

WildCats Interim (Mid-Year) Report Template

Section I. Project Information

Project Title:

STRENGTHENING STABLE COLLABORATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE SUMATRAN TIGER WITH CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP GROUPS, PREACHERS AND GOVERNMENT

Grantee Organisation:

Lingkar Inisiatif Indonesia

Location of Project:

Kerinci Seblat National Park and its surroundings in North Bengkulu and Lebong Regencies, Bengkulu Province and North Musi Rawas Regency, South Sumatra Province.

Specifically for investigations activities, the project are will be expanded to areas Bengkulu, Lebong and North Musi Rawas Regencies (Rejang Lebong Regency).

Size of Project Area (If Appropriate:**No of Tigers and or Amur Leopard in Project Area, Giving Evidence & Source:****Partners:**

1. The Leaders and Executive of the Indonesia Islamic Scholars Council (MUI) Lebong and North Bengkulu District;
2. Management Units (UPT) of the Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MoEF) - Kerinci Seblat National Park Authority and Bengkulu Unit for Conservation of Natural Resources (KSDA);
3. Lebong District Forestry Service;
4. Fauna and Flora Tiger Protection & Conservation Units (TPCU);
5. Lebong District Police Authority;
6. Local Community Religious Leaders, other Forest edge Community Leaders and Youth Groups.

Project Contact Name:

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Actual Start Date of Project:

01 February 2025 - 31 January 2026

Reporting Period:

February - July 2025

Section II. Project Progress

Summary of Progress for the First 6 Month:

In general, during the first six months of the project period, from February to July 2025, Smart Patrol activities recorded an increase in encounters with Sumatran tigers, while encounters with poaching activities decreased compared to the previous year. In the first six months of the previous year, the team found 26 poaching activity sites, while in this period only 14 sites were found. Fauna & Flora also reported that in 2025, poaching activity findings remained stable and even tended to decline compared to the previous year, particularly with regard to Sumatran tiger poaching. The majority of poaching findings songbird hunting.

Based on the results of the dissemination of the Indonesian Ulema Council (MUI) fatwa in North Bengkulu Regency, there has been an increase in

sightings of Sumatran tigers and sun bears in plantations near residential areas. During the period from February to July 2025, Lingkar Inisiatif carried out two conflict response activities in the Lebong Regency area.

In July 2025, Lingkar Inisiatif collaborated with Tiger Heart volunteers, the Nature Lovers Student Group of the University of Bengkulu, and the Nature Lovers Student Group of the Bengkulu College of Administrative Sciences to organize activities in commemoration of Global Tiger Day. These activities consisted of seven agenda items held in Seluma Regency, North Bengkulu Regency, and Bengkulu City. The activities in Seluma Regency included village discussions and visits to elementary schools; the activities in North Bengkulu Regency included Smart Patrol; and the activities in Bengkulu City consisted of a coloring competition for elementary school students, a talk show, a photo exhibition, and a cultural performance.

Details of Activities and Result to Date:

1. Intensive socialization of the Indonesia Council of Islamic Scholars (MUI) FATWA No. 04/104

During the period of February–July 2025, the Socialization of the Indonesian Ulema Council (MUI) Fatwa was carried out in three villages in North Bengkulu Regency. The socialization was held in Batik Nau Village, Padang Jaya Village, and Giri Mulya Village.

The MUI Fatwa Socialization was attended by 174 community representatives consisting of village officials, community leaders, religious leaders, youth leaders, and women leaders. The comparison between female and male participants was 56 women and 118 men.

This MUI Fatwa Socialization was conducted due to requests and proposals from the sub-district MUI administrators, as the three villages often experience human–wildlife conflicts, particularly with bears. Padang Jaya and Giri Mulya are villages where socialization had previously been conducted. The activity was repeated in these two villages because Giri Mulya has a very large area with a population of 3,586 people, while Padang Jaya has a population of 5,463 people. The socialization was held in mosques different from the ones used previously.

