum to implement the orangutan Action plan in North Sumatra and an East Kalimantan Working group established and supported by Provincial Government to do the same.

- ii) **Orangutan Forum Development** - In its efforts to develop a national level Orangutan Conservation Forum, OCSP engaged Larry Fisher to serve as Forum Development Advisor. Mr. Fisher conducted surveys, both electronic and through one on one interviews, presented his initial findings to the Orangutan Action Plan core team, and prepared a draft report. The report assessed opportunities for OCSP to assist in the development of a national level Orangutan Conservation Forum. Fisher presented several structures for an orangutan conservation forum for consideration and discussion during the assignment. There was strong support for a “service first, evolutionary” approach to networking and forum development. This approach stops short of front-ending the establishment of a formal structure, suggesting instead a continued focus on ongoing collaboration focused on implementation of the recently approved national Strategy and Action Plan for Orangutan Conservation.

A core team of highly respected Indonesian conservation leaders has been formed under the auspices of the Association of Concerned Indonesian Primatologists (APAPI) to foster development of this forum. The team is made up the following senior conservationists: Director of Conservation International Indonesia, Jatna Supriatna, Director of Fauna and Flora International Indonesia, Sugardjito, Director of the World Conservation Society Indonesia, Noviar Andayani, Director of BOS Indonesia, Aldrianto Priadjati, Head of Species Conservation for WWF Indonesia, Chairul Saleh, Chair of the Primate Research Center at Bogor Agricultural Institute Studies, Joko Pamunkas., Sri Suci Utami Atmoko from the National University of Indonesia. The COP, DCOP and Partnership Coordinator from OCSP round out the core team membership. Meetings of the core team have been held to review the results of the regional meetings of the National Action Plan, prepare for the one year review of the plan and discuss preparations for an International Orangutan Congress to be convened in 2009.



Central Kalimantan governor opening the Action Plan Meeting.

- iii) **RSPO, GAPKI, APHI** - OCSP met with representatives of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil's (RSPO) Indonesia Office to explore possible linkages and overlap. OCSP was interested in exploring the criteria for RSPO indicators on sustainable management of palm oil plantations to determine where management of orangutan habitat might fit. RSPO agreed to inform their members about objectives of the National Orangutan Action Plan and how they might contribute to management of orangutan within their plantations.

OCSP met with Derom Bangun, Chair person of the Indonesian Palm Oil Association (GAPKI) to discuss GAPKI's role in the Sumatra Regional Action Plan Meeting and broader opportunities for cooperation on HCVF, conservation management training and conflict resolution. This work is ongoing and OCSP will engage APAPI, NGOs, Universities and research institutes, and the Forestry Ministry to assist in this cooperation.

Meetings and presentations were made to the Indonesian Association of Forest Concession Holders (APHI). OCSP has committed to supporting APHI timber concession members with orangutans in their concessions with specific management recommendations. A letter of agreement is being drafted to formalize this partnership.

- v) **US Forest Service (USFS)** - OCSP arranged a field trip to West Kalimantan for USFS Deputy Chief Jim Hubbard, Cynthia Mackie and others. The trip focused on issues of forest governance in West Kalimantan, community management of protected forest, management of Gunung Palung National Park (which contains a very large orangutan habitat), and sustainable forest management. The group visited the Suka Jaya Makmur concession (which contains orangutans) and discussed the chain of custody, silvicultural systems, road development, and barriers to Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification.

## Sumatra

- i) **Collaboration with government** - A letter has been signed with the Regional Environmental Impact Control Agency (Bapedalda) in North Sumatra that expresses a mutual understanding of OCSP and incorporates involvement of Bapedalda in monitoring & evaluation of project implementation in the field. Strong collaboration has also been forged with regional forestry department provincial governments, and the district governments (Tapsel, Taput, Tapteng, and Phakpak Bharat).
- ii) **Working groups** - Three working groups in the areas of communication, spatial planning, and enforcement have been established. The role and successes of the enforcement working groups is detailed above. Through the spatial planning working group, OCSP seeks to improve transparency and participation in the most recent revision of the provincial and district spatial plans. The launching of the Alliance of North Sumatra Spatial Planning Stakeholders has made some headway in this effort and has been allowed by government to monitor, evaluate and provide technical assistance to provincial and district level governments during this current revision process.

## Kalimantan

- i) **Collaboration with private sector** – In West Kalimantan, FFI signed an MoU with the Alas Kusuma Group to conduct HCVF assessments in two of its logging concessions that contain orangutans: PT. Sari Bumi Kusuma and PT. Suka Jaya Makmur. FFI also signed an MOU with PT. SMART Tbk to conduct HCV assessments in two of its oil palm plantations. PT. SMART committed to assessments and management based on RSPO Principle and Criteria National Interpretation.

In East Kalimantan, TNC, through the multi-functional landscape grant to WE, works with seven timber concessions containing orangutan habitat in East Kutai: Amindo, Aditya, Wanabakti, Karya Lestari, Mahardika, Gunung Gajah, and Narkata. TNC also developed agreements with two plantations located around Kutai National Park, Sumalindo Jaya Lestari Unit II and Surya Hutan Jaya, to undertake surveys and provide management recommendations.



Bird specialist, Bas Van Balen, served as part of the Ecological team on HCVF assessments of Alas Kusuma logging concessions in Ketapang

- ii) **Agreements to reduce carbon emissions through avoided deforestation** – FFI has signed an agreement with Macquarie Bank of Australia for development Sungai Putri peat forests of west Kalimantan as an avoided deforestation site. OFI and WE are working in partnership with the carbon broker InfiniteEarth to develop an area slated for conversion to oil palm in the Seruyan Forests abutting Tanjung Puting National as an avoided deforestation site. TNC has an agreement with the district government of Berau to develop a REDD project in the district.
- iii) **Reinvigorating Friends of Kutai** – Since the early 1990s, a group of concerned timber concessions, coal mining concessions, and plantations have developed the Friends of Kutai forum which aims to support the management of the National Park. For many years this forum has had limited impact, but recently OCSP, through partner TNC, were asked by the forum and the park management to help find new ways of effective private sector support to the reduce the threats to the national park.

The program in and around Kutai National Park is developing well. There has been some very good input from the private sector (Sinar Mas, Sumalindo, and KPC) to help develop an ecological network connecting Kutai National Park with Muara Kaman Nature Reserve through reforestation of remaining habitat patches that are now located in the plantations, coal mines and timber concession that lie around Kutai National Park. An orangutan survey was conducted in the APP plantation area following similar surveys in the Sumalindo HTI. This will provide useful input into the development of a management solution that seeks to both reduce the impact of orangutans on Acacia stands, as well as increase the long-term survival chances of orangutans in the wider landscape. A workshop was held in March 2008, to discuss next action steps. Attendees included the Head of Balai KSDA, the Head of Subdirektorat Keanekaragaman Hayati at PHKA, the Head of TN Kutai, senior management staff from Sinar Mas, Sumalindo, and KPC, and staff from OCSP and BOS, as well as several other NGOs. Since then regular communication among the involved government offices, the Friends of Kutai members, and several NGOs including TNC has taken place. Progress in this highly threatened, and politically volatile area remains slow however.



