

FINAL REPORT

Lingkar Institute

Strengthening a consensus for protection of Sumatran tiger in Bengkulu area of Kerinci Seblat National Park, Sumatra

JANUARY 2019-FEBRUARY 2020



This report will be made public. If it contains confidential or sensitive information, please also provide a revised report for sharing with the public.

Section I. Project Information	
Project Title: STRENGTHENING THE MULTI-STAKEHOLDER CONSENSUS FOR PROTECTION OF SUMATRAN TIGER IN BENGKULU AREA OF KERINCI SEBLAT NATIONAL PARK, SUMATRA	
Grantee Organisation: Lingkar Institut	
Location of project: Kerinci Seblat National Park and surrounding areas in Lebong and North Bengkulu Districts of Bengkulu Province, Sumatra	
Size of project area (if appropriate):	No of tigers and / or Amur leopards in project area, giving evidence & source:
<p>Partners: <i>(Please give details of partners, including communities, academic institutions etc. for this project.</i></p> <p>This project will be carried out by LINGKAR INSTITUTE and partnered with institutions that have authority from the central level to the district level. the partner has been working with LINGKAR INSTITUTE permanently on projects in the previous year.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The leaders and Executive of the Indonesia Islamic Scholars Council (MUI) Lebong and North Bengkulu district - will work with Lingkar Institute and lead socialisation of the Fatwa MUI No. 04/2014 which forbids the hunting of endangered wildlife to the community and village religious leaders in the project area; 2. Management Units (UPT) of the ministry of Environment and Forestry (MoEF)- KerinciSeblat National Park Authority and Bengkulu Unit for Conservation of Natural Resources (KSDA): these two agencies hold authority for management of forest and protected areas and wildlife conservation and will be key partners both for SMART patrols and community awareness meetings; 3. Lebong District Forestry Service, will join the project team for SMART patrols in watershed protection forests adjoining the national park; 4. Lingkar Institute holds an MoU with the national park authority and works with the Lebong Chapter of the Indonesia Muslim Leaders (MUI) under an MoU ratified in early 2017. An MoU with the North Bengkulu chapter of the Indonesia Muslim Leaders (MUI) has been agreed in principal; 5. Lingkar Institut will continue to work closely with the FFI/KSNP tiger protection & conservation units which operate from a base camp in Seblat, North Bengkulu; 6. Lebong district government, Discussions with the regents responded well to the plan of cooperation for the formation of Task Force on Human and Wildlife Conflict Mitigation 	

<p>in Lebong Regency;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Discussions with Lebong Education and Cultural Department advise the local district government is enthusiastic are keen to test syllabus and teaching materials (RPP) of conservation education in junior high schools in Lebong; 8. Lebong District Police authority will be the project team's lead partner for wildlife crime law enforcement outside the protected area where investigations secure evidence of poaching or illegal wildlife trade; 9. The FFI/KSNP Tiger Protection & Conservation Units will be strategically important partners providing technical advice and support to Lingkar Institute, including conducting SMART patrols using information from Lingkar Institute community networks and backing up and strengthening poaching and illegal wildlife trade investigations; 10. Local community religious leaders, other forest edge community leaders and youth groups partnering with Lingkar Institute team to secure and pass on information on suspected wildlife crime, threat to tiger and tiger prey and potential human tiger conflict.
<p>Project Contact Name: <i>(main contact via email)</i> ISWADI</p>
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<p>Reporting period: Start date: February 2019 End date: January 2020</p>

Please ensure that your report relates to the objectives and activities detailed in your proposal and log frame. Please include results data in Section II and Section III.

Section II. Project Results

Long Term Impact: *(How has this work contributed to the vision and long term impact that your project aims to achieve?)*

The long-term impact of support will not only overcome and reduce threats to wild tigers in national parks and park-side forests but build stronger and collaborative working relationships between local and national government agencies that will strengthen tiger conservation in the Kerinci Seblat National Park to broader future.

Conservation Outcome: *(What are the actual changes that this project has achieved?)*

Before the project started, some people on the edge of the forest area carried out activities within the forest area to fulfill their daily needs, community activities in the forest hunted both Sumatran tigers and prey animals such as deer and forest goats. This happened because of the lack of supervision and law enforcement carried out by authorized officers. With the joint patrol every month, it can reduce community activities to enter the forest area. Joint patrol can also overcome direct threats by some active hunters.

