COLLABORATION FOR THE EARTH

CSF/YSKI's Journey for Sintang Lestari 2018-202tt







ABOUT SINTANG



Sintang at a Glance Leaders, Opportunities, and Challenges

CSF/YSKI in SINTANG



Strengthening Foundations Strengthening Commitment and Local Capacity Strengthening Priority Sectors Strengthening Collaboration

FINAL REFLECTION



Collaboration and Mindset Change: The Key to a Sustainable Sintang







Area: 21,638 km2.

Population: 438,022 (Sintang District Statistics Agency, 2024).

Population density of 20.20 people/km2, consisting of multiple ethnic groups with a majority of Dayak and Malay tribes.

Sintang Regency has around 1.3 million hectares of forest area, equivalent to 1.35% of Indonesia's total forest area (BPS, 2022). Sintang's forests have a high level of biodiversity, including those found in the Bukit Baka Bukit Raya National Park. The division of forest area functions in Sintang Regency based on Decree No. 733/Menhut-II/2014 concerning Forest Areas and Water Conservation in West Kalimantan Province is dominated by Limited Production Forests (HPT), Permanent Production Forests (HP), and Protected Forests (HL).

Protected forests and production forests cover 59% of the total area of Sintang Regency. In addition to being carbon sinks and sources of oxygen, these forests also provide land for the people of Sintang.



Lithograph of Sintang based on a painting by Josias Cornelis Rappard (1883-1889)

for farming and meeting various needs, ranging from food, medicine, clean water, to shelter.

Sintang Regency is traversed by two major rivers, namely the Kapuas River and the Melawi River, as well as two smaller rivers, namely the Ketungau River, which is a tributary of the Kapuas River, and the Kayan River, which is a tributary of the Melawi River.

The hydrological system of Sintang Regency is divided into 8 Watershed Areas (DAS). In addition to rivers, Sintang Regency has dozens of lakes, 10 of which have been designated as protected lakes. Rivers and lakes in Sintang serve not only as transportation routes

transportation routes, but also as habitats for biodiversity. Several rivers in Sintang Regency also have an important function as a source of water to support community activities, even though the water source is not suitable for consumption (Sintang Regency Regional Development Planning Agency, 2023).

In addition to being habitats for biodiversity, the rivers and lakes in Sintang Regency have the potential for inland fisheries production as an important source of protein for the local community.

All villages and towns are located on the banks of rivers. Most of the community consumes fish as their main source of protein. The rivers and lakes in Sintang are habitats for many varieties of freshwater fish such as lais, baung, toman, gabus, and patin, which are sources of protein for the community through traditional fishing and aquaculture.

Several important fish species that are believed to be rare in Sintang Regency are tapah fish, semah fish, and jelawat fish. An image of jelawat fish as a representation of important freshwater fish is part of the official emblem of Sintang Regency.

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The ornamental Arwana fish, once the pride of Sintang's production center, is now rarely heard of. Several typical foods from Sintang are also made from fish, such as Ikan Lais Salai and Ikan Brongsong, wet crackers, and so on. Therefore, freshwater fish from lakes and rivers contribute significantly to local food security in Sintang.

One hour from the city of Sintang, in the Kelam Permai subdistrict, is Kelam Hill, one of the tallest monolines in the world at 1,002

meters, towering over the surrounding terrain.

Bukit Kelam is taller than Uluru, more famously known as Ayers Rock, the largest monolith in Australia, which stands 348 meters above the surrounding area.

In addition to its tourism potential, Kelam Hill is also home to a wealth of rare plants, including pitcher plants or *Nepenthes clipeata*. Currently, there are only 13 clumps of pitcher plants left on Kelam Hill, all of which are male, posing a challenge for their breeding and preservation. In addition to pitcher plants, Bukit Kelam is also home to black orchids. As for fauna, honey bears, pangolins, and swallows are reported to still inhabit the caves in the Bukit Kelam area.



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The city of Sintang, as the capital of Sintang Regency, is located at the confluence or mouth of the Melawi River, which joins the Kapuas River. Historically, the word Sintang is said to originate from the word Senentang, which means 'location opposite' the confluence of the two rivers.

In the past, Senentang was the center of a kingdom whose palace still stands today across from the confluence of the Melawi and Kapuas Rivers.



The people of Sintang, who are of Dayak and Malay descent, have a close and harmonious relationship with nature, and firmly uphold the principle of respecting nature, which has been a part of their traditional values for generations.

The Dayak tribe has a philosophy of life **called HAMPARAN HATI**, which teaches balance between humans and nature. This philosophy is manifested in the sustainable management of natural resources and respect for the rights of nature.

For the Dayak tribe, humans and nature are two interdependent entities, where humans are considered part of nature, not its absolute owners or controllers. This belief encourages them to preserve nature so that it can continue to benefit human life and other living creatures.

In addition to a harmonious relationship with nature, the philosophy of "Hamparan Hati" also emphasizes the importance of community, mutual cooperation, and social justice. The Dayak tribe believes that efforts to preserve the environment can only be successful through strong cooperation within the community and fair treatment of all living things. These principles not only maintain environmental sustainability

them, but also ensure that existing natural resources can be passed on to future generations while maintaining the balance of the ecosystem.

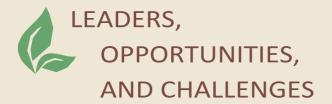
Dayak culture, such as the **GAWAI DAYAK** tradition, a ceremony held on a large scale after the rice harvest, is a form of gratitude and respect for nature and an effort to preserve the environment, or the **UMPAN BENUA** ritual, which contains a message to preserve nature and serves as a reminder for humans not to destroy nature. In addition, Umpan Benua is also known as "sedekah bumi" (earth alms), with a philosophy of giving thanks for God's blessings and a commitment to protecting the environment.

The Dayak tribe is also known for its tradition of sustainable forest management by clearing new agricultural land in a rotational manner or moving from one location to another periodically in a systematic circle of place and time. This is done to ensure that the forest remains sustainable, the soil nutrients are renewed, and it continues to benefit the local community. Logging and burning of forests are carried out selectively and strictly, and only trees that are needed are cut down.

After the agricultural land has been cultivated for several years, it is abandoned and the community moves to new land or land that has been used before, which is then cultivated again in a regular cycle.

The Dayak tribe also always replants to ensure forest sustainability and respect the rights of nature. They plant various types of trees that are beneficial to the community and the forest ecosystem.





After being elected as Regent of Sintang Regency in 2016, Dr. Djarot Winarno MPH declared his intention to make Sintang Regency a Sustainable Sintang Regency.

This declaration was based on his concern about the widespread trend of land use by various parties, while the lives of the indigenous people of Sintang were developing slowly. The declaration was followed by many concrete steps as a serious regional leader to encourage the necessary changes related to governance, policy, and development planning.