## Component 4. Communications and Outreach

Support generated through media attention can be used to influence policies of government and private sector to improve management of forests needed to conserve orangutan. Such high level attention greatly assists prospects for long-term survival of orangutan.

### National

- i) OCSP worked directly and with partners to get messages out to target groups through the media. A total of 210 articles in Indonesian and International newspapers, 81 hours of radio and 15 minutes of TV airtime related to OCSP work were generated. In addition, OCSP mailing lists reached 217 recipients and its website received more than 14,000 hits.



More than 10,000 delegates from 189 countries attended the COP 13 Bali Climate Change Conference in December 2007

- ii) **COP 13, Bali** - The orangutan was used as a globally recognizable symbol for getting out targeted messages to an international audience. The orangutan's iconic value was successfully mobilized during the COP 13 event in Bali, where over 150 newspapers and radio outlets contained stories about the signing of the National Action Plan for orangutan by the Indonesian President. In total, since OCSP's program inception more than 200 articles have appeared in Indonesian and International newspapers. Below is a link to a National Geographic story on the announcement of the plan:

<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2007/12/071211-orangutan-video-ap.html>



- iii) **Environment Day** - In celebration of the World Environment Day on June 5th, OCSP initiated a media campaign to court public opinion on the need for policy change in support of conservation of orangutans and their habitat. It drew attention to the destruction of orangutan habitat being legal, even though the killing of orangutans is not, and is based on the policy work by the OCSP grantee WCS.

- iv) **Website: [www.theworldiswatching.info](http://www.theworldiswatching.info)** - OCSP developed a website that was activated prior to the Bali Climate Meeting as a resource for OCSP partners and also the proposed National Orangutan Forum. Since then the website has added features such as: an online forum, news clippings, events and agenda, etc. To ensure that the content of the website will be regularly updated, clear mechanisms have been discussed and shared among OCSP and partners.



## Sumatra

- i) **Working with the Media** - Good relationships with the media have been built through discussion sessions, press conferences, and seven meetings with Chief Editors of local newspapers. This has resulted in 39 articles in local media and 22 in national media on orangutan conservation. Three information sheets, one banner, one photographic essay, reports and brochures on: WBTFB Actionable plan, field surveys, spatial planning, enforcement, model conservation villages and Marancar conservation village have been prepared.
- ii) **Orangutan conservation events** - OCSP has twice supported Orangutan Caring Week in Medan. The event aimed at educating and gaining broad support from young people and university students to safeguard the Sumatran orangutan as the icon of Indonesia's forests. Activities held included: roadshow at Universitas Islam Sumatra Utara, Universitas Sumatra Utara, Universitas Muhammadiyah Sumatra Utara, and Universitas Negeri Medan; photo Exhibition; film screening; radio talk show; and dissemination of awareness materials in Sun Plaza Shopping Mall. OCSP supported the production of posters, stickers, leaflets, and operational costs of the event. Around 700 posters, stickers, and leaflets were distributed to university students and visitors of Sun Plaza Shopping Center. This event was covered by Waspada regional daily newspaper of North Sumatra.



An activist dressed as an orangutan gives out leaflets in the Sun Plaza Shopping Mall

iii) **Tripa Swamp conservation campaign** - OCSP provided a grant to YEL to run a campaign to support protection of West Aceh Swamps. These swamps have a total area of 945km<sup>2</sup> and comprise the Tripa, Kluet and Singkil swamps. Combined they have a population of approximately 1940 orangutans, or nearly one third of all Sumatran orangutans. The total remaining forest in Tripa now covers 31,410 ha, representing 51% of the initial peat swamp forest cover. Oil palm development is planned for an area of 17,820 ha and other land use development an additional 12,573 ha. Without action, the total destruction of Tripa's remaining forest is predicted within five years. To date the campaign by YEL to protect Tripa has completed the following activities:

- mobile Awareness Unit visited five districts and reached 1000 community members.
- strategic Advocacy to decision makers through focal group discussions and articles in local media.
- Rare Pride training course being undertaken by YEL campaign manager in their Rare's Bogor training center.
- progress made in establishment of a Conservation Center – both a design and construction budget are completed.





## **Component 5. Sustainable Financing**

A total of 31 organizations contributed \$1.5 million dollars in match financing for OCSP initiated activities.

The adoption of the Indonesia National Orangutan Action Plan led to a pledge that was later realized by The Nature Conservancy of \$1 million to support the implementation of the plan. The signing of the plan also led to the establishment of regional working groups overseen by the Indonesian Forestry Department. Regional meetings were held in East, West and Central Kalimantan and North Sumatra (meetings in Aceh and Jambi in Sumatra will take place before the end of 2008) that were sponsored by a large group of organizations. In addition to OCSP support for these meetings, 21 different organizations from civil society, private sector and government supported roughly 73% of the total cost of the meetings or about \$30,000. OCSP Grantees also were obliged to contribute more than \$400,000 as a match to the OCSP funding.

## Carbon Financing for Avoiding Deforestation in Orangutan

**Areas** - OCSP engaged directly with bilateral/multi-lateral donor agencies, including AusAid and the World Bank, and private sector carbon emissions reductions financiers to explore enabling conditions and incentives to access developing markets in avoided deforestation carbon offset credits. Indonesia's forests and orangutan habitat sequester enormous amounts of carbon. Policies and institutional mechanisms that prevent the release of that carbon, "avoided deforestation" emission reductions hold very significant potential for Indonesia to realize economic benefits from sustainable management of its forests and protecting orangutans. OCSP explored the feasibility of carbon offset financing via the voluntary market as a viable tool for conservation of orangutan habitat. This was done in concert with CIFOR, which has been contracted by USAID to provide recommendations on the developing a portfolio of environmental projects that factor in climate change mitigation and adaptation approaches.

At present, sites within the OCSP portfolio with climate mitigation and carbon financing activities on-going include Sungai Putri in West Kalimantan (FFI), Tanjung Putting in Central Kalimantan (OFI), and Berau in East Kalimantan (TNC). It is thought that the Batang Toru Forest Block has some potential for carbon and this will be explored.

### Research on Carbon offsets vs. Palm Oil



*During the COP-13 meetings, Erik Meijaard presented initial results of economic analysis of potential revenues from oil palm development presently scheduled within Kalimantan's orangutan habitats versus the potential revenues that could be created if forest are protected. The latter scenario assumes that payments for avoided deforestation will become an official mechanism in the clean development mechanism of the Kyoto Protocol and subsequent international agreements. The Bali roadmap developed and agreed in December 2007 is an important step in that direction. The research was conducted together with colleagues from the University of Queensland and TNC-Australia.*

*Preliminary findings suggest that at a carbon price of US\$ 5.75/ton forest conservation can financially outcompete oil palm development on peat swamps. On mineral soils, however, a price of US\$ 16/ton would be required. Much lower prices would make forest conservation an economically competitive land use option if environmental service values are incorporated into the equation.*

## **OCSP Contribution to Carbon Financing for Avoided Deforestation**

OCSP activities led to improved management of 615,474 hectares of forest, which contributed to the sequestration of 104 million tonnes of CO<sup>2</sup>, especially in the peat land where orangutan are most commonly found.