The Indonesian Ulema Council (*Majelis Ulama Indonesia/MUI*) issued a fatwa on the prohibition of hunting and trading endangered species in 2014, but it had never been socialized to MUI officials at the provincial or district level let alone to the level of the community. The issuance of the Fatwa did not have an impact before the project started. Villagers in general are more afraid of religious rules than by the legal rules made by the government. The socialization carried out was able to provide explanations and knowledge that were previously unknown to the village community, especially forest edge communities. So, the results obtained are changes in the behavior of people who had been hunting but now do not dare to repeat the hunting activity.

Education at the junior high school level has very little conservation content. So, school visit can develop conservation study options in the junior high school curriculum that will build local community generation with an understanding of the importance of wildlife conservation and their habitats.

Before this project was implemented, the responsibility for handling wildlife and human conflicts was only the responsibility of one institution, the BKSDA. But at this time even though the Regent's Decree on the conflict handling task force team has not been signed, all the agencies in the Decree are committed to taking a role in handling wildlife and human conflicts.

Summary of activities and achievements: *(Please provide a summary for use in our communication materials Max 300 words)*

The project was implemented to strengthen the conservation of Sumatran tigers through practical collaboration between government, religious leaders and local communities on the edge of the forest by building awareness using Islamic perspectives and values. In addition, the project also encourages local government policies to strengthen conservation work by adopting conservation education into the education curriculum for junior high school students and the formation of a Task Force for Managing Human and Animal Conflict.

During the project period, much progress has been made in collaboration with the Indonesian Ulema Council (*Majelis Ulama Indonesia/MUI*) which is actively promoting the Fatwa Prohibition of Hunting and Trafficking Protected Animal to local communities in the project area.

We have visited 3 junior high schools to try out the conservation education syllabus that has been prepared in the project during the previous project period. The teachers and the

Education Office responded very enthusiastically to the plan for adoption of conservation education as one of the subjects to be formally taught in junior high schools considering that geographically 70% of Lebong Regency area is forest area.

In the field, by using information networks from the local community, the Lingkar Team has conducted 14 88-day SMART patrols with a distance of 398 km and has found and cleared 2 inactive tiger snares, 3 active prey snares and 17 active prey snares. In addition, the information is also used for investigative purposes.

From the various advances made during the project period above, the Team also experienced technical obstacles, especially in the activities of forming the Human and Animal Conflict Mitigation Team in Lebong District which experienced a setback of time from the predetermined schedule. It happened as there will be a new regional head election agenda, which makes the focus of regional government work focused on preparing the agenda.

Details of activities and results: *(Please give detailed narrative of the results of each objective & output. Please include measures for example patrol numbers and distances covered)*

1. Intensive socialization of the FATWA MUI No. 04/2014 in eight villages in Lebong and North Bengkulu District identified by the project team as centres for tiger and other wildlife poaching.



Collaboration with the Indonesian Ulema Council of Lebong and North Bengkulu districts continues to run well, where as of August 2019, MUI Fatwa had carried out eight times of socialization to the key villages where it was estimated that there were many hunters.

The best results of the socialization were found during the socialization in the Pelabai village in Lebong district, where during the socialization the community said that in the Pelabai village there had been hunting since the 1950s where starting from that year there were routinely conflicts between humans and tigers. Out of 25 participants, 5 hunters are known to be prey animal hunters, and the hunters stated that they did not know that what they did was forbidden by religion. The hunters promised not to repeat the hunting activities.

From the results of the MUI fatwa socialization, it is also known that since the 1970s there have been 3 human victims killed and we conclude that tiger victims are more than the number of human victims.

We will carry out the next socialization in Gunung Alam village, where in this village the Sumatran tigers often appears.

According to the participants, in Gunung Alam village, there are no tiger hunters but if there are prey hunters, the prey hunters usually hunt by using dogs, rifles and snares. Hunters usually hunt before the feast day or during the fasting month.



Gunung Alam Village is also the village where there is a Recidivist named Mr. W who was caught red-handed by the TPCU team, the role of Mr. W at that time was only an intermediary not a hunter. This case was also revealed by one of the residents, and he stated that at this time Mr. W really did not dare to sell Sumatran tigers anymore. Pak W also often reminds other residents not to hunt Sumatran tigers.