The Regent proactively encourages various multi-stakeholder processes and capacity building for the civil service of Sintang Regency to strengthen the necessary change processes. The Regent also opens the door wide for all parties, including donors, civil society organizations, academics, and sustainability-oriented investors to come and collaborate with the Regency Government and other parties in Sintang.

Sintang Regency in West Kalimantan Province is one of the regencies that cofounded the LTKL Association (Lingkar Temu Kabupaten Lestari).

This association, which consists of nine regency governments, was formed and is managed with the aim of support efforts to realize sustainable development that improves the welfare of the community and protects the environment through various partnerships. LTKL, which was established in July 2017, is a sustainable development caucus within the Association of Indonesian Regency Governments (APKASI).

In general, LTKL as a cooperation platform consists of two parts, namely a group of regency government members committed to sustainable development, and a group of supporting partners consisting of civil society organizations and pro-sustainability investors (impact investment facilities/companies) interested in investing in sustainable businesses in LTKL member regencies. CSF Indonesia/YSKI is one of the development partner groups in LTKL.

SINTANG'S ECONOMY is dominated by the agriculture, forestry, and fisheries sectors. These sectors are the largest contributors to Sintang's Gross Regional Domestic Product (GRDP), accounting for 23.59% in 2023 (source: BPS, Sintang Regency, 2023). This figure shows a consistent growth trend from 2019, when the sector contributed 21.7%. The development of the contribution of the agriculture, forestry, and fisheries sectors to the GRDP of Sintang Regency from 2015 to 2023 can be seen in the following graph.



Land use conversion has actually increased. A study on *land* use and *land cover change (LULC)* shows that land changes occurred during the period 2006 to 2016.

A total of 87,680 ha of secondary forest has been converted, followed by 12,874 ha of shrubland and 7,289 ha of primary forest.

Meanwhile, the largest increases during the same period occurred in plantations (87,539 hectares), open land (16,159 hectares), and dryland agriculture (8,589 hectares).

Further analysis of secondary forest loss shows that most secondary forests were converted to plantations (35%), followed by shrubs (32%) and dryland agriculture (29%). The total change in forest area in Sintang District from 2006 to 2016 was 226,311 ha, or 10% of the district's total area (Source: Sintang Growth Diagnostics Study, CSF/YSKI).

The POVERTY RATE in Sintang District has declined over the past five years. When CSF/YSKI conducted a background study in 2018, the poverty rate in Sintang District had increased from 8.56% in 2012 to 10.2%. in 2017.

The latest data shows a decline in the poverty rate to 8.03% or 670,853 people in 2024.

Despite this decline, this figure is still higher than the poverty rate in West Kalimantan Province, which reached 6.32% in 2024.

GENDER EQUALITY is also still an issue in employment opportunities in every sector. Female workers are more likely to work in agriculture, plantations, forestry, and fisheries, followed by trade, restaurants, accommodation services, and community, social, and personal services. In contrast, employment opportunities for men are more evenly distributed across all sectors.

The high dependence of women on the agriculture, plantation, forestry, and fisheries sectors also means that this group is more vulnerable because the majority of those working in these sectors are informal workers or do not have social security, either employment or health insurance.

One of the findings of the study conducted by the CSF/YSKI team also shows that the efficiency of additional investment in Sintang Regency is still lower than the provincial average.

Sintang Regency had a positive ICOR (*Incremental Capital Output Ratio*) from 2011 to 2019. In 2019, the ICOR value for Sintang Regency was 4, while for West Kalimantan during the same period, the ICOR value was 3.8.

This condition shows that to generate output in Sintang Regency, more investment is needed than the provincial average (Sintang Growth Diagnostics Report, 2021). This is one of the foundations for the formulation of investment strategies in Sintang, through the Academic Paper on the Formulation of the Sintang Regency RUPM, which is also supported by CSF/YSKI.



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Given the existing challenges, the Sintang District Government agrees that sustainable development is a necessary effort to improve the economy and welfare of the community.

Development must take into account the preservation of natural resources and the functioning of the environment.

Most of the people of Sintang depend on natural resources for their daily needs. Corporations investing in Sintang Regency also depend on land use. This dependence has gradually caused environmental damage due to intensive exploitation of natural resources without regard for ecosystem balance.

Given the potential of Sintang Regency's natural resources and the link between the welfare of its residents and the utilization of natural wealth, achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Sintang Regency requires sustainable management of natural resources to preserve the environment while minimizing damage to economic resources. Integrated planning is needed, combining development planning that is responsive to community needs, landscape and spatial planning that considers ecological balance, and investment planning that supports

long-term sustainability. The synergy between these various aspects is expected to increase the pace of development in Sintang Regency without sacrificing environmental quality for future generations.

The Sintang Regency Government's seriousness in accommodating aspects of resource and environmental sustainability in government policies, plans, and programs is evident in the adjustments made to the vision and mission of the Sintang Regency Government for 2021-2026.

The vision of the Sintang Regency Government has been adjusted to



The addition of the word "sustainable" in the vision means that Sintang Regency must progress, develop, and change for the better while remaining sustainable. Sustainable is a popular term in the

Indonesia represents all components of sustainability in terms of development. The commitment of the Sintang Regency Government is evidenced by Regent Regulation No. 66 of 2019 concerning the Sintang Lestari Regional Action Plan (RAD-SL), which was then adopted into the 2021-2026 Regional Medium-Term Development Plan (RPJMD).

The journey toward Sintang Lestari is not easy and is full of challenges. Among these challenges are high poverty rates, low purchasing power among the population, suboptimal economic growth, and inadequate infrastructure.



Additionally, access to education and health services is not yet equitable, while environmental damage, such as flooding and pollution caused by forest fires and

Land remains a serious issue.

Overall, these challenges affect the potential for strengthening the local economy.

To address these challenges, the Sintang Regency Government has implemented various interventions, particularly in efforts to improve the quality of human resources, develop a peoplecentered economy, including the development of a creative economy, and formulate various public policies that support sustainable development by involving various parties in the policy planning and development process.

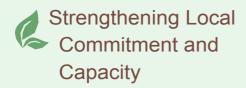
The Sintang Regency Government collaborates with various development partners in implementing various policy interventions, including improving human resource capabilities through various training and capacity building programs that are in line with the needs of the regency government and geographical conditions.

regional characteristics, and the character and behavior of the population.

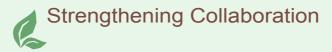
One of the Sintang Regency Government's collaboration partners is the Conservation Strategy Fund (CSF Indonesia) or Yayasan Strategi Konservasi Indonesia (YSKI), which is involved in various programs to strengthen development planning and policy development, carried out in conjunction with capacity building programs related to planning and policy development in the transition process towards a Sustainable Sintang Regency.

