CIFOR-ICRAF Indonesia and partners – Sriwijaya University’s Center of Excellence for Peatland Conservation and Productivity Improvement (CoE PLACE) and the South Sumatra Watershed Forum (Forum DAS Sumsel) – are undertaking Participatory Action Research (PAR) to develop locally accepted and sustainable business models, which will eventually allow communities to generate sustainable incomes from mangrove restoration; strengthen local policies for mangrove restoration; and contribute to national and global mangrove restoration agendas. This research addresses mangrove degradation challenges and community development issues especially in Banyuasin regency, South Sumatra. Supported by Temasek Foundation, Singapore, the action research runs for four years from November 2021 to November 2025.

Objectives

The objectives are to develop and implement mangrove restoration and community-based business models that are locally accepted, ecologically feasible and deliver benefits for local communities while contributing to initiatives for sustainable mangroves in Indonesia and beyond.
The project is designed to achieve several outcomes:

- Enhanced mangrove restoration in the research area
- Sustainable incomes for communities derived from mangrove restoration and utilization
- Enhanced GHG sequestration from restored mangrove
- Established action plan for sustainable mangrove in South Sumatra
- Engaged stakeholders and policy makers at all levels and well-implemented appropriate policy, regulatory, framework and incentive to foster mangrove restoration
- Established platform for national, regional and international community to promote new ways of working with communities for further scaling up

Main approaches and methodology

The research will employ several approaches in activities towards its theory of change:

- Participatory Action Research (PAR)
- Institutional Analysis and Development (IAD)
- Stakeholder Network Analysis
- Sustainable Value Chain of Commodity
- Policy and Political-Economy Analysis
- Total Economic Value of Ecosystem
Research locations

Mangrove restoration and business development activities are focused on five villages in the Sungsang area (Banyuasin II Subdistrict): Sungsang I, Sungsang II, Sungsang III, Sungsang IV and Marga Sungsang villages. Sungsang area is located in Banyuin Regency, South Sumatra Province, Indonesia.
Maps of the five villages in the Sungsang area (Banyuasin II Subdistrict) where action research activities are focused.

Contact person
Sonya Dyah Kusumadewi
CIFOR-ICRAF
s.dyah@cgiar.org

Project website
cifor-icraf.org/community-business-mangrove/