



Volunteer Handbook

Yayasan Hutan Masa Depan

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We are excited to welcome you to Yayasan Hutan Masa Depan and we hope you enjoy your time with us. This handbook will help you while you are here with us, so please ensure you read the entire handbook and pay attention to the *please remember to* and *volunteering (the basics)* sections.

Yayasan Hutan Masa Depan

About Us

Yayasan Hutan Masa Depan or Future Forest Foundation (FFF) is an organization founded and working together between Fans for Nature and Conservation Action Network. FFF cooperates with many parties to realize appropriate conservation measures so as to create a harmonious life order between humans and wild animals so that the number of conflicts between humans and wildlife is reduced. Build partnerships with the community and government to carry out conservation activities based on improving the economy of communities around the forest. We understand the importance of community involvement for wildlife conservation and the importance for communities to actively manage the natural resources around them to improve their well-being. We work in different communities and adapt our work based on the needs of people and wildlife. We have built animal centers, forest restoration, protected forest areas with high conservation value

Our Project

Wildlife Rescue Centre

The Wildlife Rescue Centre under the team CROW (Central of Rescue Operation for Wildlife) Is a team that works in all parts of Indonesia to save animals. This team is tasked with saving, caring for and releasing back into the habitat. Wildlife Rescue Centre located in the village of Merasa, Kelay District, Berau Regency, East Kalimantan Province.

Saving protected wildlife without a release plan is a short-term strategy due to inadequate rehabilitation facilities. In addition, each animal requires a unique handling method. Wildlife rescue centers hold the key to giving rescued animals a second chance. This requires efforts and synergy between all relevant parties, especially in Kalimantan. In East Kalimantan, there are no wildlife rescue centers. Meanwhile, the scope of work of the Natural Resources Conservation Agency (BKSDA) is very broad. FFF is committed to supporting the government's program to protect wildlife, especially in East Kalimantan. This rescue center works in 2 provinces: East Kalimantan and North Kalimantan. We chose Berau Regency which is located right on the border of East Kalimantan and North Kalimantan. This prime location will facilitate operations and cover both provinces. Berau Regency is very strategic where there are 250,000 HA of protected forest, which later could be the right location for post-rehabilitation wildlife release.

This animal rescue center has been running and is currently caring for more types of animals such as aves and small primates. Wildlife Rescue Centre has experts who are experienced in carrying out animal care, therefore in the future this animal rescue center is expected to be able to save more animals and send them back to their habitat. We work with local communities to supply animal feed through a cooperation scheme with farmers and breeders so as to create a symbiotic mutualism where the community gets economic value from their gardens and the animal rescue center has sufficient feed to meet the nutritional needs of different animals.

Restoration Forest

The Restoration Essential Ecosystem (TREE) is a team that works to restore damaged forests outside protected forest areas, because we believe 70% of protected wildlife is outside conservation areas, so it is important to save and rebuild all forests.

The number of conflicts between humans and wildlife is increasing due to habitat loss, therefore we need to work with the villagers and create a good system to protect the forest but still have an economic impact on the community. Hunting, illegal logging and massive forest conversion because communities lack knowledge about ensuring sustainable forest management. This has resulted in high levels of damage to High Conservation Value Forests.

FFF believes that conservation activities should have a direct economic impact on the community whereas on the other hand conservation activities will have a good impact on nature. Restoration with the concept of agroforestry is the answer to that problem.

The community will plant trees which will later produce fruit that has long-term economic value, but on the other hand, the community can still plant vegetables and rice in their area so that the community gets short-term economic value for their daily lives. In the end, this concept will regenerate forest and connect corridors that were cut off due to forest and land conversion. So that the creation of trajectories and animal habitats that coexist with the community.

Saving the Kelay River bufferzone can only be done by working together with all parties. FFF focuses on conservation efforts that can support the community's economy so that it can create a balance in nature. Saving the forest is not just about planting trees but also how we make people understand why we plant trees and what the future plans for it are.

FFF collaborates with village governments and communities to build conservation villages with local wisdom values. Agroforestry is a concept that we prioritize to create a scheme where people want to plant trees and still be able to carry out agricultural activities. Without it, all planting activities will be in vain if forest tree planting projects do not relate why forests are important and must be protected by communities. Most importantly, we combine technical know-how with genuine expertise and traditions.

Protecting Forest With Community

In carrying out routine patrols, the forest protection team since early 2020 has recorded various activities : starting illegal activities, forest and land fires (if they occur), data collection on counseling (awareness), installation of signs, animal tracks, non-timber forest products. to infrastructure. Various data and photos of patrol activities are sent directly to the camp if there is a signal. If there is no signal, sent a maximum of 6 days to the data management at Wehea Forest camp. The data received will be processed and the results used by management to improve the effectiveness of monitoring and protection of the Wehea Forest. In the future, by utilizing CT-SMART, it is hoped that it can become real time monitoring.