CSF INDONESIA/ YSKI IN SINTANG













Since April 2018, CSF/YSKI has been working with the Sintang District Government to facilitate the transition towards a Sustainable Sintang District by 2030.

The presence of CSF/YSKI in Sintang is based on an invitation from the Sintang Regency Government to partner organizations within the LTKL to support the strengthening of sustainable development planning and policy, and is in line with CSF/YSKI's main areas of expertise, namely sustainable development economics and natural resource management.

For six years, CSF/YSKI has played an active role in supporting the strengthening of the Sintang Lestari vision, the formulation of the RPJMD, the formulation of the General Investment Plan (RUPM) as an investment development strategy, and the revision of the District Spatial Plan (RTRW). CSF/YSKI has also initiated the strengthening of strategic economic sectors related to the broader community life in Sintang. Along with the development of various aspects of planning and policy for Sintang Lestari, CSF/YSKI has developed the capacity of functional planning and program personnel for relevant OPDs, particularly in BAPPEDA, the Environment and Forestry Agency,

the Spatial Planning Agency, the Investment and Integrated One-Stop Service Agency.

CSF/YSKI always involves Sintang civil society organizations and supporters of the transition to Sintang Lestari in all capacity building activities in Sintang. Capacity building is carried out through training, planning process assistance, and policy studies by a joint team of functional staff from OPDs and CSOs in Sintang.

During its tenure in Sintang Regency, CSF/YSKI has successfully facilitated the creation of several important policies. One of the most notable is Regent Regulation No. 66/2019, which establishes the Regional Action Plan for Sustainable Development (RAD - Sintang Lestari), which has been integrated into the 2021-2026 RPJMD (Regional Medium-Term Development Plan) established through Regional Regulation No. 2/2021.

Additionally, Regent Regulation No. 37/2022 regulates the General Investment Plan for the 2022-2025 period, which serves as the basis and guideline for promoting sustainable investment in Sintang Regency.

The revision process of the Spatial Plan was still ongoing when this paper was written. The development of inland fisheries towards the formulation of a new sustainable management system has reached the completion of a preliminary study as a basis for dialogue among

parties for the next steps.

During the same period, CSF/YSKI has conducted 10 training sessions covering various scientific topics and skills related to development planning and spatial planning, as well as 7 joint studies involving relevant OPD staff.

CSF/YSKI's journey with Sintang Regency development stakeholders began with an agreement between the Sintang Regency Government, LTKL, and CSF/YSKI, which mandated YSKI to facilitate the strengthening of the Sintang Lestari initiative's vision and translate its implications into regional development planning.

This six-year journey can be divided into three phases: (i) Foundation Strengthening Phase;

(ii) Commitment and Capacity Strengthening Phase; (iii) Priority/Strategic Sector Strengthening Phase.

Each phase has a different scope of programs and dynamics among stakeholders in terms of building broader support and participation, both from parties within and outside Sintang Regency.

About CSF/YSKI

The Conservation Strategy Fund (CSF) was established in 1998 in California, USA, with the belief that economic prosperity can be achieved without sacrificing the environment. Today, CSF is headquartered in Washington DC, United States, and works in several countries in South America and Africa. CSF's mission is to promote the use of sound economic and governance principles in public policy and natural ecosystem resource management systems.

CSF Indonesia was established in March 2016 and is officially registered as the Indonesian Conservation Strategy Foundation.

CSF believes that public policy will be more effective if it is supported by sound economic instruments and governance, and designed using a systemic approach. To achieve this goal, CSF Indonesia carries out various activities to build the capacity of stakeholders in Indonesia, including local governments, academics, and other relevant parties.

CSF/YSKI capacity building activities include not only training but also fellowships/scholarships

research, and direct assistance in planning and policy development. All of these activities are carried out as a means of strengthening the relationship between science, the socio-economic context of society, and policy, both at sea and on land.

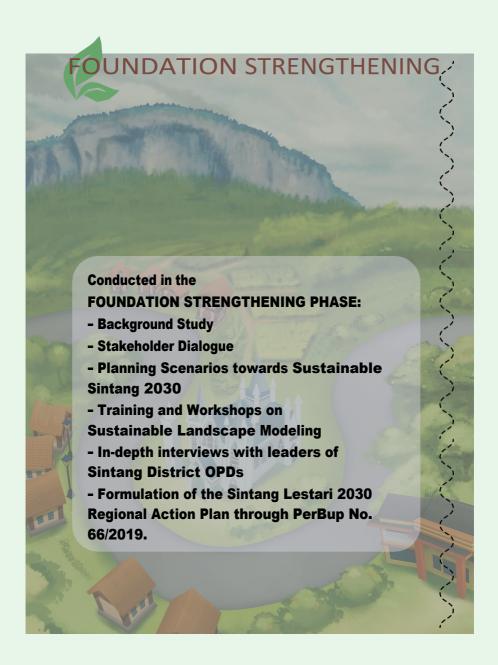
CSF/YSKI training targets participants from communities of change makers within and outside government institutions.

Because

, CSF/YSKI training is attended by staff functional planners from OPD, organizational activists civil society, and community leaders.

CSF/YSKI scholarship recipients consist of two categories of researchers, namely through a national competition program and a provincial competition to obtain research scholarships allocated for that province.

Researchers at the provincial level are required to form a research team consisting of academics, relevant agencies, Bappeda, and CSO activists or business association staff. CSF/YSKI provides dedicated mentors for each research scholarship awarded. Researchers are required to disseminate their research results in locations close to to relevant parties in accordance with the research theme. Capacity building through direct assistance is usually carried out in the form of study teams, working teams, or joint facilitation teams consisting of OPD functional staff, local academics, and YSKI staff.



In Indonesia, as in many other parts of the world, population growth, the need for economic growth and infrastructure development, and climate change are all putting enormous pressure on land resources. This pressure is exacerbated by the expansion of oil palm plantations and infrastructure development, which are seen as a fast track to high economic growth.

Oil palm plantations in Sintang cover 195,780 ha (source: BPS Sintang 2022), and demand for opening new large-scale plantations continues to increase. At the same time, local communities are also encouraged to open independent oil palm plantations as a path to prosperity.

The Sintang District Government, as a member of the LTKL district, recognizes the importance of knowledge for sustainable land use planning.

Since the transition process towards Sintang Lestari began, the Regent of Sintang has announced that he will limit and reduce the target area for oil palm plantations originally planned in Sintang. CSF/YSKI, as a development partner of LTKL member districts, is focused on helping Sintang District achieve

achieving Sustainable Development through the Sintang Lestari initiative.

