



Organization: Yayasan Kajian dan Pembangunan Masyarakat

Location: Pekan District, Pahang State, Malaysia

Solution: Establishing community-led agroforestry and organic agriculture enterprises for indigenous Orang Asli villages

Factsheet Period: First round of UNDP AFCIA funding (16 months)



Community members engaged in agroforestry and organic agriculture in Orang Asli village @YKPM

Malaysia's Indigenous groups, Orang Asli, are critical to the country's climate resilience by protecting forested areas and carbon sinks. Dependent on forest resources and subsistence agriculture, many live below the poverty line and face threats towards their livelihood such as illegal logging, encroachment on their ancestral lands, and shifting rainfall patterns. This solution advances a green economy model in Orang Asli communities by establishing a community-led agroforestry and organic agriculture enterprise, allowing them to become small farm owners, partners in the supply chain, and to share in profits. It provides diverse livelihood options, elevates living standards, and empowers Orang Asli communities with sustainable resources to adapt to ongoing climate risks.



Key achievements

- Targeted 30 families in five villages for adaptive agroforestry, introducing three new livelihood options, including stingless bee honey
- Achieved 5.4% growth in average household incomes through syntropic farming and regenerative agriculture
- Exceeded quarterly targets for produce volume (7% higher; 1,932.93 kg) and sales revenue (10% higher; US\$13,960) by introducing stock keeping units and analyzing sales and wastage
- Established a 2.5-acre community farm in Air Hitam, supporting 11 farmers, with potential peak season earnings of \$320/month
- Held six regenerative farming training sessions to 40 farmers and 48 weekly agroforestry coaching visits to two villages



Social impact

- Empowers communities as supply chain partners, sharing profits and investing in green economy
- Supports decent incomes while minimizing environmental impact
- Establishes communal farming, demonstrating collaborative spirit
- Adaptive agroforestry supports 41 Indigenous partners, with potential for higher incomes and poverty alleviation



Funding snapshot

- UNDP-AFCIA grant: US\$125,000 (initial grant)
- Yayasan Hasanah Special grant: \$343,000
- Yayasan Hasanah Humanitarian Disaster Relief grant: \$10,000
- Robert Walters CSR grant: \$7,000



Adaptation benefits

- Enhanced food security and resilience with nutrient-dense crops
- Increased climate resilience by rehabilitating watershed areas with sustainable farming
- Leveraged Indigenous knowledge for soil regeneration, reducing flood and drought risks



Replication potential

- Expansion to six villages aims for economies of scale, self-sustaining operations, and broader marketing channels
- Potential for nationwide replication, leveraging logistics and fair markets, to amplify the green economy's district-level impact



Innovation

- Provides finance, technology, logistics and fair markets for isolated communities.
- Integrates local traditions, prioritizing people and planet over profits
- Offers flexible livelihood options aligned with Indigenous values for higher profits and sustainability

Investability

Revenue per year	2024 expected revenue: \$97,975 (sales from vegetables and fruits: \$66,825; sales from livestock: \$31,150)
Sustaining criteria	<p>Target average monthly income of \$133 for all 61 farmers (15% above baseline)</p> <p>Cloud Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system expected to reduce operating cost by 60% over two years</p> <p>To achieve financial independence from grants within three years, become self-sustaining by 2027</p>
Financial innovation	<p>Optimized supply chain with regional produce collection hubs to aggregate sales for multiple communities</p> <p>Diversified revenue sources by selling produce to cross-sector B2B firms (e.g., supermarkets, juice makers)</p>