In addition to CT-SMART, the patrol team is supported by drone cameras to monitor various activities in Hutan Harapan. Various monitored activities are processed in the field before being sent to the office using Cyber Tracker. If during the patrol found new land clearing, illegal logging, forest and land fires and important cases that must be handled, the patrol team immediately took action, accompanied by recording the ongoing activities and immediately reported to the main camp, using the HT communication device.

Safeguarding Protecting Forest also involves the community, the Forestry Service, joint military- police patrols and local NGOs. This team not only conducts routine and periodic monitoring, but also reminds the community around forest not to carry out activities that damage the forest. There are three approaches taken to tackle illegal activities in the forest area, namely:

- a) Pre-emptive approach, by conducting socialization, distribution of brochures and stickers notification of the importance of protecting forests and the biodiversity in them;
- b) Preventive Approach, by installing signs or signs prohibiting illegal activities in forest areas, installing portals to control the flow of people in and out, as well as conducting routine patrols at locations where illegal activities are found, such as encroachment, illegal logging, burning, and hunting of animals:
- c) Repressive approach, taking action against perpetrators of illegal activities accompanied by handing over the perpetrators to the authorities. If the perpetrator is not found, the officers destroy the evidence found by the crime.

Special Patrol for the Prevention and Control of Forest and Land Fires. This special patrol was deliberately formed after observing the trend of forest and land fires that regularly occur every year. Based on analysis and learning from the 2019 Karhutla disaster, the cause of the fires was not natural factors such as the dry season, but deliberate elements. This relates to land clearing by groups of illegal forest cultivators in which the modus operandi is to burn the targeted forest area and immediately plant with oil palm after the fire is extinguished.

Locations and Activity

1. Tanjung Redeb Town

Tanjung Redeb is the closest city from our location, here there are hospitals, ATMs and hotels. You may stop here for a short time or stay here for a few days due to weather reasons or maybe you came too late so it is not recommended to go to the project site.

2. Merasa Village

Merasa Village is 80 km from the city center, from the city we will use a car for 2 hours. In this village, FFF has a joint office with the Conservation Action Network (CAN) and there is a volunteer dormitory. This office is the information and communication center for all project activities so that volunteers will stay 1 day here to get directions from the volunteer coordinator and visit the project site to get acquainted with the working staff before they are actually ready to participate in field activities.

- Wildlife Rescue Centre

At the Wildlife Rescue Center volunteers will assist the daily activities of the wildlife ranger to handle animals. The standard activities carried out are cleaning cages, feeding animals, conducting animal medical checks, providing enrichment, bringing baby animals to play, monitoring animal behavior and many more according to the needs of the animal rescue center. If you are lucky you will be able to participate in animal release activities into the wild, this is a very rare moment and is the goal of the wildlife rescue center activities. During the volunteer activity at rescue centre, he/she will stay together with wildlife ranger at dormitory in basecamp rescue centre

To volunteer at an wildlife rescue center you will need a blood test to ensure that you are not carrying an infectious disease that could seriously affect the animals at the wildlife rescue center

- Restoration Forest

Volunteers will help the restoration team to search for seeds, sow seedlings and care for seedlings in the nursery. Volunteers will participate in planting activities, starting from making the path, transporting seeds to the planting site to planting activities. During activities at the nursery, volunteers will stay in volunteer dormitories and during planting activities, volunteers will stay at the planting site together with the restoration team in a temporary tent built close to the restoration area.

- Visiting Ecotourism area

During volunteer activities you will work for 5 days and 2 days off. You can take a vacation by visiting tourist attractions in the village of Feeling.

1. Orangutan Island
2. The historical grave site of the Dayak Tribe
3. Tracking to Jenum Waterfall
4. Meditation in the natural rock pool
5. Visit the Dayak traditional hall in Long Gie village
6. See turtles in Derawan and Maratua islands (additional charge)

3. Lesan Dayak Village

Lesan Dayak village is 1 hour from the Animal Rescue Center by boat and if using a car from the city 3 hours but depending on the weather if it rains it is not recommended to use the land route because the roads are damaged and slippery. We have worked with the community to protect 13,000 ha of forest. We have rangers working to protect this forest and all rangers are from local communities. Volunteers will stay in camp with rangers and participate in all patrol and wildlife monitoring activities.