The shared goal of this partnership is to support the Sintang District government's transition to adopting principles of sustainable and low-emission development through a jurisdictional approach. With expertise in economics, sustainable development planning, and strategic planning facilitation, CSF/YSKI supports this transition process with funding from the Packard Foundation.



Dialogue and Background Study

CSF began by holding a **Stakeholders Dialogue** involving multiple parties in policy making to explore various aspirations, expectations, concerns, and challenges faced in relation to the Sintang Lestari initiative. The dialogue session was held for two days, May 8-9, 2018, and was attended by 80 participants representing regional organizations, indigenous peoples' institutions, business actors, NGOs/CSOs, and various stakeholders in Sintang.

The objectives of this dialogue were to:

introduce the Sintang Regency Government's ideas regarding Sintang Lestari;

hear the aspirations of various stakeholder groups regarding the Sintang Lestari concept;

map the programs/initiatives currently being implemented by each stakeholder; and

collecting information to be used for background studies and as a basis or material for subsequent activities.

Various aspirations from the results of the dialogue were compiled into a collection of issues and information materials for conducting **a Background Study**.

The background study was conducted over a period of two months from May to June 2018. The study aimed to collect data and information to capture the current conditions and trends in Sintang Regency in four main aspects.

The four main aspects are: 1) the history, culture and customs of the Sintang community, 2) economic development, 3) natural resources and the environment, and

4) land management and agrarian reform.

Experts from Kapuas University in Sintang City were the implementers of this background study. The team of experts consisted of Victor Emanuel for the topic of history and culture of the Sintang community, Stefanus Masiun for the topic of economic development, Hendra Setiawan for the topic of natural resources and the environment, and Michelle Eko Hardian for the topic of land-based economy, land management and agrarian reform. The results of this background study were used as the basis for planning the Sintang Lestari 2030 scenario.

Recognizing the need to build capacity among stakeholders before embarking on Scenario Planning, CSF/YSKI organized training sessions and workshops covering topics such as Sustainable Development, Integrated Landscape Policy, and Scenario Planning.

Capacity Building and Scenario Planning

The training program on sustainable development and integrated landscape policy was held for five days from July 30 to August 2, 2018. The training was attended by 30 participants from various backgrounds and institutions, including government agencies, indigenous peoples' organizations, NGOs/CSOs, and other stakeholders in Sintang.

This training program was intended as a shared learning space for parties to improve their capacity in natural resource management, particularly forests, land, and the environment, within the framework of sustainable development that emphasizes the balance of three pillars: economy, society, and environment.

During the training, participants explored the realities in the field in a comprehensive and integrated manner, mapping out the problem situation and identifying the root causes. Thus, training participants were expected to be able to determine approaches and instruments, including economic instruments, to address the root causes. The training results were expected to be incorporated into policy proposals related to natural resource and environmental management practices using an integrated landscape approach in the context of Sintang Regency.

Specifically, this training aims, among other things, to: strengthen understanding of the concept of sustainable development using a four-pillar approach: social, economic, environmental, and governance in the context of Sintang Regency development,

revisiting the functions and roles of each institution within the landscape of Sintang Regency,

developing perspectives on the challenges of integrated forest, water, and land resource management within an economic framework and incentive structure that can influence the behavior and decisions of various parties.

Sustainable development and integrated landscape policy training can change the mindset of various institutions in understanding the balance between the economy and the environment. The understanding process, which takes time, is carried out by persuading various parties through data, studies, and realistic mapping presented in an engaging manner using simple analogies. Thus, this understanding can gradually be well accepted. This is especially true for planners in regional government agencies who previously only understood the environmental factors that must be preserved but were unable to translate this into sustainability programs and take economic aspects into account in the policies they made.

In this process, CSF/YSKI equipped the parties to discuss and express their dreams and hopes in Scenario Planning to translate the concept of Sustainable Sintang into a more realistic implementation.

The Scenario Planning Workshop produced, among other things (a) Focus Areas of Concern, which represent the hopes and concerns of the parties in 2030 as a foreseeable future; (b) Factors and Actors that Drive or determine possible future scenarios; (c) Scenarios or possible future scenarios resulting from the dynamics of interaction between factors and driving actors; (d) The Sintang 2030 Vision, which is the best scenario chosen by the parties to be realized, (e) Challenges and Implications in realizing the vision; and (f) A Roadmap towards Sustainable Sintang.

Through a stakeholder-participatory process, the objectives of the Sustainable Development Scenario Planning process are to develop a shared understanding among stakeholders about the future of sustainable development in Sintang District,

to provide a space for stakeholders to contribute systematically to the process

sustainable development planning process from the beginning to with monitoring implementation, jointly formulating a vision for sustainable development Sintang District Sintang Lestari, formulating and agreeing on/recommending key change steps and a roadmap to achieve the shared vision

Agreeing on the steps and process for adopting the results of Scenario Planning into government planning documents, including the Regional Medium-Term Development Plan and the Detailed Spatial Plan.

Scenario planning was carried out through a multistakeholder process from October 1 to 5, 2018, attended by around 60 participants representing various institutions/stakeholders.

The activity was facilitated by 15 facilitators representing academic institutions, NGOs/CSOs, and OPD staff in Sintang. The facilitators were trained for two days by the CSF/YSKI team on how the scenario planning process works and how to facilitate the activity. Scenario planning.

In scenario planning, representatives of stakeholders chose one focus of concern for the future, which was summarized from discussions about hopes and concerns, then identified and discuss the factors and actors that influence the direction of the focus of concern at a certain point in the future. Stakeholders then determine the possible future scenarios for the focus of concern based on their understanding of the dynamics of interactions between and across factors and actors.

With the goal of achieving sustainable development as its main objective, scenario planning is designed to build shared knowledge and understanding among stakeholders about the factors and actors involved and the impact of their interactions on the future of development in Sintang.

In the next stage of scenario planning, the platform serves as a forum where stakeholders



discuss development options, understand *the trade-offs* (choices and consequences) between those options, the likelihood of realizing the vision, and the risk of ending up in an undesirable future.

Scenario planning has resulted in a shared agreement on the Sintang Lestari 2030 vision and a number of policy recommendations and action programs to achieve this vision. This shared vision was then translated by all parties, especially the relevant regional government agencies within the Sintang Regency, into a planning framework and existing work programs to be realized, including in terms of budgeting.

As a follow-up and to mainstream and translate this into landscape modeling, a Sustainable Landscape Modeling

Training was held from January 14 to 18, 2019, followed by a a Landscape Modeling Workshop from February 19-22, 2019 in Sintang Regency.