At the site level, OCSP is working through its partners in three forests where climate mitigation and carbon financing activities are on-going within areas classified as production forest. In the first site, Sungai Putri peat forests of West Kalimantan, an MoU has been developed between Fauna and Flora International (FFI), Macquarie Bank of Australia and the local regent to develop the site for carbon emission reduction that is currently awaiting final review and approval by the local regent. Sungai Putri peat swamp forest covers 60,000 ha and is currently zoned for conversion to oil palm plantations. A 2006 survey indicated that between 300-700 orangutans reside within these forests, This newly discovered population of Sungai Putri is facing extirpation by pending conversion to oil palm plantations. Efforts are targeted to re-zone the area in the district land use plan for protection, and develop a long-term carbon-based financing plan for the project area.



**Carbon stock analysis in Sungai Putri Peat Forest**

The development of oil palm on peat land will require drainage which would lead to enormous CO<sup>2</sup> release due to peat subsidence, as well as increase the risk of forest and peat fires. An analysis of Sungai Putri's carbon stock indicated that 4,300 metric tons was sequestered per hectare by the biomass above ground and by the peat below ground, which ranges from 2-15 meters deep. The site has annual forest loss at 2.8% per year, or 1,680 ha. Overall, total annual CO<sup>2</sup> removals from changes in land cover over a 20-year period for this project site would result into an estimated release of 1,267,233-1,427,883 tons of CO<sup>2</sup> into the atmosphere.

Next, Orangutan Foundation International (OFI) in Central Kalimantan has signed and agreed to work with the carbon broker InfiniteEarth. InfiniteEarth is attempting to secure a 35,000 ha area in the Seruyan Forests adjacent to Tanjung Puting National Park's eastern border. The area, which has been slated for conversion to oil palm by the local government, will be converted into the "Rimba Raya" Reserve (<http://www.infinite-earth.com/>). A letter of support to develop a carbon project in the area has been received from the local regent. Discussions are also on-going with the Ministry of Forestry to change the status of the land from production forest to rehabilitation and restoration forest. This change would allow the area to remain undeveloped, opening up the opportunity to turn it into a voluntary market carbon site. InfiniteEarth is currently undertaking a carbon stock analysis. They have secured the commitment from a large international hotel chain to contribute funds for the development of the area as a carbon emissions reduction site and to purchase credits produced through the demonstration of reduced of carbon emissions in the site.

Finally, the development of a district-wide REDD program is being facilitated in Berau, East Kalimantan through efforts of The Nature Conservancy. This program has been received by the Ministry of Forestry as one of the most promising pilot projects for creating and testing the organizational and carbon accounting structures required for a national REDD program. After a 1-year scoping phase, this program is now developing the next 5-year development plan.



## Other activities: Visits and Key Meetings



Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans, Environment and Science, Claudia McMurray, visiting the Wehea orangutan site in East Kalimantan

- i) **Assistant Secretary of State Visit** - Claudia McMurray, Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans, Environment and Science, and a delegation from USAID and the US Embassy in Jakarta visited the Wehea orangutan site in East Kalimantan on July 26-29, 2007.

East Kalimantan, with myriad extractive industries such as logging, palm oil and paper plantation development, mining and oil extraction, provided an excellent location to demonstrate the scale of the challenges that Indonesia's forests and species like orangutans face. Wehea offered an example of the feasibility of conservation success in Indonesia.

Through a fly over, Ms. McMurray witnessed the devastating scale of oil palm development. At the site she met with local Dyaks and was informed of the value placed on the area by them. This area represents one of the last strongholds for their way of life. The local communities patrol the area and report any illegal activity to the police who are formally charged with enforcing the area. Through community patrolling the area has been free of illegal logging since 2004. She also participated in discussions on the role of mechanisms like carbon and debt for nature swaps, the need to engage both the government and private sector in the US on oil palm and timber issues, the necessity to coordinate illegal logging abatement efforts in a consolidated way with both the Indonesian and Chinese governments at the table, and the importance of Indonesia's forests for their values, including biodiversity and the social and economic importance that they represent to Indonesia and its people.

- ii) **Charge d’Affairs Visit** – On May 23, 2007, the US Embassy Indonesia Charge d’Affairs, John Heffern, the USAID Indonesia Mission Director, William Frej, and 16 other guests arrived in Pangkalan Bun, Central Kalimantan to visit Tanjung Puting National Park and monitor the impact that US government funding has had on protecting orangutan and their habitat. The trip coincided with the kick off of the OCSP project. The OCSP program was introduced to the Bupati of Kotawaringin Barat, Drs. H. Sukirman, and the Governor of Central Kalimantan, Teras Narang.



Charge d’Affairs John Heffern and his wife Libby are greeted by government officials and traditional dancers upon their arrival

- iii) **Australian delegation to Tanjung Puting** - OCSP arranged for a delegation from AusAid to visit Tanjung Puting National Park from November 10-11, 2007. This high level group visited peatland projects in Central Kalimantan to begin identification of potential pilot projects that demonstrate the effectiveness of reducing deforestation; improve local forestry governance; and prevent, monitor and suppress peat land fires.

The trip focused on demonstrating the range of threats to forests and possible solutions, including the impacts of irrigation canals and fire damage to Tanjung Puting’s fragile peat ecosystem. OCSP partners OFI and WE also demonstrated how agricultural and reforestation approaches can be used help mitigate the impacts of these threats.

This trip was intended to provide lessons and improve the understanding of the Australian Government, which had recently made a commitment of AU\$100 million to support efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and promote sustainable forest management in Indonesia. Peat lands are made up of un-decomposed plant materials and store large quantities of carbon. As a result, fires in peat lands release large amounts of greenhouse gases. The funding is part of the Australian Government’s \$200 million Global Initiative on Forests and Climate.



Dr. Birute Mary Galdikas providing a briefing to the Australian government delegation at Tanjung Puting