The MUI Fatwa Socialization was delivered directly by the North Bengkulu Regency MUI administrators. The speakers explained that Islam greatly loves and protects all creatures created by Allah SWT, and Muslims are prohibited from hurting, torturing, let alone killing animals. Allah created all of His creations, including wildlife, with their own functions to maintain the balance of the Earth's ecosystem. Specifically, the speakers conveyed the religious arguments as to why the Indonesian Ulema Council prohibits Muslims from hunting endangered wildlife and urged the community to immediately report to the authorities whenever encountering dangerous wild animals such as the Sumatran tiger, bears, clouded leopards, or other dangerous wildlife.

The speakers asked whether participants already knew which wild animals are currently

protected by the government and considered endangered. Most community members were aware, especially of large animals such as elephants, tigers, bears, clouded leopards, and deer.

The results of the pre-test and post-test showed an increase in community knowledge from 85% to 96% regarding protected animals and human–wildlife conflicts. For the Sumatran tiger, 100% of participants knew that it is a protected species. Based on the pre-test, only 65% of participants knew the procedures for handling human–wildlife conflicts, but after the post-test, participants' knowledge increased to 92%. They had learned how to take appropriate actions and to whom they should report when a conflict occurs.

2. Regular informal meeting with Indonesia Council of Islamic Scholars (MUI) Leader in Lebong and North Bengkulu District regarding progress made and challenges recorder.

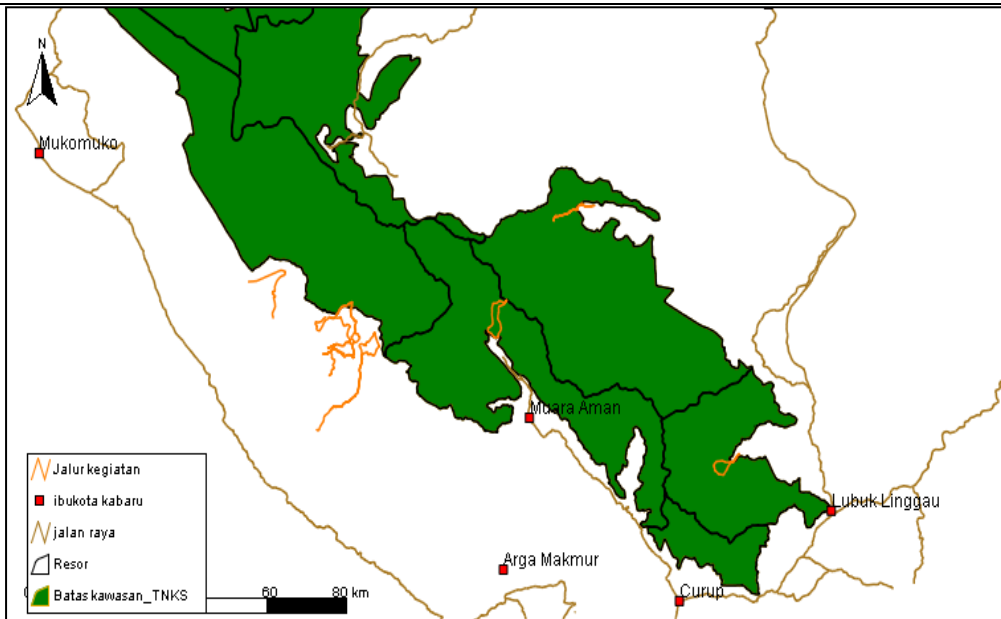
Between February and July 2025, Lingkar Inisiatif held only one meeting with the board of the Indonesian Ulema Council (MUI) of North Bengkulu Regency. In this meeting, the North Bengkulu MUI board conveyed their plan to conduct a socialization program in the regency. The Chairman of North Bengkulu MUI stated that the socialization would be carried out in the villages of Padang Jaya, Giri Mulya, and Batik Nau.

Currently, these three villages are experiencing conflicts with sun bears. In Giri Mulya village, for instance, a bear entered a resident's chicken coop and killed three chickens. Residents are concerned that the bear may threaten humans and fear that villagers might take their own initiative to hunt the animal.