The training and workshop participants consisted of 20 representatives from government and non-government agencies working in sectors related to planning and land use, such as Bappeda, the Spatial Planning Agency, and

Land Affairs, Public Works Agency, Agriculture and Plantation Agency, Environment Agency, and other non-governmental agencies/institutions. The CSF Indonesia team collaborated with the Hatfield Indonesia team to facilitate this training and workshop process.

The next activity was a two-day consolidation workshop on April 23-24, 2019, attended by 60 participants, which included the presentation of landscape modeling results in the form of spatial maps analyzing



land use changes between BAU conditions and Sintang Lestari 2030, as well as an explanation of the models and sub-models that had been developed and their analysis results.

Workshop participants were divided into several large groups according to the main programs of the RAD proposal, with representatives from OPDs, civil society organizations, NGOs, and other relevant stakeholders. The stakeholders then responded to the changes in the landscape resulting from the modeling. Furthermore, the main programs towards Sintang Lestari were presented as RAD proposals and the Government Work Plan for 2020, 2021 and the 2022-2027 RPJMD. Stakeholders responded to these main program proposals, implementation strategies, implementing institutions and budgeting.

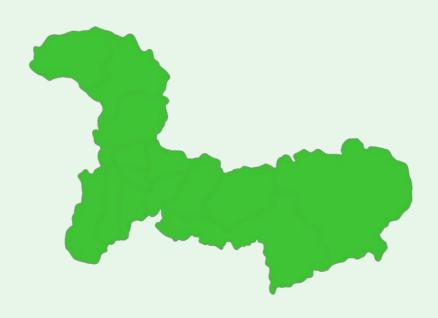
In October 2019, the Sintang Lestari 2030 Vision was formalized in the form of Regent Regulation No. 66/2019 concerning the Regional Action Plan – Sintang Lestari (RAD-SL).

The RAD-SL serves as a guide for implementing the Sintang Lestari Vision into the multi-sector development process and accommodates the collaborative roles of various stakeholders with the government. The RAD-SL contains a Vision Narrative, Key Indicators, a Roadmap, and key policies for change and priority programs towards Sintang Lestari 2030.

SINTANG LESTARI 2030

The realization of a prosperous, innovative, religious, harmonious, and dignified Sintang community.

Supported by a sustainable environment, natural resources, security stability, and equitable and adequate infrastructure.



RAD-SL plays a role in directing development policies and planning towards a more realistic approach in achieving the Sintang Lestari Vision. RAD-SL requires alignment between sectoral development programs and landscape and spatial policies, as well as investment planning. RAD is understood as an interim mechanism between the formulation of the RPJMD to adjust the direction of planning towards the realization of the Sintang Lestari Vision.

CSF/YSKI continues to provide assistance by providing input on the policy planning and implementation strategy processes. Support is provided by adjusting to the needs of the Sintang Regency Government as reflected in the results of studies, workshops, and various formal and informal discussion forums.

Sustainable development is an effort to improve the economy and welfare of the community in a broad and sustainable manner, balanced with efforts to preserve natural resources and environmental functions. This is the current commitment of the Sintang Regency Government, through the "SINTANG LESTARI" vision, by encouraging sustainable economic activities.

This vision is the result of a multi-stakeholder process that began in early 2018 and was subsequently implemented into the programs and activities of stakeholders in Sintang, both government and civil society organizations.

STRENGTHENING **COMMITMENT AND CAPACITY** What was done in **COMMITMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING** PHASE - Training on Sustainable Development and macroeconomic indicators - Webinars, workshops, training Strategic **Environmental Assessment (SEA)** - Growth diagnostic analysis - Training on Green GDP and carbon accounting in Sintang - Facilitation in Formulating the Sintang **District Spatial Plan**

With facilitation from CSF/YSKI in collaboration with various parties, stakeholders and relevant agencies in Sintang Regency have made important contributions to the development of a vision, planning, and roadmap towards a sustainable Sintang.

Furthermore, CSF/YSKI continues to strengthen the commitment and capacity of stakeholders through a more targeted approach. This involves focusing on planning agencies in each government sector and their key partners from non-governmental groups. It also includes integrating sustainable development planning into the district government budget.

The series of activities over two years, starting in October 2019, included special training to strengthen the planning capacity of government staff, especially in Bappeda, as well as the technical capacity of civil society organizations (CSOs), indigenous community leaders, and business associations. CSF/YSKI also facilitated a series of studies and analyses that strengthened the capacity building process.

At this stage, CSF/YSKI once again held **a Stakeholder Dialogue** to gather additional input related to the Sintang Lestari Regional Action Plan (RAD-SL).

RAD-SL is intended as an effort to implement the Sintang Lestari Vision to be integrated into the programs of Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPD) and the RPJMD, the drafting of which will begin in the 2020-2021 period. The Sintang Lestari Vision is further concretized in the Regional Action Plan through Regent Regulation No. 66/2019 concerning the Sintang Lestari Regional Action Plan (RAD-SL). This action plan is intended as an effort to connect the Sintang Lestari Vision so that it is truly operationally integrated into

the programs of the Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPD) and the 2021-2026 Regional Medium-Term Development Plan (RPJMD).

To support the drafting of the RPJMD technocratic draft, CSF/YSKI facilitated capacity building activities on sustainable development planning for stakeholders by ensuring the inclusion and representation of all parties, namely local governments and civil society organizations. The focus was on increasing capacity for sectoral development program planning. Due to the context of this workshop, most of the participants were district governments.

In accordance with the mandate of regulations and legislation, all development planning products must be preceded and/or accompanied by a **Strategic Environmental Assessment (KLHS)**. Therefore, CSF/YSKI continued to focus on this aspect.

This activity aims to assist in the development of an integrated Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), the formulation of the next RPJMD, the revision of the RTRW, and the strengthening of land governance in Sintang.

To that end, on July 7-9, 2020, a KLHS local training was held for stakeholders in Sintang, including government agencies, non-governmental organizations, universities, the business community, and the general public. This local training began with a series of webinars.

The series of local capacity building efforts continued with the collaboration between the Sintang Regency Government and CSF/YSKI to hold a workshop focusing on determining the sectors included in the Green GRDP.

In supporting the preparation of various development programs and plans, not only is comprehensive sustainable development planning required, but it is also necessary to determine achievement indicators that serve as benchmarks for development in the region. It is important for stakeholders to understand the calculation process and how it relates to the depletion of capital resulting from the use of natural resources, which have long been the backbone of Sintang Regency's economic development.

Therefore, it is necessary for the Sintang Regency government to continue developing sustainable development indicators using the Green GRDP approach and the value of natural resources and ecosystem capital.

A local training session on Green GDP calculation was held in November 2020, which also assessed the role of Natural Resource Capital in Sintang Regency. This activity was intended for stakeholders in Sintang.