We found an interesting socialization in the village of Suka Baru, Marga Sakti sub-district, Bengkulu Utara Regency. From the results of an investigation conducted by TPCU, Suka Baru village is one of the villages with quite a lot of tiger poachers. At the time of discussion it was known that usually tiger hunters in the village did not interact with other communities, hunters usually rarely participated in community activities. From the results of discussions with religious leaders and community shops in the village of Suka Baru, there were at least 4 hunters who used to hunt Sumatran tigers.

Socialization participants are committed to conveying the results of this socialization to the hunters and will convey information if they continue to carry out hunting activities, especially Sumatran tigers or other prey animals.

In this socialization activity, village officials also said that they often reminded hunters not to put tiger snares, they reminded that Sumatran tigers are protected animals. The village officials always convey when there are cases of arrest of the Sumatran tiger trade to hunters. They warned that one day they could also be caught by law enforcement officials.

From the results of the MUI fatwa socialization it was also known that many of the Suka Village residents had fields in the forest area both production forests and national parks, in addition to farming in the forest area many residents also carried out illegal logging activities.

The MUI Fatwa socialization was also carried out in the Topos sub-district of Lebong district. From the results of the socialization, it was known that there were still people who used to hunt deer and forest goats using 5.5 caliber guns or by installing nylon snares. Usually people hunt a lot during the month of Ramadan or before Ramadan because many residents are interested in buying deer or goat meat. The average community does not know if the hunting of animals has been forbidden by the Indonesian Ulema Council.



From the results of this socialization, it was obtained the commitment of all participants not to carry out animal hunting activities. The subdistrict government is also committed to conveying the results of this socialization activity to its citizens through the activities of Topos sub district.

The last socialization was held in the village of Aur Gading, North

Bengkulu Regency. Aur Gading Village is the oldest village in the area, and its local wisdom is still very strong and still runs today. Community leaders of Aur Gading Village said that in the village, no one hunted Sumatran tigers, but they had found intermittent snares in the forest. They thought that it was installed by sebalik bukit people (the nickname of Lebong district residents).

This socialization was carried out together with the administrators of North Bengkulu MUI, and all of the socialization participants did not know that hunting had been forbidden by the MUI. All participants are committed not to hunt protected animals and will socialize to other residents through village events.

2. Regular informal meetings with Indonesia Council of Islamic Scholars (MUI) Leaders in Lebong and North Bengkulu districts regarding progress made and challenges recorded.

Regular meetings that are held record various evaluations and formulate an action plan that will be carried out jointly.

In this meeting, it was determined the villages where the MUI fatwa socialization would be conducted, and in this meeting, it was found out whether the socialization carried out had an impact that could reduce the level of hunting in the village.

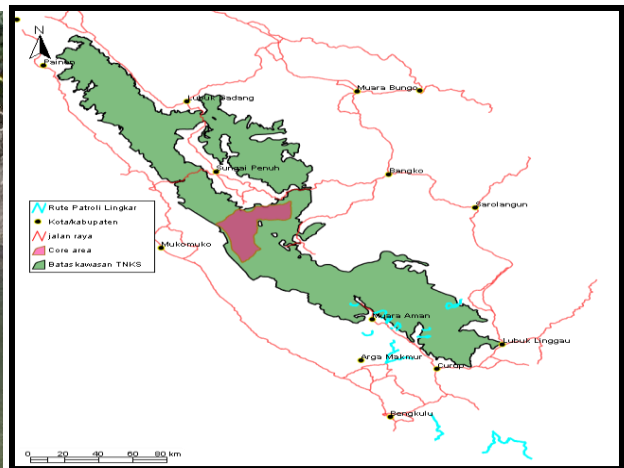
3. Routine meetings with national park, KSDA Lebong, district forestry service and TPCU Bengkulu; patrol and investigation planning and reporting

Regular meetings that are held record various evaluations and formulate an action plan that will be carried out jointly.

Every result of the field patrol and also some of the results of the investigation are discussed at this meeting. This meeting was held 2 times, in this meeting the Institut submitted an official report related to the implementation of activities, both patrolling, investigation, MUI fatwa socialization and the results of visits to schools.



4. Support 12 SMART forest patrols, routine and information-led, by a rapid response patrol unit focused to detecting and reducing threat to tiger, tiger prey and habitat.