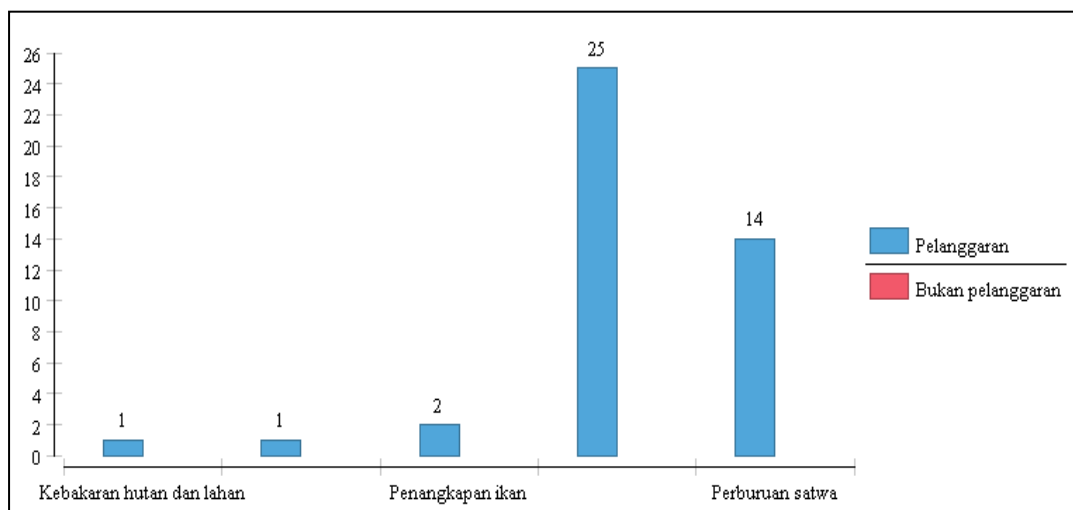
The selection of these three villages for the socialization program was proposed by the sub-district MUI administrators, as they had received reports from the communities in those villages.

3. Regular SMART Forest Patrols are information-led, by rapid response patrol units focused to detecting and reducing threats to tigers, tiger prey and habitat

During the period of February–July 2025, smart patrol activities were conducted along 10 routes with a total distance of 313 KM over 54 days. In July, the activities were carried out three times as part of the celebration of Global Tiger Day, involving the Tiger Heart community. The smart patrol has achieved 60% of the target, based on 18 routes and 500 KM planned until January 2026.



Patrol Route Map



Graph of Human Activity Findings

Period February–July 2025, the smart patrol team discovered 14 poaching threat points, consisting of 1 inactive Sumatran tiger snare, 2 bird snares, and 11 locations with traces of glue traps used for bird hunting. The smart patrol team also found 25 locations of unauthorized use of production forest areas. In addition, the team recorded 1 instance of land burning for plantation activities within the production forest area.

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Jenis Satwa	Perjumpaan langsung	Tanda satwa	Satwa Mati	Hasil Survey
Wild Boar (<i>Sus scrofa</i>)		8		
Sun Bear (<i>Helarctos malayanus</i>)		7		
Pig-tailed Macaque (<i>Macaca nemestrina</i>)	1			
Eagle (<i>Accipitridae</i>)		3		
Sumatran Elephant (<i>Elephas maximus</i>)		11	1	
Sumatran Tiger (<i>Panthera tigris sumatrae</i>)		16		
Barking Deer (<i>Muntiacus muntjak</i>)		1		
Great Argus (<i>Argusianus argus</i>)	1	9		
Asian Golden Cat (<i>Catopuma temminckii</i>)	1			
Long-tailed Macaque (<i>Macaca fascicularis</i>)	6			
Agile Gibbon (<i>Hylobates agilis</i>)		2		
Rhinoceros Hornbill (<i>Buceros rhinoceros</i>)	5	5		
Hornbill (<i>Bucerotidae</i>)	4	7		
Helmeted Hornbill (<i>Rhinoplax vigil</i>)	1			
Great Hornbill (<i>Buceros bicornis</i>)	2			
Sambar Deer (<i>Rusa unicolor</i>)		11		
Siamang (<i>Hylobates syndactylus</i>)	11	24		
Surili (<i>Presbytini</i>)	1			
Malayan Tapir (<i>Tapirus indicus</i>)		16	1	