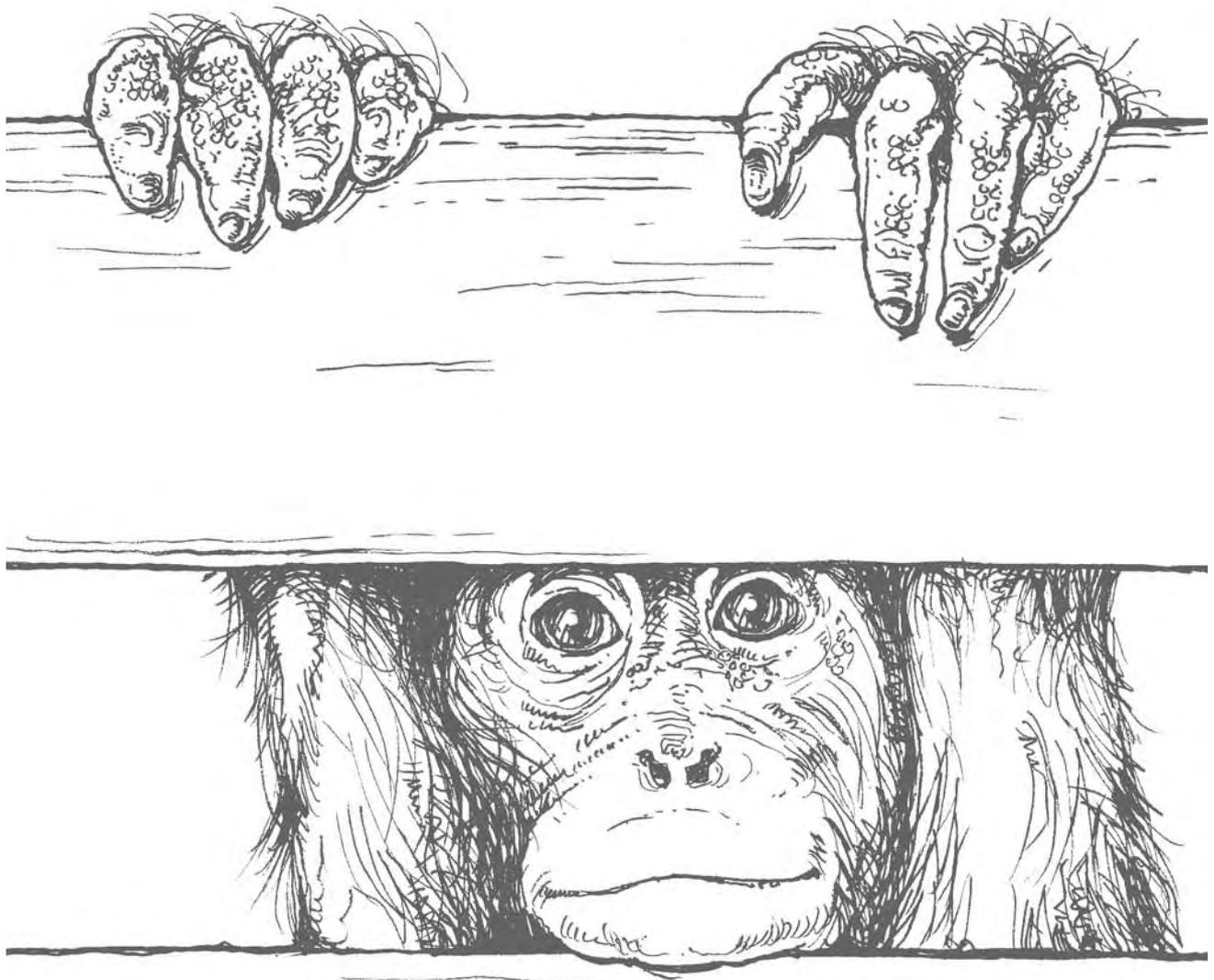
A worker from the Sibolangit Quarantine Center talks to members of the US Congressional staff delegation (first and fourth from left) and Sean Stein (second from left), the US Consular General for North Sumatra



Dr. Birute Mary Galdikas and the Minister of Forestry, M. S. Kaban

iv) **Congressional Staff Delegation to Sibolangit Quarantine Center, North Sumatra** – On August 26, 2008 a US Congressional staff delegation made up of Craig Higgins, Steve Marchese of the US congress. and USG representatives Dorothy Rayburn of State Dept, Chris Edwards of US Embassy Jakarta, Sean Stein, US Consular General, North Sumatra and Suzanne Billharz of USAID visited the SOCP Quarantine Site in Sibolangit, N. Sumatra. A presentation was made to the group by the OCSP COP on challenges facing orangutans and their habitat in Indonesia and by the Sumatra Regional Coordinator on OCSP progress to date in Sumatra. The delegation then toured the quarantine site, in which former captive orangutans are treated for any medical illnesses and held in quarantine before they are transported and released back into the forest at Bukit Tigapuluh National Park in Riau and Jambi Provinces.

v) **Dr. Birute Mary Galdikas of OFI meets with Minister of Forestry** - At the end of August 2007, Dr. Birute Mary Galdikas met separately with the Minister of the Forestry, M.S. Kaban, and the Minister of the Environment, Ir. Rachmat Witoelar, to discuss various topics relating to orangutans, palm oil plantations, and Tanjung Puting National Park. Dr. Galdikas shared the proposed Land Use Plan (Rencana Tata Ruang Wilayah Propinsi or RTRWP) for the province of Central Kalimantan. The plan allocates 4 million ha of forest to the planting of palm oil over the next few years. She went on to describe how 3,000 ha of palm oil had already been planted within the Tanjung Puting National Park and that the proposed fifteen percent reduction of that park threatened the existence of almost 1,000 wild orangutans. By the end of the meetings, the Ministers both vowed to help prevent the proposed Land Use Plan from taking effect and would fight against any diminishment of Tanjung National Park. Minister Kaban went on to say that he planned to study Dr. Galdikas' book *Great Ape Odyssey* to learn more about the great apes.





## **Program Management**

# Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

### **General achievements**

Through forums, working groups and round tables, OCSP has significantly improved cooperation and collaboration between parties working on orangutan conservation. With the development of action plans at the national level and in focus areas (including several timber concessions), OCSP has gained improved management practices in regions where there are orangutans. It has taken the lead in the production of spatial plans to ensure that orangutan habitat is marked for conservation, and it has improved enforcement of wildlife laws by the development of community enforcement working groups and training programs.

### **Constraints and future challenges**

OCSP has been unable to partner with some concessionaires who lease areas that overlap with orangutan habitat. Several attempts have been made to do this but these have been unsuccessful because examination of these concessionaires has not met USAID due diligence standards for forming partnerships.

To date, OCSP communications and outreach activities have focused mainly at the local level because of the immediate requirement to inform villagers about the need for orangutan conservation. However, a national communication strategy has been prepared and this will become the focus of future OCSP activities.

A significant constraint in forming orangutan forums and working groups is that there are already many such groups in Indonesia. Consequently, individuals who may want to participate find themselves quickly over-committed - there are simply not enough qualified people to staff such organizations on a voluntary basis. The challenge is to find sustainable finance to support small directorates of skilled administrators dedicated to ensuring that OCSP facilitated forums are well run. However, fundraising in the global financial environment has proven to be difficult.

Development of partnerships through the application of grants via the RFA process is a sensible approach because it challenges potential grantees to offer their own solutions to assist orangutan conservation. Arguably, this should prove the best approach as applicants should best be able to determine conservation interventions that correspond to their capacities. In reality this did not happen. Grantees frequently strayed off course, which sometimes resulted in interventions that had little impact on orangutan conservation in the time frame of the project. Furthermore, because of the flexibility grants provide to NGOs to steer their own course, the ability of OCSP staff to supervise and re-direct grantees proved to be limited. The short period of most grants means that almost all were nearly completed before there is sufficient information to evaluate whether they have been successful.



The OCSP Team at the March Retreat

Given the short period of OCSP implementation, almost all OCSP initiatives have to be handed over to other organizations or individuals as soon as possible to make them sustainable. This takes time and the need for OCSP staff to continue to facilitate some of its forums and working groups has taken longer than was expected.

## Pathway for long-term impact

An essential aspect of achieving long-term impact is to establish a professional multi-stakeholder orangutan forum at national and regional levels and then have these forums establish funding mechanisms that generate long-term finance. Through this, the forums will be able to both establish their own directorates, and to fund and stimulate selected orangutan conservation projects. The private sector needs to be actively involved in these forums with high-profile engagement in orangutan conservation.

