



Linking Business with Responsible Forest Management

# TFT's Quarterly Kodak Moment Report: Indonesia Program

Issue 1; Oct-Dec 2007

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**In partnership with the Responsible Asia Forestry & Trade (RAFT) program, TFT works together with TNC in six natural forest concessions throughout Indonesia. TFT is working with the forest companies to improve their policies and forest practices, so that eventually they can achieve forest certification – independent recognition of their responsible forest management.**

**This quarterly update report provides a snapshot of some of TFT's most recent activities conducted in each of the six forest areas.**

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## 1. Mondialindo Setya Pratama (MSP)

- ❖ On October 24, 2007 Tropical Forest Trust (TFT) and MSP signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to work together within MSP's forest concession in Papua, Indonesia. This MOU explains that MSP is committed to working towards Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification and TFT will support them technically to reach this goal.



*An example of an excessive landing and poor skidding practices observed in MSP during Gap Assessment. TFT will be working with MSP to improve this type of unnecessary environment damage in the future.*

- ❖ From November 19-26 2007, a team of TFT staff members together with MSP staff conducted a Gap Assessment within the MSP forest concession. During this assessment, TFT staff examined the concession's legality, forest operations and company policies. From this gap assessment, TFT has been working from December and into January to compile a report to highlight where MSP needs to make improvements in order to reach FSC certification. From the Gap Assessment, TFT has identified a strong commitment from MSP staff and management towards practicing sustainable forest management but also outlined significant improvements that they will need to work towards over the coming years.

## 2. Manokwari Mandiri Lestari (MML)

- ❖ MML, Manokwari Mandiri Lestari, is one of TFT's newest natural forest projects. From 19 – 23 July 2007 a scoping visit to the site was undertaken by TFT staff, followed by the signing of an MOU on 8th August 2007 in Jakarta. A full gap assessment – evaluating current practices and policies against FSC criteria, was conducted between 3-10 September 2007 by a team of TFT staff.
- ❖ Between October and December, much of TFT's MML activities were focused on writing the Gap Assessment Report, and feeding the results into a Certification Action Plan and very specific Annual Work Plan for 2008.



*The natural forests of Papua are home to many unique species of plants and animals. As such identifying and conserving high conservation value forest areas will be an important part of the work ahead.*

- ❖ Despite the early days of this project, TFT has already supported MML in making improvements towards sustainable forest management, including: 1)Developing filing systems to keep better record of forestry documentation, 2)Supporting the delineation in the field of the conservation areas, the 2008 harvest areas, and supporting with associated data processing, 3) Developing capacity to implement a chain of custody system and 4)Improving the seedling nursery and land rehabilitation procedures. At this rate, 2008 will be a very productive year for MML in pursuing their sustainability goals!

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## 3. Mardhika Insan Mulia (MIM)

- ❖ October through December are very important months for TFT in our forest project. Not only are we continuing to work with companies to improve their practices, but it is also time to review the progress made throughout the year against targets, discuss the results with the forest company's Senior Management Team as well as compile the Annual Work Plan for the subsequent year.
- ❖ A priority focus between Oct-Dec in Mardhika Concession was on Reduced Impact Logging (RIL). RIL principles guide forest operators to practice safer forestry while reducing the negative impact of forest operations on the ecosystem. In 2008, Mardhika will undertake an RIL trial exercise, to facilitate the learning of RIL procedures amongst their forest operators, and compare the results to their conventional logging procedures. Many field activities – like site selection and site delineation, and meetings – to discuss locations, timelines and training process were completed by TFT staff with Mardhika in preparation for 2008 RIL activities.

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#### 4. Dwima Jaya Utama & 5. Carus Indonesia

- ❖ From July to August, TFT undertook many activities to assess the Dwima and Carus Concessions and prepare a plan of action to improve their operating conditions towards those recommended by FSC standards. For instance a Gap Assessment was completed between 25th June – 4th July 2007, the report was completed in August 2007, and was delivered and discussed with the Company's Board of Director on 27th August 2007.
- ❖ Unfortunately, despite their commitment, progress on implementing the recommended activities were delayed up until December 2007 due to Idul Fitri holidays and staff business. Also contributing to this delay was a mandatory Sustainable Forest Management assessment being conducted by the Independent Assessor Body from the Forestry Department. This assessment, combined 2008 planning commitments further delayed activity with initiating work on TFT's action plan.
- ❖ With these delays now behind, TFT and Dwima are looking forward to a productive year ahead.

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#### 6. Sumalindo IV (SLJ IV)

- ❖ Oct-Dec was a busy period for TFT staff working with SLJ IV. Field activities focused on a wide range of principles including monitoring wood administration and documentation, monitoring the data processing of pre-harvest inventory data, and supervising the establishment of erosion measurement basin to monitor the impacts of forest operations on soil erosion. TFT is happy to acknowledge that SLJ IV has committed and successfully undertaken pre-harvest inventories at 100% intensity for all compartments (25 compartments).
- ❖ To assess overall progress of SLJ IV towards achieving FSC certification, an intensive internal assessment was conducted with an integrated team consisting of staff from TFT, TNC and SLJ IV. It was a productive exercise, and while acknowledging some improvements made in the forest management of SLJ IV over the last few years, the assessment also detailed many significant improvements still required. TFT will review these findings with SLJ IV Senior Management, and work to rectify the major findings over the coming year.