Wildlife findings table

From the 10 patrols conducted, the team found 16 points indicating the presence of Sumatran tigers, 11 points indicating the presence of Sumatran elephants, 1 point of a golden cat, and 16 points of sun bears. The encounters indicating the presence of Sumatran tigers during this period have significantly increased compared to the first six months of the previous period, when only 3 points of tiger indications were recorded.

4. Investigation and law enforcement of wildlife crime and illegal wildlife trade

WildCats Conservation Alliance is a wild tiger and Amur leopard conservation initiative between Dreamworld Wildlife Foundation and the Zoological Society of London, (UK charity# 208728).

Investigations were carried out five times in North Musi Rawas Regency and Lebong Regency. From these five investigations, the team obtained three new names that were previously unknown to the investigation team.

In Lebong Regency, the team met M in the Topos District. From M's statement, it was revealed that he had decided to stop hunting because, for the past nine months, he had been regularly visited by someone who reminded and persuaded him to stop hunting Sumatran tigers. M also stated that he and his group would stop hunting Sumatran tigers. In this investigation, however, M was unwilling to mention the names of those who might still be hunting Sumatran tigers in his area.

The investigation team also met a senior hunter named P in Suka Datang Village, Lebong Regency. P is one of the hunters who had been accompanied for a year and had already declared that he had stopped hunting Sumatran tigers. This investigation was carried out to verify his statement. When the investigation team met him, P confirmed that he had long ceased hunting and would report to the authorities if he learned of anyone still hunting. Mr. P also advised the investigation team to stop searching for Sumatran tigers.

In Sarolangun Regency, Jambi Province, investigators obtained information about a tiger hunter with the initials A. Based on information from A's wife, A began hunting when the selling price of tiger skin was IDR 6,000,000 per sheet, and at present, A was in the plantation. For three days, the investigators waited for A to return home. However, A did not return, and further investigation needs to be conducted.

At the end of June, the team received a call from D. D reported that a member of his group named RN in the Air Hitam area had managed to capture one Sumatran tiger. RN was still at the location to skin the tiger. D said it would take him three days to reach the village and promised to contact the team again once he met N. Up until now, D has not contacted the team, and his phone has been inactive. The team suspects that the tiger was sold to someone else. In early August, the team will meet D directly to obtain his statement.

The information obtained from investigations in Sarolangun Regency and North Musi Rawas Regency has been conveyed to TPCU, Kerinci Seblat National Park Authority, and also the Bengkulu Regional Police. The Bengkulu Police expressed great enthusiasm if this case could proceed to law enforcement.

5. Regular meetings with the Kerinci Seblat National Park authorities

Two routine meetings with the Kerinci Seblat National Park Authority have been held.

The first meeting took place in April 2025 at the Regional Office III of the Kerinci Seblat National Park Authority. In this meeting, Lingkar Inisiatif and the Kerinci Seblat National Park Authority agreed on the final draft of the Cooperation Agreement (PKS) 2025–2028,

the Program Implementation Plan (RPP) 2025–2028, and the Annual Work Plan (RKT) 2025–2026. The meeting was attended by the Head of Regional Office III TNKS, the Heads of Section V and VI TNKS, as well as staff from Regional Office III BBTNKS.

The second meeting was held at the main office of the Kerinci Seblat National Park Authority in Sungai Penuh, Jambi Province, with the agenda of signing the Cooperation Agreement (PKS), RPP, and RKT. The signing was carried out directly by the Chairperson of Lingkar Inisiatif and the Head of the Kerinci Seblat National Park Authority, and was also attended by other officials within the Kerinci Seblat National Park.

6. Commemoration of Global Tiger Day

A series of activities to commemorate World Tiger Day will be held on July 20-29, 2025,

Series of Activities for World Tiger Day Commemoration

Held in Bengkulu City, Seluma Regency, and North Bengkulu Regency

The Global Tiger Day commemoration is held together with the Tiger Heart community.