Associated with these forums is the need to establish multi-stakeholder 'land councils' in landscapes that hold key orangutan populations. These land councils should develop rational processes and activities that improve orangutan conservation and sustainable natural resource management at the planning and implementation stage, so that they meet best management practices.

For OCSP, a proportion of funding going forward should be allocated to sustain the orangutan forum and to more forcibly assist in the implementation of very specific activities from the action plans that OCSP facilitated. Considerably more resources should be provided to assist local governments to plan spatially for forests and orangutan. This may mean development of didactic spatial planning protocols and providing a group of integrated spatial planners to train government and other staff in those districts that have orangutans.



**TABLE 1: SUMMARY OF PROGRESS TOWARDS PMP INDICATORS**

PMP Indicator	Project Start to Now Target
<b>1. IMPROVED MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION OF STRATEGIC WILD ORANGUTAN POPULATIONS AND THEIR HABITAT</b>	
Overall Impact 1: Number of hectares of priority orangutan habitat that are under improved management	100,000 (Sum.) 500,000 (Kal.)
1.1 – Number of local spatial plans recognizing orangutan areas	Village: 7 District: 2 Province: 2
1.2 – Number of collaborative initiatives or management practice plans developed	7
1.3 – Percentage of priority orangutan habitat in Berau East Kutai where forest loss has been reduced and resultant number of hectares saved	East Kutai/ Berau -25% Reducing the annual baseline loss 3,460 hectares saved
1.4 – Percentage of priority orangutan habitat in Tanjung Puting, where forest loss has been reduced and resultant number of hectares saved	Tanjung Puting -60% Reducing the annual baseline loss 5,140 hectares saved
1.5 – Percentage of priority orangutan habitat in a large multifunctional landscape in West Kalimantan, where forest loss has been reduced and resultant number of hectares saved	Multifunctional landscape – 10% Reducing the annual baseline from 1,350 hectares saved
<b>2. IMPROVED ENFORCEMENT OF LAWS AND REGULATIONS THAT COMBAT HABITAT DESTRUCTION AND OTHER THREATS TO WILD ORANGUTAN POPULATIONS</b>	
Overall Impact: Number of hunting and wildlife trade violations in and around priority conservation sites that are prosecuted under Indonesian law	3
2.1 – Number of relevant laws that are reviewed, redrafted and presented to government	1
2.2 – Number of local jurisdictions trained in law enforcement	9
2.3 – Number of local entities that support enforcement of orangutan habitat	6
<b>3. PARTNERSHIPS THAT IMPROVE COORDINATION AND LIAISON AMONG ALL PARTNERS ENGAGED IN CONSERVATION OF WILD ORANGUTAN POPULATIONS</b>	
Overall Impact: Number of forums, working groups, private sector and government partnerships in place that demonstrably improve coordination and collaboration	15
3.1 – Number of forums created to coordinate national orangutan conservation policy and practice	4
3.2 – Number of issue related regional, local and community working groups established	5
3.3 – Number of Private sector partnerships established	9

Project Start to Now Actual	Life of Project Target	% of Project Start to Now Target Reached
104,000 (Sum.) 511,423 (Kal.)	150,000 (Sum.) 800,000 (Kal.)	104% (Sum.) 102% (Kal.)
Village: 7 District: 6 Province: 1	Village: 12 District: 5 Province: 3	Village: 100% District: 300% Province: 50%
2	10	29%
TBD	East Kutai/ Berau -45% Reducing the annual baseline loss 9,400 hectares saved	
TBD	Tanjung Puting -70% Reducing the annual baseline loss 9,760 hectares saved	
TBD	Multifunctional landscape – 15% Reducing the annual baseline from 3,825 hectares saved	
0	5	0%
	2	0
8	17	89%
2	10	33%
21	25	140%
4	7	100%
9	10	180%
10	12	100%

**TABLE I: SUMMARY OF PROGRESS TOWARDS PMP INDICATORS** (continued)

PMP Indicator	Project Start to Now Target
<b>4. IMPROVED OUTREACH THAT BUILDS COMMITMENT AND SUPPORT FOR ORANGUTAN CONSERVATION</b>	
Overall Impact: Percentage of OCSP target stakeholders demonstrating support for orangutan conservation efforts	10%
4.1 – Time and articles in media devoted to conservation of orangutan and their habitat (a: radio airtime in hours, b: newspaper articles, c: TV airtime in minutes)	a – 10 b – 150 c – 30
4.2 – Percentage of relevant stakeholders aware of OCSP	65%
4.3 – Use of OCSP web-site and affiliated sites and mail lists	1,000 hits 250 visits 100 mail recipients
4.4 – Percentage of survey respondents from target audiences aware of campaign issues	30%
4.5 – Number of participants in exchanges and programs visits	50
4.6 – Number of studies utilized in campaigns on impact of plantation development on orangutan populations	2
<b>5. SUSTAINABLE FINANCING</b>	
Overall Impact: Amount of funds raised	\$2 million
5.1 – Number of public and private sector donors and NGOs contributing new financing	10

**Table Notes:**

Overall Impact In Kalimantan: 112,000 ha. in Ketapang: 18,423 ha. in Tanjung Puting: 381,000 ha. in Berau and Wehea. Kalimantan: HCVF assessment in Ketapang West Kalimantan = 112,000 ha. Tanjung Puting -- community development in 16 villages, new guard post for patrolling, fire suppression and response = 18,423. Berau and Wehea, E. Kalimantan -- Mainstreaming orangutan conservation in the management of timber concessions (berau), community development and development of joint secretariat for management (Wehea) = 381,000. In Sumatra: Batang Toru Conservation Action Plan=86,000. Development of 6 Conservation Villages in Sidangkat, North Sumatra = 18,000

1.1: In Sumatra: Pusaka's 6 Model Conservation Villages, 6 districts of Tapsel, Taput, Tapteng, Karo, Pakpak Bharat, Langkat; 1 province of North Sumatera. In Kalimantan: Sekonyer Village.

1.2: In Sumatra: Working group of West Batang Toru Forest Black Actionable Plan and working group of Unitary Spatial Plan.

2.2: In Sumatra: Wildlife Conservation Society training in Sumatera. In West Kalimantan: 1 Provincial Office of the Directorate of Forest Protection and Nature Conservation with the Ministry of Forestry (BKSDA), 4 NP, 1 Police Officer (Province and District), 1 Forestry Officer (Province & District).

2.3: In Sumatra: Coalition of Wildlife Trade Monitoring (KPSL) and Coalition of Forest Crime Monitoring (KPHSU)

Overall Impact 3: In Sumatra: round table meeting of key actors in WBTFB, KPSL, KPHSU, Alliance of Spatial Planning Change in North Sumatera; and working group of Unitary Spatial Plan.

