

Community based outdoor recreation planning: an international collaborative venture between Korea and Indonesia

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Background: MOU between the Korea forest service and the ministry of forestry Indonesia

‘Memorandum of understanding between the Korea Forest Service of the Republic of Korea and the Ministry of Forestry of the Republic of Indonesia on strengthening forest recreation and ecotourism in forest conservation areas in Indonesia on the 12th day of October 2013’. The objectives of this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) are to strengthen forest recreation and ecotourism in forest conservation areas in Indonesia through mutual cooperation.

Scope of cooperation: Community based outdoor recreation planning

Indonesia has 27 million ha of natural landscape and areas protected for ecological conservation, representing outstanding potential. However, with only 2 million dollars in annual ecotourism revenues, there is a need for development and improvement. To this end, our first step was to establish a master plan. This was in response to an official request by the Ministry of Forestry in Indonesia regarding practical measures related to South Korea’s intensive forest recreation and ecotourism concept development. The plan also involved technology transfer and dispatching experts.

Since any suitable plan must be based on detailed and accurate research on Indonesia’s current social and humanistic conditions, as well as on its natural ecology and landscape, it requires cooperation with Indonesian experts. Furthermore, achieving the goal of effective project implementation requires forming a partnership through delegation of responsibilities in establishing the master plan. The master plan comprises of basic conception, studying target area conditions, reviewing prior cases, basic planning, management and operation planning, promotional programs, and public relations planning.

The parts of the plan that deal with its conception, direction, and theme, the analysis of the natural environment and socio-humanistic conditions of the target area, and management and operation planning will be carried out jointly with the local research team. The Korean research team will review the case study of Korea and its applicability to Indonesia. It will also be responsible for the development of a tour program appropriate for the target site, and for public relations planning.

The community-based tourism is most important conception nowadays, therefore effective planning for economic development of local community plays important role in this project. The effective

planning means finding solutions for the problems, which have raised in economic, geographical, and organizational contexts of community and strategies for effective planning based on residents-led community development.

In particular, it is highly important to secure the understanding and cooperation of the Tunak locals, who are somewhat conservative. Therefore, it might be necessary to modify the master plan in accordance with public hearings with the local residents.

Target area: Tunak, Lombok Island, Indonesia

Lombok is an island in the West Nusa Tenggara province of Indonesia. It is part of the chain of the Lesser Sunda Islands, with the Lombok Strait separating it from Bali to the west and the Alas Strait between it and Sumbawa to the east. Gunung Tunak Natural Recreation Park is a natural recreation park located in Mertak Village, District Central Lombok. It was appointed by Minister of Forestry in 1996 covering the area of 312 hectares and declared by Minister of Forestry on August 4, 1997. In 1998, the area was extended into 624 hectares. Historically, before it was declared as national recreation park, Gunung Tunak was established as production forest for concession and community forest. Tunak has low land rain forest vegetation and a small part of highland rain forest.

Implementation philosophy: The value of volunteering and creativity for SAEMAUL spirit in the 21st century Indonesia

The New Community Movement, also known as the New Village Movement or Saemaul Undong [Movement] was a political initiative launched on April 22, 1970 by former South Korean president Park, Chung Hee to modernize the rural South Korean economy. The idea was based on the Korean traditional communalism called Hyang-yak and Ooraee, which provided the rules for self-governing and cooperation in traditional Korean communities. The movement initially sought to rectify the growing disparity of the standard of living between the nation's urban centres, which were rapidly industrializing, and the small rural villages, which continued to be mired in poverty. Diligence, self-help and cooperation were the slogans to encourage community members to participate in the development process. The early stage of the movement focused on improving the basic living conditions and environments whereas later projects concentrated on building rural infrastructure and increasing community income. The Saemaul Undong is believed to be one of the major factors that contributed to the rapid economic growth of Korea. The 3 Key Spirits of SAEMAUL Movement should be developed according to changed circumstances and reality in Tunak, Lombok. The cooperation: empowerment of residents to lead the community as citizens in a democratic society and creating a system to secure their pivotal role in establishing local community organizations; the hard work: economic development through the community spirit of residents and residents' self-leadership, the self-help: resolve community problems and to encourage potentials of community residents and their participation.

Expected Results

With the successful completion of this master plan, along with the designation of ecotourism sites, and the design and building of necessary infrastructure set to begin in 2015, the outcome from the revitalization of Tunak area is expected to be significant.

The current afforestation project on 200,000 ha of land is an example of forestry sector cooperation between South Korea and Indonesia. However, establishing cooperation between these two countries in forest recreation and ecotourism will serve to boost forestry welfare, recreation, and restoration. In addition, the establishment of a community-based ecotourism plan that maximizes the use of natural ecology and the traditional cultural characteristics of the Tunak region may revitalize the local economy. With community development and the establishment of a continued revenue stream, an improvement in the locals' living conditions can be expected.

The Saemaul Movement enabled rapid economic growth in the 70's and 80's in South Korea. A similar movement in Indonesia might serve as the foundation for sustained growth in the community. It might promote the awareness of local residents and inspire them to improve. It could also aid in community development strategies and transfer of techniques.



Figure. Community based outdoor recreation planning in Tunak, Indonesia