The Tiger Heart community is a youth group of Sumatran tiger enthusiasts who volunteer with Forum Harimau Kita (FHK). Tiger Heart Bengkulu was established in 2017 and has been active until now, particularly during the Global Tiger Day commemoration.

Currently, Tiger Heart Bengkulu has more than 50 members. Personally, I serve as the mentor of the Tiger Heart Bengkulu community. The Tiger Heart community is a volunteer-based organization, with most of its members still being university students.

The Global Tiger Day 2025 activities have reached 137 elementary school students in Seluma Regency, 17 elementary school students in Bengkulu City, 10 representatives from civil society organizations, 5 local media outlets, and 2 national media outlets.

Global Tiger Day 2025 also involved 30 Tiger Heart volunteers from 4 universities in Bengkulu City as the organizing committee. The cultural performance, which was the closing event of the 2025 Global Tiger Day commemoration, was attended by more than 300 people, the majority of whom were students and university students in Bengkulu City.

The activities carried out in commemoration of World Tiger Day are:

1. School visits
2. Talk shows
3. Photo exhibition and patrol findings
4. Coloring competition for elementary school children
5. Smart patrol
6. Village discussions
7. Art performances by environmental communities

Results of These Activities:

School Visits

The school visits were conducted in three elementary schools in Seluma Regency from July 21–24, 2025. During these visits, the Lingkar team together with Tiger Heart invited the students to color sketches of the Sumatran tiger. Afterwards, the children were asked to tell stories about their drawings. The team then explained to them about

the Sumatran tiger and the threats it currently faces. The children were also encouraged to tell their parents that Sumatran tigers must not be hunted or traded.

Talk Shows

Two talk shows were held. The first took place at Radio Republik Indonesia on July 29, 2025, broadcast live with three speakers: the Head of the Bengkulu Natural Resources Conservation Agency, the Chairperson of Tiger Heart, and the Chairperson of Lingkar Inisiatif.

The second talk show, also on July 29, 2025, was held at Café Tempoa in Bengkulu City. The speakers included the Head of the Bengkulu Natural Resources Conservation Agency, a Member of the Regional Representative Council of the Republic of Indonesia (DPD RI), the Head of Region III of Kerinci Seblat National Park, and the Chairperson of Lingkar Inisiatif Indonesia. In this session, the DPD RI member expressed support and recommended the government to include conservation-based education in the curriculum, especially in regencies near forest areas. The Bengkulu BKSDA Head shared the estimated number of remaining Sumatran tigers in Bengkulu, which is only about 42 individuals. Meanwhile, the Chairperson of Lingkar explained the characteristics of Sumatran tigers and steps for responding to human–tiger conflict incidents.

Photo Exhibition and Patrol Findings

The exhibition was held on July 28–29, 2025. It showcased photos from Lingkar Inisiatif's smart patrol activities, camera trap images of wildlife, and patrol findings including cable snares, nylon snares, and bird nets. Photos of land clearing and illegal logging also drew serious attention from the DPD RI members.

Coloring Competition for Elementary School Children

This competition was joined by 20 students from Bengkulu City. The committee provided Sumatran tiger sketches as coloring media. It was held at Café Tempoa, Bengkulu City, on July 29, 2025.

Smart Patrol

Conducted on July 19–24, 2025, in the Lebong Kandis production forest and Air Rami production forest in North Bengkulu Regency. The smart patrol team was a joint group consisting of Lingkar Inisiatif and Tiger Heart personnel. They found one old inactive tiger snare and three former tiger snare holes.

Village Discussions

These discussions were held from July 21–24, 2025, in three villages in Seluma Regency: Lubuk Resam, Sinar Pagi, and Giri Nanto. The discussions focused on past human–tiger conflicts in these villages. In Lubuk Resam, residents stated they already had a self-formed task force to handle human–wildlife conflict but had never received detailed technical training. The team explained that communities do not have the authority to handle wildlife directly. Instead, they may monitor and check the conflict site but should not take any action against the animal without authorized officers present.