3.1: 4 – Regional Action Plan Forums in West Kalimantan, East Kalimantan, Central Kalimantan and North Sumatra established

3.2: 9 – In Sumatra: 1 Collaborative Management in WBTFB, 1 Spatial Planning forum, and 2 Enforcement of Wildlife and Forest Crime. In West Kalimantan: 1 on Oil Palm-HCVF and BMP. 4 Communications Forums -- communications task force for i) Northern Sumatra for Sumut and Aceh, ii) West Kalimantan, iii) Central Kalimantan, and iv) East Kalimantan

Project Start to Now Actual	Life of Project Target	% of Project Start to Now Target Reached
TBD	60%	
a- 81 b-210 c-15	a – 15 b – 250 c – 50	a – 810% b – 140% c – 15
TBD	90%	
14,134 hits 1,042 visits 217 Mail list recipients	1,500 hits 500 visits 150 mail recipients	1413% hits 417%v isits 217% mail recipients
TBD	60%	
34	75	68
1	3	50%
\$1,500,000	\$3 million	75%
31	15	310%

3.3: 10 – PD Yudha Oil Palm Estate East Kalimantan; Sinar Mas (SHJ) and Sumalindo (SHK) Timber plantations in East Kalimantan -- both for orangutan surveys and SHJ accepted management recommendations; SBK and SJM of the Alas Kasuma Logging Group and PT Smart for HCVF assessments in West Kalimantan, Macquarie Bank for development of Sungai Putri as an avoided deforestation site, Infinite Earth for Seruyan Forests abutting Tanjung Puting National Park to develop as an avoided deforestation site, the TNK private sector corridor Forum in East Kalimantan, Agen Court Mining participation in the Batang Toru Action plan development and agreement to follow its recommendations

4.1 TV interview with Erik Meijaard on Al Jazeera tv (15) mins. 8 hours of Promedia Radio programs. 150 COP news articles and 70 others.

4.3 OCSP Group Mailing List – 23 members Orangutan Action Plan Group Mailing List – 105 members, OCSP Grant Group Mailing List – 78 members Orangutan Forum Core Team mailing list - 11 members

4.5 Trips to Tanjung Puting with DCM, Wehea with State Dept. OES, USFS to West Kalimantan, Congressional Staff Delegation to Sibolangit, N. Sumatra

4.6 Erik Meijaard's economic analysis of potential revenues from oil palm development presently scheduled within Kalimantan vs. potential carbon offset revenue.

5.1 The Nature Conservancy contribution to implementation of Orangutan Action Plan. Contribution of government, NGOs and private sector to the Regional Action Plan Meetings (21 institutions). Arcus Foundation support for Danau Sentarum National Park as directed by OCSP Regional Coordinator; Match contribution from Grantees organizations (8) 45% of 879,103.

## Grants Management

OCSP is charged with implementing a Grants Program totaling \$2,225,000 over the life of the project. The grants will be provided to non-governmental organizations (NGOs) which may include international, national or indigenous organizations.

OCSP received 33 proposals in response to RFAs put out on October 2007. Following review and negotiation, 11 proposals were approved by USAID. Nine grant agreements have been signed since February 25, 2008 and initial disbursement has been made to each of them. Disbursement to each grantee has been made up to 40% of the total budget approved based on a first deliverable of work plan and or inception report. The total amount of grant funding disbursed as of July 1 equaled \$879,103. Below is the summary of the grants.

**TABLE 2: APPROVED GRANTS**

Grantee	Location	Brief Description	Dates	US\$ Amount	Matching Fund (US\$)
<b>Prime Grantee:</b> Orangutan Foundation International (OFI)	Central Kalimantan	To provide temporary funding to ensure continuity of OFI activities in orangutan habitat conservation and community development in the area in and around Tanjung Puting National Park in Central Kalimantan	7/03/07 - 8/03/07	13,834	2,245 (17%)
<b>Prime Grantee:</b> World Education, Inc. (WE)  <b>Partner:</b> Orangutan Foundation International (OFI)	Central Kalimantan	To provide temporary funding to ensure continuity of OFI activities in orangutan habitat conservation and community development in the area in and around Tanjung Puting National Park in Central Kalimantan.	8/01/07 - 1/31/08	84,242	26,681 (32%)
<b>Prime Grantee:</b> World Education, Inc. (WE)  <b>Partner:</b> The Nature Conservancy (TNC)	East Kalimantan	Will work in the Berau and East Kutai Districts of East Kalimantan in order to (1) achieve reduction in the level of threat to the selected orangutan populations; (2) establish site-level strategies with multi-stakeholder input that builds momentum and greater constituencies to support orangutan conservation following the end of the project; (3) establish networks to support improved information sharing, co-management, law enforcement and other aspects of conservation efforts at program sites; and (4) put in place sustainable financing schemes for long-term orangutan conservation at program sites.	2/20/08 - 5/20/09	102,987	47,560 (46%)

**TABLE 2: APPROVED GRANTS** (continued)

Grantee	Location	Brief Description	Dates	US\$ Amount	Matching Fund (US\$)
<p><b>Prime Grantee:</b> World Education, Inc. (WE)</p> <p><b>Partner:</b> 1. Orangutan Foundation International (OFI)</p>	Central Kalimantan	WE together with OFI will work in Tanjung Puting National Park to (1) ensure that multi-stakeholder inputs concerning park boundaries are included in the spatial planning map; (2) increase the efficiency of patrols; (3) strengthen local organizations so that they can balance village economic planning activities with conservation concerns; (4) develop sustainable agriculture as a means to provide alternative income generating opportunities and to reduce the burning of forests; (5) improve the reporting of forest crimes; and (6) reduce forest fires.	2/20/08 - 5/20/09	350,000	104,800 (30%)
<p><b>Prime Grantee:</b> Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)</p> <p><b>Partner:</b> 1. Association of Journalists of Indonesia (AJI)</p>	National, Sumatra	WCS will undertake three activities: (1) addressing national law and policy; (2) promoting increased effectiveness of regional law enforcement; and (3) improving the ability of national and regional media to understand orangutan conservation issues	2/25/08 - 5/24/09	119,737	96,756 (81%)
<p><b>Prime Grantee:</b> Yayasan Titian</p> <p><b>Partners:</b> 1. ICEL 2. Riak Bumi</p>	West Kalimantan	Yayasan Titian in Kalimantan will (1) conduct investigation, mapping the cases and actors involved in both orangutan trade and illegal logging inside its habitat, (2) conduct monitoring on the progress of handling the cases reported, (3) assist capacity building of law enforcers and Community Groups	2/25/08 - 5/25/09	79,996	40,182 (50%)
<p><b>Prime Grantee:</b> Fauna &amp; Flora International</p> <p><b>Partners:</b> 1. Orangutan Foundation – UK 2. Yayasan Orangutan Indonesia (YAYORIN) 3. Sekala 4. Global Environment Centre</p>	West and Central Kalimantan	FFI will reduce the level of threats to orangutans in the trans-boundary landscape of Sungai Putri – Bukit Perai – Arut Belantikan) through reduction of deforestation and degradation of orangutan habitat.	2/25/08 - 5/25/09	480,000	181,628 (38%)