In an effort to refine the RPJMD document, which serves as a guide for OPDs in planning development for the next five years, CSF/YSKI also facilitated a Public Dialogue on April 22, 2021, to receive suggestions and input from stakeholders, including CSOs and CBOs (Community/Constituent-Based Organizations) working in Sintang Regency. In addition, CSF/YSKI also facilitated a meeting between the district RPJMD writing teams on May 6, 2021, in collaboration with the Tanjungpura University Institute for Research and Community Service (LPPM) and Bappeda to hear firsthand suggestions and input for improving the initial draft of the RPJMD that had been prepared.

As a follow-up to these efforts, CSF/YSKI then collaborated with the Civil Society Communication Forum (FKMS) to hold a "Workshop to Review the Final Draft of the Sintang Regency RPJMD" on July 27, 2021.

Specifically, this workshop aimed to ensure that the RPJMD revision had adopted the written input from stakeholders.

Supporting Studies for Development Planning and Capacity Building

In supporting the formulation of various development programs and plans, CSF/YSKI also initiated several comprehensive studies supported by valid data.

Two analyses that are considered important and urgent to be carried out are 1) Public Revenue and Expenditure Review; and 2) Growth Diagnostic.

Public Revenue and Expenditure Review of Sintang Regency

This analysis aims to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of the use of the regional budget by the Sintang local government, which includes an analysis of trends and ratios of assets, liabilities, equity, revenue, expenditure, and financing. This analysis also describes the performance of Regional Work Units/Regional Organizations in several sectors, namely education, health, population administration services, and local economic development.

Analysis of Economic Growth and Development in Sintang Regency.

Aims to provide an analysis of sustainable and inclusive economic growth for the people of Sintang Regency and to provide analysis simulation of which sectors can be used as the the backbone of economic growth for Sintang Regency.

The results of these two studies provided conclusions and recommendations that were then adopted in the preparation of the RUPM. Some of the conclusions drawn included those regarding the drivers of economic growth in Sintang, green GRDP, and who benefits from it Economic growth in Sintang.

The contribution of the sector to the economy of Sintang Regency has shifted over the past decade and depends on natural resources and land as the backbone of its economy. This can be seen from the contribution of the Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries sector, which reached 30 percent in 2011. However, despite being the most dominant sector, the contribution of the agriculture, forestry, and fisheries sector experienced the deepest decline to 22 percent in 2019.

The link between dependence on natural resources and land has led to high rates of deforestation in secondary forests due to Sintang's economic structure, which still relies on natural resources and land, including the agriculture sector, forestry, and plantations.

Deforestation also occurs in shrublands and primary forests, but the rate of deforestation is not as high as in secondary forests. Meanwhile, there has been an increase in the number of plantation crops, especially oil palm plantations. The increase in the number of plantations in Sintang is almost equal to the decrease in the number of deforested areas in secondary forests. This means that the process of changing land status from forest to plantation has begun by converting secondary forests into plantations.

By including the component of water resource depletion, the contribution of the agriculture, plantation, livestock, fisheries, and forestry sectors appears to have decreased significantly. In 2019, for example, the contribution of this sector to the brown GRDP reached 21.7 percent (Rp3,189 billion). However, after including the element of water depletion, the contribution of this sector to the semi-green GRDP was only 9.9 percent (Rp1,269 billion).

STRENGTHENING PRIORITY/STRATEGIC SECTORS

What is done in the PRIORITY SECTOR STRENGTHENING PHASE:

- Green Budget Tagging (GBT) Training
- Groundwork Analysis for GBT Implementation in Sintang
- Review of the Spatial Plan (RTRW) for Sintang Regency
- Training on the Preparation of KLHS...
- Training and Workshop on Sustainable
 Landscape Modeling
- Assistance in KLHS Preparation for Kelam Urban RDTR
- Development of Freshwater Fisheries
 Management in Sintang

The results of CSF's collaboration with other development partners are widely recognized and appreciated by the Sintang Regency government. CSF/YSKI's involvement in the formulation of the Regional Action Plan - Sintang Lestari, various capacity building initiatives for stakeholders in the fields of economy and sustainable development, as well as various supporting studies and analyses, have been adopted into the medium-term regional development planning process and agenda of Sintang Regency. The Sintang Regency Government's level of trust in further involving CSF/YSKI and CSOs in planning and decision-making (through requests and consultations) is also increasingly evident.

Furthermore, CSF/YSKI remains committed to continuing to build the capacity of government and CSO professionals in using better economic analysis and governance through training and mentoring.

CSF/YSKI supports the adjustment of spatial plans with the new RPJMD and RUPM, in several policy and strategy directions. These policy and strategy directions can be used as input in the process of preparing relevant strategic planning documents (Renstra OPD related).

The implementation of the Sintang Regency RPJMD needs to be aligned with the Regency Spatial Plan (RTRW) that has undergone a Review (PK) and Revision process, along with its Strategic Environmental Assessment (KLHS). In parallel, Sintang Regency is also in the process of preparing a KLHS for the Kelam Urban Detailed Spatial Plan (RDTR).

Government Regulation Number 21 of 2021 concerning Spatial Planning stipulates that the Spatial Plan for Regencies/Cities must be reviewed every 5 years. This mandate also requires that a review of the Spatial Plan be carried out in the event of strategic environmental changes such as large-scale natural disasters; changes in national territorial boundaries; changes in regional boundaries; or changes in strategic national policies.

The 2022 Revision Plan for the Spatial Plan of Sintang Regency has already received a recommendation through a letter from the Minister of Agrarian Affairs and Spatial Planning/Head of the National Land Agency, regarding Recommendations for the Review and Revision of Regional Regulations on the Spatial Plan (RTRW) of Sintang Regency. The revision of the Spatial Plan for Sintang Regency began in 2023, starting with

the formation of a Technical Team and Expert Team, followed by the preparation of Technical Materials and the preparation of Base Maps, and continued with the enactment of the Sintang Regency RTRW Regional Regulation.

The entire process is part of a larger effort to develop the Sintang Regency Spatial Plan, which must be carried out simultaneously. The revision process involves the development of the Sintang Regency Spatial Plan in accordance with the guidelines set out in Regulation of the Minister of Agrarian Affairs and Spatial Planning/National Land Agency No. 11 of 2021. The 11-month implementation period includes the integration of the results of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (KLHS) into the Sintang Regency Spatial Plan.

In supporting the operationalization of the above initiative, capacity building is needed for stakeholders, especially program planners at the Sintang Regency OPD level who are closely related to land-based sectors. One of the capacity building topics that is expected to be useful for the needs of the KLHS and the Revision of the Sintang Regency RTRW is Spatial Analysis for Sustainable Landscape Modeling.