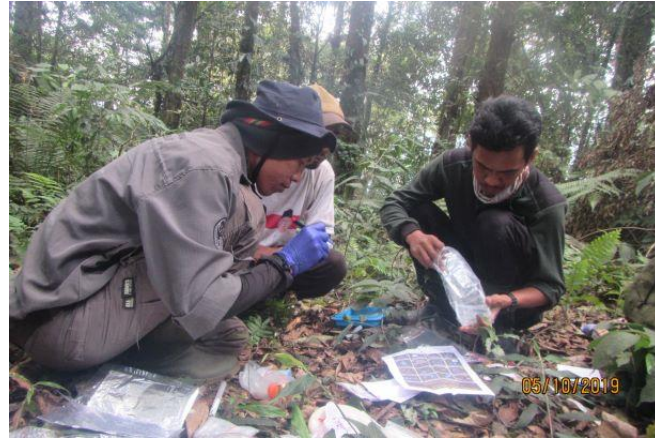


Through support from WildCats Conservation Alliance and Auckland Zoo from February to January 2020 the RRU team has conducted 14 Smart Patrols in the Kerinci Seblat National Park and other buffer zones. The patrol team consists of Lingkar Personnel, local communities

around TNKS and TNKS Officers.

In general, the topography traversed by the patrol team was hills with a total of 88 days of patrol with a distance of 398 KM Waypoint. The patrol team found at least 10 individual tigers along the route, an indication of the presence of Sumatran tigers was found as there were as many as 19 indicators of the presence of Sumatran tigers. Indications of the presence of the Sumatran tiger were in the form of dirt, scratches, and treads.

From the eight patrols conducted by the team, 111 threat indicators were found. The threats were in the forms of using without permission, bird decoy, community farming in the area, illegal logging and hunting for prey animals. Until January 2020 the patrol team found no active tiger snares but the team still found 19 dormant snares which consisted of 2 tiger snares that were not active and 17 snares of inactive prey. The hunt for Sumatran tigers and their prey animals until January 2020 has decreased significantly compared to the previous year. The patrol team only found 3 active prey snares and 5 active bird snares.



The patrol team found a bird rope in the form of a nylon rope on a patrol in July 2019, the nylon rope was dismantled and secured by the patrol team.

Before conducting patrols, the RRU Team always coordinates the Kerinci Seblat National Park to discuss planned patrol activities whether there is new information or findings that need to be followed up on. In addition to discussions with TNKS, the patrol team also coordinated with the FFI Occupancy Study Team so that the patrolled areas did not overlap. From the information of the Occupancy Study team conducted by FFI it turns out that the FFI occupancy study team also did not find intermittent meshes that could threaten Sumatran tigers in the Lebong district. The FFI occupancy study team patrolled 6 times in the Lebong regency, of the six patrols conducted by the occupancy team, all found indications of the presence of the Sumatran tiger. The occupancy team estimates that there are 7 individual tigers found along the route.

The Lingkar Institut patrol team was involved in an occupancy study conducted by FFI and WCS in the Lebong District, where as of December 3 studies had been carried out.

5. Investigation and law enforcement of Wildlife crime and illegal wildlife trade in Lebong, North Bengkulu and adjoining areas.

Investigations were carried out throughout the project area and its surroundings to identify poaching actors and their networks. Investigations were also carried out to secure information about the alleged threat of active poaching against tigers and their prey which will be followed up by the patrol team.

From February to January 2020 Investigations were carried out 24 times with a number of days 1-4 days each investigation. Investigations are carried out in the project area and surrounding areas where preliminary information comes from the project area.

From the results of the investigation it was found that overall in the Project area the number of active hunters tended to decrease compared to the previous year where there were several names found by investigators who were not actively returning to hunt on the grounds as they are afraid of being caught and also no capital to hunt tigers. Some hunters met by the investigator also stated that he no longer hunts tigers by installing snares but he still hunts prey animals using a 5.5 mm caliber rifle.

From the investigation it was also found that circulation of caliber 5.5 weapons was very free in the project area. In addition to the 5.5 caliber weapon, the investigation team also found a small firearm assembled type of firearm. This will be a serious threat in the future where a caliber 5.5 or a small weapon can kill Sumatran tigers when used. Information obtained by the Lingkar Investigation Team regarding the proliferation of weapons has been coordinated with Lebong District police and has also been conveyed to TNKS officers in Lebong District.

