

PROJECT TITLE

ESTUNGKARA — Supporting the Transition of Suku Anak Dalam (SAD) Communities Along Central Sumatra Towards a More Inclusive Life, Independent Livelihoods, and Stronger Gender Equality Without Losing Their Identity

BACKGROUND

Since 2012, **Pundi Sumatra**, with support from PNPM Peduli and Program Peduli, has been providing assistance to the **Suku Anak Dalam (SAD)** communities using a social inclusion approach. This support has been focused on **SAD groups (rombong)** living along the Central Sumatra highway, who have long experienced exclusion due to forest conversion, road construction, and rapid population growth. These factors have led to the loss of their living space, increased social stigma, and difficulty in accessing basic services due to the lack of civil registration.

Through intensive intervention up until 2019, Pundi successfully facilitated civil registration for several SAD groups in project areas, which opened access to education, healthcare, and social protection services. A notable success was seen in the **Rombong Hari group** in **Dusun Klukup, Bungo District**, which now has an informal school, a smoked fish business group, and improved social interactions with neighboring residents. CSR support has also contributed to infrastructure improvements such as housing, sanitation, and clean water facilities.

However, the COVID-19 pandemic severely impacted the community. Some SAD groups isolated themselves again, relying on forests and gardens to survive and refusing vaccinations due to fear and misinformation. The resulting economic hardship led to **a rise in school dropouts and early marriages**. Between 2019 and 2021, three girls were married off early and five boys dropped out of school to help support their families.

The **Rombong Jurai group** in Sarolangun, which has received permanent housing (huntap) and living allowance (jadup) support from the Ministry of Social Affairs since 2019, is also at risk of program failure due to lack of economic independence. Civil registration coverage remains uneven, limiting access to government assistance programs such as PKH, BPNT, and other basic services.

Through the **ESTUNGKARA project**, Pundi Sumatra aims to **expand its coverage area and replicate best practices** from previous sites. The program focuses on **enhancing community economic capacity**, providing **vocational education for out-of-school youth**, and promoting the **active involvement of women** in microenterprise development. The program also seeks to promote the integration of support from local governments through regional budget (APBD) allocations and to develop a **national reference guide** for empowering SAD communities across Sumatra.

By involving **youth community cadres** and a network of **Gen Z volunteers**, the project is expected to accelerate the realization of **inclusive, self-reliant, and empowered SAD communities without losing their cultural identity**.

OBJECTIVES

Overall Goal: To achieve a more inclusive life for Suku Anak Dalam (SAD) communities across Central Sumatra, with independent livelihoods and stronger gender equality—while preserving their cultural identity.

Specific Objectives (Outcomes):

- Ensuring access to and fulfillment of basic services, assistance, and social welfare programs for SAD communities.
- Increasing the capacity, participation, and inclusive citizenship of SAD communities and relevant stakeholders.
- Developing alternative livelihoods and microenterprises within SAD communities to enhance income.
- Establishing inclusive policies through local and national budgetary support (APBD and APBN).
- Strengthening the GEDSI-oriented capacity of CSOs and networks to promote social inclusion.

WORKING AREAS

The ESTUNGKARA program by Pundi Sumatra focuses on Suku Anak Dalam (SAD) communities in two regions:

1. **Rombong Hari**, Dwi Karya Bakti Hamlet, Pelepat Subdistrict, Bungo Regency
2. **Rombong Jurai**, Limbur Tembesi Urban Village, Bathin VIII Subdistrict, Sarolangun Regency

PROGRAM FOCUS

- **Opening access to basic services and social protection** for SAD communities so they can benefit from government services, including social protection and development programs.
- **Encouraging local governments, villages, and customary institutions** to adopt inclusive policies, budget allocations, and programs that improve access to basic services and women's participation.
- **Improving the economic conditions** of women, Indigenous Peoples, and ethnic minorities by optimizing the use of natural resources.

PARTNERS

In implementing the ESTUNGKARA Program, **Pundi Sumatra collaborates with:**

At the District Level (Bungo and Sarolangun):

- District governments and related local government offices (OPDs)
- Dwi Karya Bakti Hamlet Government
- Limbur Tembesi Urban Village Government

At the Provincial Level (Jambi):

- Jambi Provincial Social Affairs and Civil Registration Offices
- Al Yatama Center
- BPBAT Sungai Gelam
- BPHL and others

Other Stakeholders:

- CSOs/NGOs such as KKI Warsi, PEKKA Bungo, and Aliansi Perempuan Merangin (Inklusi Jambi Hub Partners)
- Educational institutions (elementary to university level)
- Indonesian Red Cross (PMI)

Entrepreneurs & Enterprises:

- Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) such as Gonau, Jakos, Tempoyak, and others
- Dekranasda (Regional National Crafts Council)

BUDGET (PHASE I)

- 2022: IDR 499,125,000
- 2023: IDR 649,875,000
- 2024: IDR 755,885,000
- 2025: IDR 775,000,000

PROGRAM DURATION

- **Phase I:** June 2022 – December 2025
- **Phase II:** 2026 – 2028