Art Performances by Environmental Communities

Held on July 29, 2025, at Café Tempoa in Bengkulu City. The performances featured: Cosmip of Bengkulu University with poetry and songs on environmental themes. Bengkulu community art activists performing traditional songs. UKM Senar of Muhammadiyah University of Bengkulu presenting environmental music. The closing performance by the Joni Kane Band, debuting their original song dedicated to the Sumatran tiger, performed for the first time during this World Tiger Day commemoration.

Other activities:

Response to handling community report of human and wildlife conflicts

Period February–July 2025, the team only responded to two conflict incidents, which occurred in June and July 2025 in Sungai Lisai Village and Ladang Palembang Village, Lebong Regency.

In June, the team received information from residents of Ladang Palembang Village that a tiger had killed three goats belonging to the villagers. However, the tiger only killed them without eating its prey. When the team checked the location, they did not find any indication of the presence of a Sumatran tiger around the livestock pen where the incident occurred. The team was unable to examine the goats because they had already been buried by the community. The villagers feared that the tiger might return to retrieve the prey it had already killed.

In July 2025, the team conducted a tiger survey in Sungai Lisai Village. Sungai Lisai Village is a traditional use zone within the Kerinci Seblat National Park (KSNP), which is a Sumatran tiger habitat. During the inspection, the team did find signs of a Sumatran tiger in the form of tracks located about 100 meters from the villagers' houses.

In addition to checking conflict locations, the Lingkar Inisiatif team also conducted personal outreach to communities around conflict areas. As a preventive measure, the team advised residents to build livestock enclosures that are safe from Sumatran tigers, avoid activities during the tiger's active hours, take necessary steps when encountering a tiger, and immediately report to authorities if any indications of tiger presence are observed. In October, the team scheduled outreach activities targeting communities who engage in daily activities within the Sumatran tiger's roaming areas, particularly villagers working as porters transporting goods from Ladang Palembang Village to the traditional gold mining site in the Sulit mining area. This transportation route passes through Kerinci Seblat National Park.

Give Details of any Obstacles to Success that the Project has Encountered Over the Last 6 Months:

In general, during the first six months of the February-July 2025 period, we did not encounter any obstacles, the entire program went well and is still on schedule. Hopefully this condition will continue in the second six-month period August 2025-January 2026.

Budget:

(Expenditure of the activity budget is still in accordance with the plan)

Media:

1. Lingkar Inisiatif Dukung Penanganan Konflik Harimau Sumatera
<https://rri.co.id/index.php/daerah/1761686/lingkar-inisiatif-dukung-penanganan-konflik-harimau-sumatera>
2. Masa Depan Harimau Sumatera Masih Punya harapan
<https://rri.co.id/bengkulu/daerah/1763533/masa-depan-harimau-sumatera-masih-punya-harapan>
3. Global Tiger Day 2025, Harimau Sumatera Kian Terdesak
<https://rri.co.id/daerah/1732897/global-tiger-day-2025-harimau-sumatera-kian-terdesak>
4. Belajar Cinta Satwa Lewat Mewarnai Harimau
<https://rri.co.id/daerah/1763509/belajar-cinta-satwa-lewat-mewarnai-harimau>
5. Harimau Sumatera, Harimau Indonesia, Harimau Kita I Bengkulu Pagi Ini, Edisi 29 07 2025 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wGcMBdUtNVU>
6. Gajah, Harga Diri Sumatera <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HE0aHhJtxmE>

PHOTO GALLERI



Lingkar Inisiatif Indonesia Patrol Team



Lingkar Inisatif Indonesia Patrol Team



Lingkar Inisatif Indonesia Patrol Team



Lingkar Inisatif Indonesia Patrol Team



Socialization of MUI FATWA in Batik Nau Village, North Bengkulu Regency



Socialization of MUI FATWA in Padang Jaya Village, North Bengkulu Regency



Commemoration of Global Tiger Day



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Regular meetings with the Kerinci Seblat National Park authorities



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