**TABLE 2: APPROVED GRANTS** (continued)

Grantee	Location	Brief Description	Dates	US\$ Amount	Matching Fund (US\$)
<p><b>Prime Grantee:</b> FIELD Indonesia</p> <p><b>Partners:</b> 1. Pemberdayaan Ikonomi Lingkungan Rakyat (PEKAT) 2. Penguatan Rakyat Pedesaan (PARAS) Foundation</p>	Northern Sumatra	Together, these foundation programs establish the community capacities necessary for reduction of threats to habitat and sustainable biodiversity conservation. The end result will be models (NAD and North Sumatra) for conservation villages that will be replicable at a meaningful scale and capable of reducing or eliminating the threats to orangutan and their habitats	3/27/08 - 6/02/09	199,935	15,520 (8%)
<p><b>Prime Grantee:</b> Yayasan Ekosistem Lestari</p> <p><b>Partner:</b> 1. RARE</p>	North Sumatra and Nangro Aceh Darussalam (NAD)	YEL intends to expand its mobile unit and outreach activities around three core areas of activities	2/25/08 - 5/25/09	145,545	220,605 (152%)
<p><b>Prime Grantee:</b> Yayasan Ekosistem Lestari</p> <p><b>Partners:</b> 1. Yayasan Pusaka Indonesia 2. Flora &amp; Fauna International (FFI) 3. Yayasan Ekowisata Sumatra 4. Yayasan Samoedra</p>	North Sumatra	YEL intends to mainstream the conservation needs of remaining orangutan populations outside of any protected area network into spatial planning processes through a participatory multi-stakeholder approach	1/07/08 - 6/30/09	198,925	158,056 (79%)
<p><b>Prime Grantee:</b> Yayasan Pusaka Indonesia</p> <p><b>Partners:</b> 1. Walhi Sumatera Utara 2. Yayasan Ekowisata Sumatera 3. YEL</p>	Northern Sumatra, Aceh	Yayasan Pusaka Indonesia in Northern Sumatra to (1) select model conservation villages and the villagers to participate in conservation activities related to protection of orangutan and its habitat, (2) develop model conservation villages to protect and conserve orangutan and its habitat, (3) foster the establishment of a supporting community of stakeholders to participate in forest planning and conservation implementation	4/01/08 - 6/30/09	191,592	40,597 (21%)

**TABLE 2: APPROVED GRANTS** (continued)

Grantee	Location	Brief Description	Dates	US\$ Amount	Matching Fund (US\$)
<p><b>Prime Grantee:</b> Promedia</p> <p><b>Partner:</b> I. Association of Journalists of Jakarta (AJI)</p>	National	ProMedia intends to (1) conduct a workshop with multi stakeholders within the orangutan conservation community to determine messaging and medium for a communications campaign, (2) conduct journalism training, (3) produce broadcast media and find placement within best suited print, electronic, and/or audio/visual medium(4) conduct print and electronic media training and analysis. DAI/OCSP will help link ProMedia with other grantees and members of the Indonesian orangutan conservation community to ensure that they have the right content for their trainings and productions	4/01/08 - 3/30/09	200,000	37,614 (19%)
<p><b>Prime Grantee:</b> Yayasan Titian</p> <p><b>Partner:</b> I. AKAR</p>	Central and East Kalimantan	Yayasan Titian in Kalimantan will (1) conduct investigation and map key actors involved in both orangutan trade and illegal logging inside its habitat in Central and East Kalimantan, (2) develop a chronology of cases pending and monitor the progress of these cases through the legal system, (3) develop and maintain links to regional enforcement networks, and (4) build the capacity of law enforcement official and community groups to carry out enforcement activities.	10/16/08 - 6/30/09	47,970	17,938 (37%)
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$2,214,419</b>	<b>990,182 (45%)</b>
<b>Total Amount disbursed as of 30/09/08</b>				<b>879,103</b>	<b>401,141</b>





**Annex**

KEYNOTE ADDRESS  
**DR. SUSILO BAMBANG YUDHOYONO**  
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA

AT THE  
LAUNCH OF THE STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN FOR NATIONAL  
CONSERVATION OF ORANGUTANS  
AYODYA HOTEL, BALI  
10 DECEMBER 2007

*Bismillahirrahmanirrahim*  
*Ass Wr Wb*

Excellencies,  
Distinguished guests,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am delighted to be here today, and even more delighted that such a large and vibrant crowd has also gathered here today. I feel heartened by the fact that there is such strong support for our efforts to save one of the most charismatic yet endangered wildlife, the Orangutan.

It is no coincidence that this event is being launched on the sideline of a critical UN Conference on Climate Change. The fate of the orangutans is a subject that goes straight to the heart of sustainable forestry. And sustainable forestry, as we all know, goes straight into the heart of carbon sinks, which is the only way we can reabsorb the carbon dioxides in the our atmosphere that is causing global warming.

I am sure the Orangutan needs no further introduction. These great red apes are intelligent, friendly, and beloved by many. They are the headline stars of the wildlife world. They have become a world renowned icon of healthy rainforests, and in fact they have become as identical to rainforests. They have also become a symbol for Indonesia and our lush biodiversity.

Sadly, today the Orangutan is endangered, and this is largely because their homes, the forests, are shrinking. An estimated 1000 orangutan were killed in 2006 because of fires and habitat loss. And in the last 35 years as many as 50,000 orangutans are estimated to have been lost as their habitat shrunk. If this continues, these majestic creatures will likely face extinction by 2050.

The survival of the orangutan is inextricably linked to the survival of its natural habitat : the rainforests.

That is why I am pleased to be here among you today, to announce the adoption of Indonesia's Strategy and Action Plan for National Conservation of Orangutans and three additional policy documents, that will serve as a blueprint for our efforts to save some of our most exotic but endangered wildlife: the Orangutan, the Sumatran Rhino, the Sumatran Tiger, and the Asian Elephant. The Orangutan action plan formally endorses Indonesia's commitment to Orangutan conservation as expressed in 2005 when Indonesia signed the Kinshasa Declaration on the Protection of Great Apes in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

This Action Plan is the first time that clear actionable measures are formulated, with defined roles and responsibilities for the government, NGOs, and corporate sectors. So the implementation of this Plan will involve all stakeholders, creating a robust coalition in the fight to protect Orangutans and other endangered species. A core target of this plan is to stabilize Orangutan population and habitat from now until 2017.

A key understanding that stems from this Action Plan is that to save Orangutans, we must save the forests. And by saving, regenerating, and sustainably managing forests, we are also doing our part in reducing global greenhouse gas emissions, while contributing to sustainable economic development of Indonesia. Successful orangutan conservation is the symbol of responsible management of the earth's resources.

I can think of no reason to ignore such compelling evidence on the importance of saving our forests, and supporting countries who want to protect their forests. We now know that forest loss worldwide not only kills the rich biodiversity within, but also becomes the source of 20% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions. It also has devastating impacts on indigenous communities whose livelihood have been dependant on forests in a sustainable way for centuries.

This is why Indonesia has been actively seeking and implementing ways to ensure our forest preservation.

Indonesia, together with the government of Malaysia and the government of Brunei Darussalam, have initiated the Heart of Borneo, a joint conservation program to preserve a vast forest area of 2 million hectares on the island of Borneo. We have also initiated a high level meeting of Tropical Rainforest Countries in the sidelines of the UN High Level Event on Climate Change last September, where 11 tropical rainforest nations came together to discuss ways to ensure that forest preservation gains support and incentive from the international community.