The Lingkar Institut Team also conducted an Investigation with the TPCU Investigation team in the northern Musi Rawas district which is still directly adjacent to Lebong Regency. From investigations conducted by the team met with key hunters where these hunters have been active since the 1970s and have sold 1 Sumatran tiger for Rp. 15,000, or £ 1 (one pound) for the current price. According to the perpetrator, he killed many Sumatran tigers and even more than one hundred. Currently the Lingkar team and TPCU team conduct strict supervision by conducting regular communication because these actors are the key targets of law enforcement this year. As of December the investigation team had visited 3 of these key hunters. The last meeting was held in November 2019 where, based on the hunter's statement, he had installed 50 tiger snares distributed in 3 locations. Information on the existence of this snare has also been conveyed to the TPCU team and Kerinci Seblat National Park officers. Investigations conducted with the TPCU Team also received many names of local and national.

6. Routine evaluation and progress with Lebong forestry agencies, KSDA Lebong, Police, and TPCU Bengkulu coordinator.

This meeting was held to convey the results of the Lingkar Institute's activities and ask for input in order to improve so that the activities in the following year could be better.

Lingkar Institute also provides field data both Smart patrol and Investigation data to the TPCU to be followed up together. This meeting can also be a medium for information exchange between the Institute and the TPCU and the police.

7. Conservation education in three junior high schools in Lebong district



Visit schools have been held in three junior high schools in Lebong district, namely 06 Lebong Selatan school, 01 Lebong high school and Air Kopras junior high school.

This activity aims to provide students with understanding of conservation education material for junior high school students in Lebong district. The first

activity was carried out in August 2019 at SMP 06 Lebong Selatan. This activity was attended by 50 students representing each extracurricular at this school. This activity was also attended by 3 teachers including the deputy headmaster of curriculum, the deputy headmaster of student affairs and biology teacher.

This junior high school is very concerned about the education of the environment, where the school has a rule not to shop for drinks or food in containers that can cause garbage. All students and teachers are required to bring drink bottles from their homes. Each student and teacher is also required to plant a tree to be planted in the school environment or outside the school environment. Before this regulation, every activity in the school would cause a lot of rubbish, but now with the awareness of students and teachers there is no longer any visible waste in the school environment.

The second activity was carried out at SMP 01 Lebong Atas, at this school all participants

were very enthusiastic because in Lebong Atas sub-district tiger conflicts often occurred with the community. The socialization team also presented students with tips to prevent and deal with tiger conflicts. The team conveyed to teachers and students the importance of early knowledge about conservation because Lebong district is largely a forest area.



The visit school activity was carried out together with 2 TNKS officers, 1 MUI Lebong official and 1 person from the Lingkar Institut. TNKS officers give students an understanding of the importance of protecting the forest along with the plants and animals in it, especially those in TNKS, an explanation of the laws and regulations governing the forest and the animals and plants in it. The

MUI administrator explained that there was already MUI Fatwa No. 04 of 2014 which forbade the hunting of endangered animals. Lingkar Institut explains that it is important for Conservation education to be integrated into the education curriculum where junior high school students are the next generation who are expected to be able to maintain the balance of the Ecosystems that exist on this Earth

In this activity Through the support of WildCats Conservation Alliance and Auckland Zoo, Lingkar Institut distributed Posters listing animals protected by law and forbidden by the Indonesian ulema council to students and schools.

8. Coordination and regular meetings with Lebong education office and government decision makers.

Lingkar Institute conducts coordination activities for the Lebong Education Office. The results of the meeting with the Lebong Education Office include learning tools that have been approved in accordance with the direction of education policies in junior high schools, then the regional government will adjust the existing procedures to regulate them in regional policies so that they can be adopted in the curriculum and applied to all junior high schools.

9. Create and distribute 1000 posters containing endangered Wildlife pictures that are protected by law



Posters were distributed during socialization activities with MUI in the villages and distributed to junior high school students during visits to schools. Posters were also distributed to MUI administrators and village administrators so that they could be displayed in the village office as one of the conservation campaign media.

10. Stakeholder meetings with an interest in preparing the establishment of a human and Wildlife conflict mitigation task force in Lebong district

This activity has been carried out well in August 2019, where the implementation of activities in collaboration with the Department of Environment of the Lebong district as an element of government agreed to make an official memorandum to the Regent of Lebong district to issue a decree of the team handling the monfic task force between humans and wildlife in Lebong district. Participants in the meeting agreed on the existence of a Special Team that handles human and animal conflicts in Lebong regency, considering that the frequency of conflicts has increased in recent times.

11. Workshop: Drafting a decision letter Regent Lebong to establishment of task forces mitigation of human and Wildlife conflict in districts lebong



This activity was carried out in conjunction with the Meeting with stakeholders, government and community activities, to prepare an outline of needs for the establishment of a human-wildlife conflict mitigation task force in the Lebong district.

