

## Capacity Building: The National Council on Climate Change Indonesia

The Government of Indonesia (GOI) has made a serious commitment to address climate change, reflecting its status as the world's third largest emitter of greenhouse gases (GHG). Its emissions are mainly from deforestation and forest fires and the GOI has recently commissioned the development of a low carbon growth strategy for the nation. It has also established the National Council on Climate Change (DNPI) including seven working groups chaired by the President, Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono. DNPI is supported by a secretariat responsible for capacity building and inter agency communication.



An AusAID funded project aiming to strengthen capacity for Indonesia to more effectively address climate change has commenced following a recent inception meeting (October 2009). The Monash Sustainability Institute's (MSI's) Dr Paul McShane met with the Chair of the Secretariat of DNPI, Dr Agus Purnomo and the DNPI Co-ordinator of Capacity Building, Dr Agus Supangat, at their offices in Jakarta. He also met with AusAID's Mr Dan Heldon and Mr Tim Jessup who are responsible for directing climate change programs in Indonesia.

The DNPI project builds on current projects "Developing integrated catchment management for sustainable water use in response to climate change" in Indonesia, Viet Nam and India. Through MSI, DNPI has outlined its needs to strengthen capacity for climate change policy development at secretariat and working group level. The activities targeted outcomes include:

- strengthening capacity of the working groups and of the secretariat to co-ordinate and guide activities for climate change policy development and implementation (including national systems for data collection and verification);
- agreed methodologies and demonstrable understanding of monitoring and data collection/data quality assurance and control (e.g. GHG inventories, emissions trading);
- agreed methodologies and legislative approaches on emissions trading including accession issues;
- unified understanding of the technical issues applicable to climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation, carbon accounting, climate science, and reduced deforestation and forest degradation (REDD) (including understanding of current issues applicable to the Kalimantan Forest and Climate Partnership);
- improved government to government communication including improved relationships among key government agencies such as the Ministry of Forestry and the Ministry of Environment;
- enduring relationships with experts at Monash University and DNPI working group participants (Chairs) and the DNPI secretariat reinforcing a shared commitment to effective climate change policy development and application.

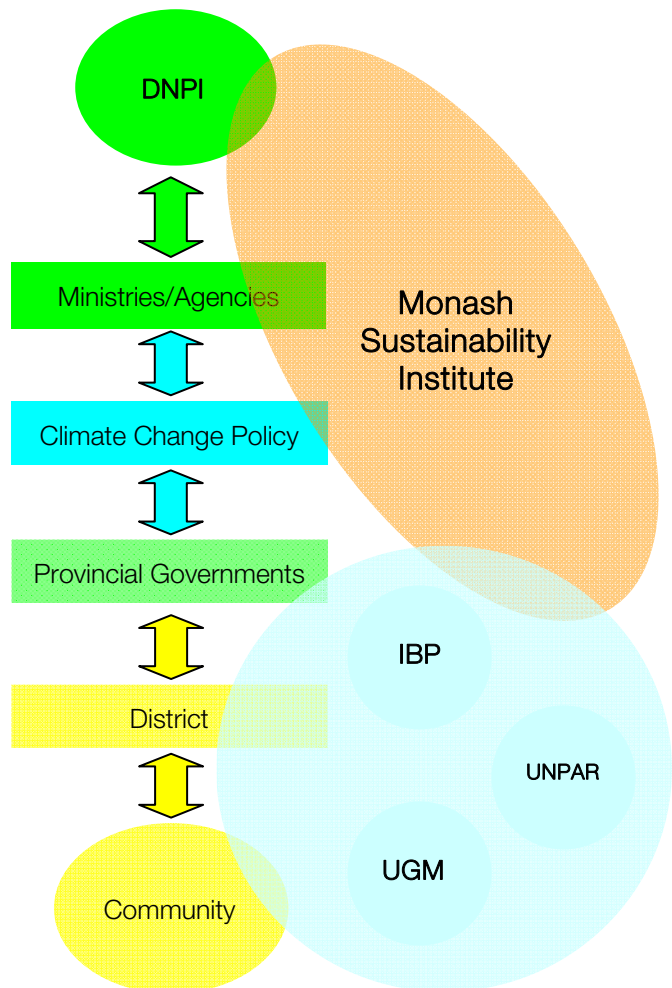


MSI is also collaborating with Indonesian universities in an interdisciplinary approach to examine climate change policy development and application. The universities, particularly the Bogor Agriculture University (IPB), the University of Gadjah Mada (UGM), and the University of Palangka Raya (UNPAR), have expertise in economic modelling, forestry, intercultural and religious affairs, hydrology, and climate science (among other disciplines). This, and the collective capacity of Monash University delivered through MSI, provides a strong collaborative approach to addressing challenges such as alternative livelihoods for forest-dependent communities (given the need to reduce deforestation rates in Indonesia).

The top-down approach linking central government agencies through DNPI to develop responsive climate change policy is complemented by a bottom-up approach: working with communities to better understand economic and social drivers of alternative action. This is illustrated below with MSI working at all levels from central government (DNPI) through provincial and district governments to the community.

Opportunities to draw on common themes and approaches in a regional context (ASEAN/APEC) are an important part of Monash's portfolio of climate change projects. Synergies and linkages add knowledge and value to individual projects in Indonesia. Further projects are proposed to develop this regional approach given opportunities (and threats) in the international carbon economy.

There is a need to develop a unified strategic context for extending capability (of Monash University and of counterpart agencies) to address current needs of GOI/DNPI in developing low carbon growth strategies and in adapting to climate change in Indonesia (and in other developing nations in the region).





Monash University has advanced capability in knowledge management. This is particularly useful in directing emerging opportunities in REDD schemes (given their currency in the Indonesian and in the international context). Knowledge management links:

- information systems (e.g. technology, database management);
- relevant services (e.g. in disciplines applicable to REDD);
- knowledge transfer (e.g. through DNPI working groups);
- knowledge uptake (e.g. in applying a low carbon growth plan for Indonesia).

DNPI has identified a number of issues relevant to REDD including:

- financial mechanisms;
- verification and compliance mechanisms;
- taxation arrangements;
- land tenure arrangements;
- regulatory and legal issues;
- governance arrangements;
- carbon accounting (including soil carbon quantification);
- alternative livelihood development;
- international protocols;
- economic and social impact assessment.

Many of these issues are already addressed with relevant expertise in existing agencies (e.g. Ministry of Forestry). However, not all expertise is available to DNPI (because of existing commitments and priorities) and some expertise may be unidentified and/or underdeveloped in some areas. Thus, a comprehensive analysis of existing expertise and availability of appropriate expertise is needed to identify capability gaps and to develop strategies to fill gaps. This direction is strongly supported by DNPI given current fluidity in arrangements with changes to Ministries and agency structures/key personnel (following the recent elections in Indonesia), and of course preparation for Copenhagen and beyond. A strong bilateral relationship established with the Indonesia Australia Forest Carbon Partnership will assist in addressing the challenge of reducing GHG emissions in Indonesia and in Australia. This collaboration is exemplified in the current DNPI/MSI capacity building project.

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