Meanwhile, here at home, major Indonesian Women's Organizations launched a "Plant 10 Million Trees" Initiative, to be implemented throughout all 33 provinces of Indonesia, with seedlings provided for free from the government. The Ministry of Forestry has launched the Indonesia Forest Climate Alliance, helping us prepare for and pilot forest carbon projects and implement Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD) in Indonesia. And of course, there is the Orangutan Conservation Action Plan.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to invite everyone in this audience to think of ways to preserve and expand the forests of the world. Whether you are from the government sector, non-government organizations, corporate entities, or even none of the above, there is always a way to promote forest preservation for the orangutans, and for the world.

I wish to thank the United States Government, the Government of Australia, and The Nature Conservancy for your active cooperation and support for our efforts to protect orangutans. We look forward to working with you on the implementation of the Action Plan and on other forest management issues.

For this is a time where all these initiatives have new hope for success. Payments for avoided deforestation, within the carbon market, can for the first

time provide an economically competitive alternative to forest conversion. The carbon market value of intact forests can outweigh the most profitable agro-industrial forest developments. The Orangutan Conservation Action Plan itself points the way to locking 700 million tons of carbon dioxide in our forests and soils. This measure of climate protection may be worth billions of dollars on the international carbon market. Certainly the great world heritage of our Orangutan forests deserves such an investment. And such incentives are precisely what Indonesia is pushing for at the UNFCCC conference as we speak.

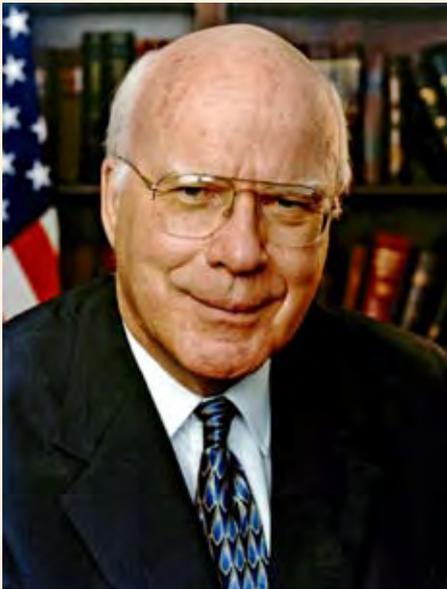
It is perhaps no coincidence that the name "Orangutan" literally means "Man of the Forest". The Orangutan is the leading man and icon of what is at stake in the way we care for our forests. The Orangutan and its fate brings us closer to the reality of the effects of global warming, and the opportunities that forests provide to mitigate it.

If I may draw an analogy, the polar bear represents the problem of melting ice-caps, where there is little we can directly do to help. The Orangutan represents a solution, an interlinked process in which we stop deforestation, save endangered forest wildlife, store greenhouse gas emissions. If we do all this right, we will ultimately save polar bears and the entire earth.

I thank you.

**DR. SUSILO BAMBANG YUDHOYONO**  
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA





#### FOREST CONSERVATION IN INDONESIA

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I want to take this opportunity to commend Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono for his statements on December 10, 2007, at the Bali Climate Conference, concerning the Ministry of Forestry's "Strategy and Action Plan for National Conservation of Orangutans."

The President said "the survival of the orangutan is inextricably linked to the survival of its natural habitat: the rainforests... [T]o save orangutans we must save the forests. And by saving, regenerating, and sustainably managing forests, we are also doing our part in reducing global greenhouse gas emissions, while contributing to sustainable economic development of Indonesia. Successful orangutan conservation is the symbol of responsible management of the earth's resources."

**President Yudhoyono's eloquent words represent an important recognition by the Indonesian Government that preserving orangutan habitat is an environmental imperative, not only to protect this magnificent species from extinction but to help reduce carbon emissions resulting from the destruction of Indonesia's forests.**

A decade ago I included funds in the Foreign Operations Act to support programs administered by the U.S. Agency for International Develop-

ment to protect the orangutan. Those initial funds have evolved into an ongoing program implemented through grants to non-governmental organizations and for training Indonesian police, and has begun to show encouraging results. Not only are the entities involved in this project working more cooperatively together, the Indonesian Government is taking steps to curb illegal logging which poses the greatest threat to the orangutan's survival.

**The orangutan's fate is far from certain. Far more needs to be done to protect the forests of Borneo and Sumatra where these great apes live. But by recognizing the opportunities this challenge presents for Indonesia and the world, President Yudhoyono has done a great service to this effort and gives us hope that the orangutan can be saved.**

I ask unanimously to have an article in the Telegraph about President Yudhoyono's announcement of Indonesia's new Strategy and Action Plan printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the record, as follows:

[From the Daily Telegraph, Dec. 28, 2007]

#### INDONESIA PLANTS TREES TO SAVE ORANGUTANS

(By Ian Wood)

At the Bali climate summit, Indonesia announced a new scheme aimed at protecting its orangutan population.

The plight of the orangutan, driven out because of deforestation and degradation of its rainforest home, has become a potent symbol of the battle to save the forests.

The most recent survey of wild orangutans estimates that there are about 7000 remaining in Sumatra, and about 55,000 in Borneo. However the combined pressures of palm oil, logging and forest fires are having a catastrophic effect on many areas.

Indonesian president Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono said at the launch of the project: "In the last 35 years about 50,000 orangutans are estimated to have been lost as their habitats shrank. If this continues, this majestic creature will likely face extinction by 2050. The fate of the orangutan is a subject that goes to the heart of sustainable forests... to save the orangutan we have to save the forest."

For anyone with an interest in protecting Indonesian rainforests these have to be welcome words.

The action plan has taken nearly three years to develop and has included various NGO's and the Indonesian forestry ministry. The American group The Nature Conservancy has represented the coalition of NGO's and has also pledged \$1 million to support the plan. The bold target of the project is to save huge areas of forest scheduled for conversion to palm oil.

"One million hectares of planned forest conversion projects are in orangutan habitat," said Rili Djohani, director of The Nature Conservancy's Indonesia program.

"Setting aside these forests is an important step for Indonesia to sustainably manage and protect its natural resources. It benefits both local people and wildlife while making a major contribution towards reducing global carbon emissions."

Indonesia has made some progress in enforcing forest laws over the last few years and if this plan can be implemented it would be a landmark in Indonesian forest protection.

Dr. Erik Meijaard, a senior scientist with The Nature Conservancy, said: "It could lead to 9,800 orangutans being saved and prevent 700 million tons of carbon from being released."

Although Indonesia has already destroyed huge swathes of rainforest, it still has over 100 million acres left. Both scientists and Indonesian officials hope that the emerging carbon market could provide funds to protect important areas.

"Forest conservation can provide economic benefits for a very long time," said Dr. Meijaard. "If payments for avoided deforestation become an official mechanism in global climate agreements, then carbon buyers will likely compensate Indonesia for its forest protection. Protecting the orangutan will then lead to increased economic development in the country. Such a triple-win situation is not a dream. With some political will, it can soon be reality."

The other target of the project is to return orangutans housed in rehabilitation centres to the forest by 2015. There are currently over 1000 orangutan housed in care centres with more arriving on a regular basis. The majority are ready to be returned to the wild now but there are simply not enough suitable release sites. If carbon trading could achieve the aims of this plan, then these great apes could return to the forests where they belong.





[www.theworldiswatching.info](http://www.theworldiswatching.info)

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