This activity was carried out simultaneously in view of the efficiency of the activities and the time and also based on input from

the Office of the Environment when the Institut coordinated.

12. Workshop: Socialization of Lebong Regent's Decree and preparation of work plan of Task Force on mitigation of Wildlife and human conflict in Lebong District

This activity could not yet be carried out because the Decree on the Establishment of the Task Force for Handling Human and Animal Conflicts in Lebong District had not been approved by the Regional Government. Currently in the process of numbering adjusting to administrative procedures in force in the local government system in Indonesia to be enforced.

This activity will be carried out with a joint committee consisting of Lingkar Institut, Lebong Environmental Service and also the nature lover group Warang Imo. The distribution of the activity budget has been carried out and we leave it entirely to the Lebong Environmental Agency and also the Warang Imo KPA.

The results of the last coordination in early January 2020, obtained information that the Regent's Decree will soon be out no later than the end of February 2020 and beginning in March this activity can already be carried out.

13. Meeting with Lebong District Government to agree actions required to establish Lebong Regents decree on the establishment of Mitigation Task Force the Conflict of Wildlife and Humans Lebong District

Meetings have been held to ensure the Formation of the Task Force on Handling Human and Animal Conflicts in Lebong Regency continues to be carried out despite the setbacks of the schedule that have been determined in view of the various obstacles in the national and regional election agenda. This meeting also discussed the committee for the implementation of workshop activities.

Key achievements of this project: *(Please give a bullet point list of key measurable outputs- for example xxx of staff trained in SMART monitoring techniques, xxx camera traps covering xxx km²)*

In this period, Lingkar Institut 2 times sent one staff to participate in smart training held by the Kerinci Seblat National Park Hall and also FFI. Lingkar Administrators now have the ability to analyze smart patrol data and are very helpful in data collection and also reporting. During this period the Lingkar patrol team also carried out 14 routes which were in planning only 12 times. Mileage also greatly increased compared to the previous year, namely in 2018 only 176,659 Km from 11 patrols carried out while in 2019 the Lingkar Institute team patrolled 398,369.44 km.

Obstacles to success: Give details of any obstacles/challenges to success that the project has encountered. *(Any changes to the project that have affected the budget and timetable of project activities should have been discussed prior to the end of the project)*

In this period the Lingkar Institute experienced obstacles which caused a setback to the activity schedule from the planned schedule. This is caused by the tight election agenda at the central and regional levels. Substitution of the head of the environment department of the Lebong regency also contributed to the delay in this activity. The activities which could not be carried out until this report were Workshop: Socialization of Lebong Regent's Decree and preparation of work plan of Task Force on mitigation of Wildlife and human conflict in Lebong District.

Decree on the Establishment of the Task Force for Handling Human and Animal Conflict in Lebong Regency has been approved by the Regional Government. Currently in the process of numbering adjusting to administrative procedures in force in the local government system in Indonesia to be enforced.

Based on the results of the last coordination in January this activity can already be carried out at the beginning of March 2020.

Monitoring and Evaluation: *(Describe the methods used to monitor and evaluate the progress of the project)*

To ensure that the project proposal is carried out and to carry out the process of monitoring and evaluation, various steps have been taken in each activity plan in this project in the achievements made in the Log frame section (Appendix II).

The Lingkar Institut has a mechanism for regular meetings at least 2 times a month, with all staff taking part in this meeting. This routine meeting discusses the work plan and evaluation of the results of activities that have been carried out.

In addition to regular meetings, Lingkar Institut also has regular meetings with the supervisory body of the Lingkar Institut, this meeting is also attended by all staff, at least attended by directors, financial staff, field coordinators and staff administrators and data base. This meeting is chaired by a regulatory body that will evaluate the implementation of activities in accordance with the planning of activities.

Beyond internal circumference, the Kerinci Seblat National Park Center also evaluates whether the activities in accordance with the activities agreed upon in the program implementation plan (RPP) and Annual Work Plan (RKT) that have been signed by the Director of the ring and the Head of the TNKS Office.

Shared learning: *(How will you share the outputs and learning from your project, in what format and with whom?)*

LINGKAR INSTITUTE has written a conservation education book in the perspective and values of Islam by involving experts and practitioners who are partners to share their work experiences in building effective tiger conservation work in the Kerinci Seblat National Park area.