This training activity is part of a series of activities organized by YSKI/CSF in collaboration with USAID SEGAR and WWF

Indonesia. This training resulted in a draft model for Sustainable Landscape Planning in Sintang Regency with several scenario options. With this model, it is hoped that a visualization of the comparison of land use changes between the BAU condition and the Sintang Lestari condition based on the results of the parties' scenario planning can be displayed.

The programs contained in the RPJMD also include sustainable investment (capital investment) guidelines contained in the Sintang Regency RUPM for the 2022-2025 period through Regent Regulation No. 37/2022.

In this regard, it is necessary to use the *Smart* Infrastructure Planning approach as a concrete step to prioritize sustainability in infrastructure planning. Infrastructure development in both the energy and transportation sectors is the backbone of economic development, due to its role in providing a multiplier effect on other sectors, such as improving access to health services, education, and the revival of other sectors, which overall have a positive impact on the economy.

Therefore, infrastructure development requires smart planning—ensuring that the impact

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positive impacts on the economy can be optimized, while minimizing ecological impacts from the outset, such as floods, landslides, droughts, loss of biodiversity, and other ecosystem services, which, when calculated, are worth millions of dollars.

Smart infrastructure planning requires economic trade-off analysis or economic studies that can simultaneously minimize the risk of social and environmental losses. In this way, infrastructure development can go hand in hand with the vision of increasing economic growth while maintaining the sustainability of natural resources and the environment.

An environmental economic perspective is needed to ensure that the social and environmental benefits of a project outweigh the costs incurred, including losses resulting from the project's impact. This is one of the paradigmatic messages of smart infrastructure planning that needs to be a primary concern for all parties, especially policymakers, in order to anticipate social and ecological problems in the future.

The Smart Infrastructure Planning training developed by CSF was held in June 2023, focusing more on decision makers and policy planners at the

national and regional levels. The aim is for infrastructure development policymakers/decision-makers to be able to consider the level of sacrifice involved in infrastructure development, while also being able to identify solution options to maximize benefits for the entire community.

On the other hand, CSF/YSKI also sees that there are three priority areas that need to be developed in Sintang in the short to medium term, namely infrastructure, sustainable inland fisheries management systems, and food security. There is also interest from business actors/the private sector to invest and develop green commodities in Sintang.



Therefore, CSF/YSKI continues its assistance in strengthening the sustainable management of strategic natural resources, with a special focus on inland freshwater fisheries. The principles of Sintang Lestari are adopted and implemented through spatial and sectoral planning, with a special focus on inland freshwater fisheries as the second main pillar of food security in Sintang.

In supporting the implementation of the Sintang Regency RPJMD for the 2021-2026 period, which includes the Sintang Lestari Vision with development towards sustainability, it is not only necessary to strengthen the capacity of the parties involved, but also to conduct supporting studies/analyses.

There are two supporting studies/analyses conducted by CSF/YSKI in collaboration with the Sintang Regency Government and other development partners.

Supporting Study: Green Budget Tagging

Green Budget Tagging (GBT) is a method for identifying budgets allocated for activities that promote sustainability in line with the Sintang Lestari Vision. This study aims to evaluate the contribution of the Sintang Regency Government budget and non-APBD sources to green development for the 2021 fiscal year and the first half of 2022. This effort is also one of the ways to achieve a good score on the Environmental Quality Index in the Sintang Regency Key Performance Index.

This tagging process uses environmental quality measures alongside the availability of existing budgets and was conducted over a period of 6 months, from July to December 2022. A series of supporting activities for this study were carried out, namely a Workshop on Identification and Initial Data Collection for GBT study needs, followed by a Writing Workshop, which contained introductory material on the concepts, theories, and techniques of writing GBT study reports, policy briefs, and infographics. This was followed by data collection and analysis, then writing the results into a technical study report. Which was then written into a policy brief.

The results of the study conducted on 16 OPDs showed that in 2021, the budget available for green development in Sintang Regency was IDR 509.9 billion, and 87.18% of it was realized, namely IDR 444.5 billion. Of the realized budget, IDR 397.9 billion (89.51%) was included in the green development budget.

Meanwhile, by the end of the first semester of 2022, the budget available for green development in Sintang Regency has decreased to Rp 356 billion. This is due to a decrease in transfer funds from the central government to Sintang Regency for the 2022 fiscal year. From the budget, Rp 34.9 billion was realized (9.80%), and included in the green development budget was Rp 20.9 billion (59.86%).

The role of development partners in the successful implementation of green development programs is also highlighted in this study.

Development partners consisting of civil society organizations (CSOs/NGOs) and corporations (private sector) contribute through non-APBD budget allocations. In 2021, non-APBD budget contributions from the corporate sector amounted to Rp 21 billion, based on reports on the use of CSR (Corporate Social

Responsibility) funds from 48 companies, including state-owned enterprises, regional-owned enterprises, financial institutions, and plantation companies.

Meanwhile, the amount of contributions from civil society organizations, namely from 17 CSOs in Sintang Regency, amounted to IDR 18 billion in 2021 and IDR 14.1 billion in 2022.



Scan the QR code for the full report

Supporting Study: Management of Jemut Lake Fisheries

This study was conducted to ensure that one aspect of food security in Sintang, namely inland fisheries, can be managed properly so that it can contribute sustainably.

Sintang Regency has great potential for inland fisheries production as a source of protein for the community. However, declining fisheries production trends and the disappearance of some high-value fish species indicate the need for more adequate management interventions. The inland fisheries sector in Sintang Regency is an important commodity because it contributes to local food security. Most people consume fish as a source of protein. Several traditional foods are also made from fish.

Low food security can lead to malnutrition, as seen in the high incidence of stunting among toddlers. Although Sintang Regency has succeeded in reducing stunting cases, the prevalence is still quite high, at 28% in 2021 (Pujianto, 2022).

To reduce this stunting rate, in addition to education, it is also necessary to support the availability of food, especially sufficient protein, one of which is from fish.

The study was conducted at Lake Jemut, which was selected based on discussions with stakeholders due to its status as a protected lake, part of a river basin with abundant fishery production, and the local government's intention to promote the nearby village as a fishing village.

This study includes an assessment of the fisheries potential of Lake Jemut, which resulted in proposals for a sustainable management plan and provided the strategic action plan needed to develop the area.

The study results indicate that there are at least three important aspects necessary for the management of the Lake Jemut ecosystem, namely (1) the ecological aspect of Lake Jemut, particularly related to the control and improvement of the lake's water quality; (2) The socioeconomic aspect of the communities surrounding Lake Jemut through local economic development programs based on Lake Jemut's resources, both fishery and non-fishery resources; and (3) The governance aspect of Lake Jemut.

