

# **Lessons Learned Between Senyerang Village With PT. Wirakarya Sakti, Jambi**

## **BACKGROUND**

In Jambi province in Sumatra, Indonesia, there has been a long standing social conflict between a pulpwood plantation concession holder, PT. Wira Karya Sakti (WKS), and a local community in Senyerang.

This conflict started in 2002, and involved a complex issues of legal land allocation from the Ministry of Forestry, and community claims for land use.

Historically, agreements were reached in 2004 between the company and community. This included the establishment of community plantations (673 hectares), employment of local people by PT WKS and also community development programs. However, this agreement broke down in 2010.

Since then, hundreds of communities and multi stakeholder engagements with local and national government and CSR programs had been conducted by WKS to reach a common agreement, based on the existing law and regulations. However, several arbitrary actions by some members of Senyerang community still persisted.

## **Resolution process**

In 2012 the Minister of Forestry approved the allocation of 2 hectares per land per family, for a total 2,002 families, which allocated around 4,004 hectares in partnership scheme for the local communities.

Despite this decision by the Minister of Forestry, several issues still remained, such as determining the location for the allocated land; concern from PT WKS with regards to land use of the allocated land, as it needs to meet up the production target as set in the ministry-approved work plan; and the details of the financial support that PT WKS has to provide for the community for their rubber plantation development.

Through facilitation by the Ministry of Forestry and the Forest Trust, and using the guidelines of the Collaborative Conflict Management and Responsible Conflict Resolution Guideline protocols, WKS and Senyerang community has reached a mutual agreement to solve this conflict.

This final agreement was signed on Friday, 5 July 2013 between WKS and the leaders of Senyerang community, witnessed by the Minister of Forestry and the ministry's senior officials. The agreement further cemented the 4,004 hectares that has been agreed in 2012, where out of those, 1,001 hectares will be planted by rubber while 3,003 hectares will be planted with Acacia, on a profit-sharing basis.

### **Implementation of the agreed resolution**

PT WKS has fulfilled his commitment on the MoU agreement as follows:

1. Establishing the Senyerang Village Cooperative as the vehicle for the community in implementing the partnership scheme with the company.
2. Assistance to provide rubber tree seeds through the Cooperatives. This rubber tree seeds would be planted by the community on the 1,001 ha as per the agreement. PT WKS continues to support the community on their rubber plantation including providing additional seedlings to replace the seeds that die / cannot grow.
3. Providing training for the communities on rubber tree cultivation, which includes choosing the right species to be planted on peat; planting, maintenance and sapping techniques; and fire prevention.
4. PT WKS continue activities on 3,003 ha plantation area managed on profit-sharing basis. The profits are paid out to the community through the Cooperative, based on the schedule as set out in the agreement.
5. Canal and water level management.