Basecamp and Dormitory Fasilitas

- Mattress, sheets, pillow, blanket and mosquito net (Standar Dormitory room)
- We also provide 2 private rooms with double bad beds in each room. This building is separate from the wildlife ranger dormitory and have toilet western inside (Deluxe room)
- Western/Indonesia toilets
- Western showers (cold water)
- Solar power to charge phones and other electronic devices 24 hours
- Kitchen
- Drinking water
- Wifi (2 gb free and the rest you will buy because at the project site we use private satellite internet)

Personal Needed

- Long sleeve light clothing
- Hat
- Sunscreen
- Sunglasses
- Insect repellent
- Good walking shoes
- good gloves for farming
- camera
- dry bag for electronic items
- waterproof jacket
- battery pack / power bank
- torch / head torch
- towel
- large water bottle
- flip flops
- Cash (there are no ATMS once you leave Tanjung Redeb)
- Books, musical instruments, music, podcasts etc. Anything to entertain yourself
- Basic first aid kit

Weather

Kalimantan has a tropical equatorial climate (hot and humid). The maximum temperatures are around 30 to 32 degrees Celsius. Humidity is high, around 80% but can reach almost 90% during December. Below is a general description of typical weather for each month.

January – very hard rain, good for planting

February – very hard rain

March – hard rain

April – hard rain

May – end of rainy season

June – transition from rainy to dry season

July – Start of Dry season, peak tourist season begins from July to September.

August – dry season (less rain)

September – Peak dry season. Greatest chance of forest fires.

October – Start of rainy season.

November – very hard rain

December – very hard rain

Volunteering (the Basics)

Thank you for volunteering with FFF, here are some of the basics:

- a) **DAYS:** Volunteering is **Monday to Friday**. Weekends are free to organise other activities such as viewing orangutans, jungle tracking, water fall swim, visit Dayak history tomb, and enjoying the Dayak traditional culture with traditional dance, following villager activities (You will not be charged additional fees for the holidays because it is part of volunteer activities unless you request holiday activities outside the schedule we have made)
- b) **TIMES:** Generally outdoor activities will start from **7am** (after breakfast) because of the heat and humidity. We try to be flexible with our work day depending on the weather with activities from **7am to 9am** and then **3:30pm to 5pm** (generally). There are also some activities during the day as well.
- c) **BRING:** Please ensure you come prepared for the day including enough water for yourself, sunscreen, insect repellent, hat, bag etc

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Activitys Cost

Every volunteer lives at least 1 (one) week, so it is very effective and has a direct impact on conservation activities. In addition to activities, volunteers will also get a vacation where they will get a tour in the village. The costs listed below include airport pick-up, boat transportation, meals, drinks, dormitory at the project site and holiday. The following are details activities:

1. Standar volunteer for 1 week - 500 Uero
2. Standar volunteer for 2 week - 700 Uero
3. Standar volunteer for 3 week - 900 Uero
4. Standar volunteer for 1 week with Deluxe Room - 600 Uero
5. Standar volunteer for 2 week with Deluxe Room - 700 Uero
6. Standar volunteer for 3 week with Deluxe Room - 800 Uero
7. Vacation to Derawan Island to see turtle conservation activities, snorkeling and diving to see the beauty of the Berau sea - 500 Uero

All of the above budgets are estimated costs and include donations, therefore we are very open to discussion so that volunteers can come and do activities here. Cost estimation is not a price benchmark because it is expected that prospective volunteers can describe their wishes, so that they can be synchronized with their budget. You can also help us by funding activity of Yayasan. Here are the details of the activities :

- 1 Tree Planted = 1 Uero
- 1 Animal Adoption = 1000 Uero/month
- 1 Tree Adoption = 1000 Uero/Years
- Purchase forest and land to make education and conservation area 1 Hectare = 2000 Uero

Please Remember to:

- Respect your fellow volunteers, FFF staff and the local Indonesian people
- Respect the natural environment you have come to volunteer in
- Remove your shoes before entering any of FFF buildings and when visiting people's homes
- Clean up after yourself and put your rubbish in bins. This may include sweeping out your room
- Decline plastic bags, please try and use a reusable bag
- Observe the (usual) early starts due to the heat and humidity
- Ask questions if you don't understand or would like to know more about something
- Stay hydrated (drink plenty of water)
- Be flexible with timings
- Be patient as our staff are continually learning English. You may need to slow down or repeat a question or your statement
- Practical Aspects

Safety and Security

Please tell our staff if you feel unsafe, insecure or have injured yourself. In case of an emergency please contact your nearest staff member. First Aid kits are available at Merasa Village and Sidobangen Village. The nearest hospital is located in Tanjung Redeb.