The study also provides recommendations for a strategic action plan for Lake Jemut fisheries management, namely:

- (1) revitalizing the Lake Jemut conservation zone,
- (2) developing fisheries product processing businesses, and
- (3) the development of the Lake Jemut Festival as a venue for tourism promotion.











The Sintang Regency Government faces various challenges in implementing policy programs, including limitations in authority, funding, and human resources. Internally, there is room for improvement in coordination mechanisms, quality control of official regency government planning documents, and the tender process for planning.

These various challenges often hamper the effectiveness and sustainability of the initiatives, requiring innovative measures to overcome them. To respond to these challenges, the Sintang Regency Government has opened up opportunities for collaboration with various parties. Partnerships with various development partners, such as CSF/YSKI, have become a strategic solution to help overcome these limitations. This collaboration has shown positive results in strengthening the local government's ability to manage challenges by maximizing the support of resources and expertise from development partners.

In implementing its programs in Sintang Regency, CSF/YSKI actively collaborates with various local stakeholders. Not only with Regional Apparatus Organizations, but also involving a number of important development partners, such as LTKL, AMAN, FKMS, WWF Indonesia, and Rainforest Alliance.

By building a multi-stakeholder network, CSF/YSKI is able to develop a comprehensive approach to mapping the current conditions that form the basis for development planning. Collaboration also facilitates the process of collecting and analyzing information relevant to regional development policies.

The partners shared their respective roles and expertise. On one occasion, WWF Indonesia shared CSF/YSKI's contribution in Sintang with its expertise in analysis and strategy, complementing the work of other development partners in Sintang. This included facilitating the process of passing the 2021 Regent Regulation on RAD-SL. Rainforest Alliance expressed a similar opinion, acknowledging that CSF/YSKI has strengths in terms of preparing very detailed and comprehensive documents, which greatly helps Rainforest Alliance to obtain additional information and knowledge that enriches its programs.

Not only with CSOs/NGOs, the Sintang Regency Government also opens up opportunities for cooperation with the private sector through the *Corporate Social Responsibility* program.

Responsibility (CSR). CSR in Sintang is no longer seasonal in nature, but rather directed towards long-term contributions that are more focused on strategic sectors such as health, infrastructure, and education. The government has also adjusted regulations so that CSR can be sustainable and tailored to the needs of the community.

As a result, more and more companies are competing to make real contributions through various well-planned programs.

The Sintang government gives companies the freedom to run their own CSR programs while coordinating with them according to the objectives that have been mapped out, such as infrastructure development and improving public health. The success of companies in implementing CSR programs is also recognized with the awarding of certificates through the CSR Award program, which can facilitate the licensing process and build the company's reputation in the eyes of stakeholders.

This collaboration between various parties is expected to continue to drive sustainable policy innovation that has a positive impact on the development of Sintang Regency, including in attracting investors and developing research-based programs.



Final Reflection

Collaboration and Mindset Change: The Key to a Sustainable Sintang

During the six years of CSF/YSKI's journey in Sintang District, according to the sources for this document, there has been a transformation in the mindset of stakeholders and policymakers. Previously, many policies were made with a focus on economic growth and paid little attention to natural resources and the environment. However, through a series of training sessions, dialogues, and mentoring, supported by adequate studies, stakeholders began to realize the importance of maintaining a balance between economic development and environmental preservation. This was an important first step towards realizing the shared vision of Sintang Lestari.



There is also a growing awareness of the importance of collaboration between various parties, including the government, civil society organizations, the private sector, and local communities in achieving common goals. This cooperation has proven effective in creating a more inclusive and sustainable approach to various development plans. Each group has a crucial role and contribution in ensuring that the decisions made have a positive impact not only in the short term but also in the long term for the preservation of Sintang's natural environment and the interests of future generations.



This achievement is inseparable from systematic efforts in implementing various approaches, dialogues, and local capacity building, supported by the willingness of stakeholders to be open, and the availability of data, analysis, and policy recommendations based on economics and finance, which help policymakers understand the environmental impact of each proposed policy.

The adoption of regulations such as the Sintang Lestari Regional Action Plan is proof that the Sintang government is now better prepared to formulate policies that support sustainable development. It also provides a strong foundation for integrating the principles of Sintang Lestari into various regional development policies.

Six years of CSF/YSKI's journey in Sintang also confirms that change cannot happen overnight and requires a continuous process. Capacity building for stakeholders, both from the government and non-government sectors, needs to remain a priority to ensure the sustainability of the results that have been achieved. This includes strengthening technical capabilities in development planning, land use, natural resource management, and *economic governance* in general.

The challenges faced by the Sintang Regency Government are quite complex, ranging from limited authority and finances to human resources. However, with solid cooperation and strong commitment from all parties, the vision of Sintang Lestari can gradually be realized.

This article is intended not only to provide examples and concrete steps on how sustainability principles can be integrated into policy-making, but also to inspire other regions to follow suit in caring for our planet and our shared future.

Coffee Shop Discussion

Coffee shops in Sintang Regency play an important role in the socio-political and economic life of the community. Coffee shops are not only places to enjoy a cup of coffee, but also public spaces where various important discussions take place. Coffee shops have become informal discussion spaces where residents, community leaders, and policy makers meet to share ideas, which has become part of the local identity and a forum for discussing strategic issues.

Discussions at coffee shops in Sintang are often more effective in sparking creative and innovative ideas. At coffee shops, the boundaries of status and hierarchy between officials and the community become more fluid, allowing for deeper and more participatory dialogue. Coffee shops have become places where ideas that do not come up in formal meetings emerge and develop.

One of the unique aspects of coffee shop culture in Sintang is its role in formulating regional policy. Many important policies are born out of discussions in coffee shops. Government officials often take advantage of this relaxed atmosphere to gather input from various parties, including community leaders, businesspeople, academics, and activists. In the context of policy, this is important because officials and community leaders

can quickly respond to emerging issues and discuss the strategic steps that need to be taken.

Coffee shops also help build networks among various community groups in Sintang. These places serve as meeting points for people with similar interests, whether in business, social issues, or the environment. This creates synergy between various sectors, which ultimately strengthens the implementation of regional policies. In addition to being a space for discussion, coffee shops also play a role in strengthening the culture of public participation in Sintang. On many occasions, ordinary citizens can directly express their opinions on issues facing the region. This strengthens the spirit of democracy in Sintang, where the community is not only the object of policy, but also an active subject involved in the decision-making process.

In addition to its social benefits, coffee shops in Sintang also contribute to the local economy, especially with the increasing interest in local West Kalimantan coffee. Robusta and liberica coffee grown in this area are starting to gain popularity and create economic opportunities for local farmers. Thus, coffee shops also support economic growth and sustainability, especially in the coffee supply chain involving production, distribution, and consumption at the local and national levels.



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