

International Conference on Transdisciplinary Approach Research (ICTAR) 2017

Universitas Negeri Gorontalo – Ehime University

# Coastal Biodiversity Conservation through Strengthening Science Values of Local Wisdom of Bajau in Torosiaje Gorontalo

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### Coastal biodiversity; Why

- Indonesia has 3 million hectare mangrove forest (about 23% in the world);
- Great diversity of coastal ecosystems with potential biodiversity, and ecotourism (Whale Shark in Botubarani; Olele coral reef);
- Mangrove (vegetation/fruit) potential for food, medicine, medicinal herbal, as carbon storage;
- Biodiversity of fish, shrimp, shellfish in coastal ecosystem as source of protein, and provide income for society;









 Bajau local wisdom has values for conservation coastal ecosystems. (Bajau community living in the floating village of Torosiaje, mangrove forest in the settlement of Bajau are well maintained);







Site: Bajos' Village of Torosiaje, Torosiaje Jaya, Bumi Bahari, Gorontalo Province. Indonesia







Village of Bajo Community in Torosiaje Gorontalo (foto; Ramli,2011)





#### Coastal biodiversity: the problem

- Indonesia has lost 40% of mangrove forest,
- Logging, conversion;
- Reclamation;
- Destructive for fishing;

Pressures on the biodiversity and its ecosystem shows the Ecological crisis;





## **Objectives**

- a. Strengthening the Bajau local wisdom to the KSL with an understanding of ecological science values that encourages coastal communities to restoration, conservation biodiversity;
- b. Contextual learning the subject of coastal ecosystem, biodiversity and local wisdom in the elementary school, that encourages coastal school to build character conservation.

#### **Method**

- ➤ The community target is "Kelompok Sadar Lingkungan" (Awareness Environmental Group) on Bajau communities at Torosiaje village, Pohuwato, Gorontalo;
- Identification of local wisdom in form of local knowledge, and traditions which implies the conservation of the mangrove ecosystem;
- Focus group discussion (FGD) about local knowledge, traditions, and assistance with kelompok sadar lingkungan so that they have an understanding science values on mangrove restoration in their;
- Build a field ecology; to strengthening ecosystem restoration, and contextual learning of the ecosystem in the school.

## Result (1)

- Identified the forms of local knowledge Bajau and its scientific meaning in restoration of mangrove.
- a) Mamia kadialo; the traditional of Bajau for fishing journey up to several days and even months.
  - Along this Mamia kadialo moment, families are left at home is prohibited to dispose of ash kitchen, prohibited to washing cookware in marine waters, discard water chili. If the traditions are violated then the fishing journey would have disastrous.

The science values of Mamia kadialo is; Bajau people are prohibited to pollute the sea waters. b) Bajau people should not be cut down the mangrove trees that is still growing or too young, that are believed to interfere with the spirits.

The science values is: maintain and conservation mangrove ecosystem, biodiversity species mangrove.

c) Restriction to consume the turtle meat, it is could be disaster. Turtles are believed to help Bajau people.

Science values is: preservation of wildlife, and maintain species biodiversity

## Result (2)





## Result (3)

d) Some of Bajau people still use simple method for fishing, i.e, using arrow to certain size fish that already be consumed;

Science values is; fish and biota have opportunity to reach adult stage and the breeding phase; and maintain biodiversity

e) Scientific name of mangrove species were learned (contextual) to coastal school, that is: Avicennia sp (bajau; apapi), *Rhizophora apiculata* (bajau; bangkau dinda), *R. mucronata* (bajau; bangkau lila), *Sonneratia alba* (bajau; pappa lila), *S.caseolaris* (bajau; pappa dinda).



Childre n, 2015

#### **CONCLUSION**

- a) The local knowledge and traditions in local wisdom of Bajau community has science values for biodiversity conservation and character conservation;
- b) The local wisdom of Bajau communities can be preserved by strengthening science values;
- Field ecology of mangrove as an important to biodiversity and mangrove ecosystems conservation.

