



InfiniteEARTH™
Beyond Carbon. Beyond Sustainability.



Rimba Raya Biodiversity Reserve Central Kalimantan, Borneo, Indonesia

Project Brief

Rimba Raya is the world's largest initiative to protect and preserve High Conservation Value (HCV), tropical lowland peat swamp forests - one of the most highly endangered ecosystems in the world. The Rimba Raya Biodiversity Reserve aims to reduce Indonesia's greenhouse gas emissions and protect the endangered Borneo Orangutan, and other RED listed species, by preserving 64,977 hectares of tropical peat swamp forest.

Forming a critical buffer zone to Tanjung Puting National Park in the Seruyan River watershed, Rimba Raya is rich in biodiversity, including several flagship species such as the endangered Bornean Orangutan, Clouded Leopard, Gibbon, Proboscis Monkey, and Asian Sun Bear. Project revenues have been able to fund rehabilitation programs, environmental education programs, as well as the Orangutan Foundation International. In addition, the project builds upon the work of World Education to improve access to clean water, efficient cook stoves and health care have been a priority in the first stage of the project.

In 2007, the Project Area was under imminent threat of planned deforestation; the area was gazetted by the provincial governmental to be converted into four palm oil estates. This area has now officially been re-designated as a Conservation Forest resulting from infiniteEARTH's successful bid to win the approval of Indonesia's first "Ecosystem Conservation & Restoration" concession license.

The Rimba Raya Biodiversity Reserve Project is the largest-ever REDD project to see its emission reductions verified under the Verified Carbon Standard, reducing greenhouse gas emissions by an average of 4.5 million tonnes per year and having already verified over 15 million tonnes to date. The project is scheduled to reduce more than 130 million over the 30 project life.

Project Facts

Location

Central Kalimantan
Island of Borneo
Indonesia

Land Classification

High Conservation
Value (HCV)
High Carbon Stock
(HCS)
Tropical Peat Swamp
Forest

Scope

64,977 hectares
(160,561 acres)
>150M tonnes CO₂e
avoided emissions
World's largest
privately funded
Orangutan reserve

Certification

VCS Verified
CCB Gold Verified

Project Impacts



Economic Development

Rimba Raya provides alternative income streams through capacity building, investments in micro-finance and programs that provide basic necessities. The REDD+ conversation model supports local economic growth through the funding of community enterprises, along side our global responsibility for environmental sustainability. With funds from REDD+ credit revenues, InfiniteEARTH has funded a variety of community-based programs including community farms that plant 350,000+ trees. The program is designed to improve environmental quality and create diversified income opportunities through the planting of native cash crop species such as natural latex, natural chewing gum, and essential oils on previously degraded land within the Reserve.



Community

Rimba Raya's community development programs are designed to meet all 17 of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, which focus on the rights and welfare of women and children as the primary vehicle for the eradication of chronic poverty. Funds from REDD+ Revenues are being used to fund employment opportunities and micro-finance programs that diversify historical (unsustainable) income streams.



Endangered

and plants, and is the largest privately funded Orangutan reserve in the world. One of the only three remaining species of great apes, these docile, rare, and marvelously expressive creatures once inhabited the tropical forests throughout southeast Asia. Today, they are found only in a few isolated and fragmented forests on the islands of Borneo and Sumatra - two areas that have experienced the highest deforestation rates in the world during the past 20 years. Rimba Raya works in close partnership with the Orangutan Foundation International to develop and administer programs committed to the long-term protection of Borneo's vanishing Orangutan.



Project Impacts



Water

With funds from REDD+ credit revenues, InfiniteEARTH has funded the distribution of an “appropriate rural technology” (ART) low maintenance, ceramic water filters to each and every household in the project area. These filters are coated with colloidal silver, which kills 99.98% of pathogens from unsanitary water. By supporting widespread distribution of enhanced water filters, the Rimba Raya project is eliminating a chronic health issue in the communities and is further reducing the pressures on the reserve’s forests from the daily collection of fuel wood used for boiling water.



Cook Stoves

With funds from REDD+ revenues, Rimba Raya has distributed fuel efficient, smokeless cook stoves. These cook stoves reduce the need for fuel wood harvesting by over 50%, and dramatically reduce indoor pollution, a major source of health problems, particularly amongst women and children.



Emissions Reductions

Rimba Raya is currently the largest REDD+ project in the world, in terms of net emissions avoidance delivered to-date. The project has produced in excess of 15M tonnes verified to date, with an expected 130M+ tonnes of emissions avoided over the life of the project.



VCS Certification

The Rimba Raya Biodiversity Reserve Project is the largest-ever REDD project to see its emission reductions verified under the Verified Carbon Standard, reducing greenhouse gas emissions by an average of 4.5 million tonnes per year, and is scheduled to reduce over 130 million over the 30 project life.



CCB Certification

Rimba Raya was the first REDD project to earn Triple Gold Validation under the CCB Standard in recognition of the project’s demonstration of “exceptionality” in all three key areas of “Climate,” “Community,” and “Biodiversity.” The project continues to maintain its Triple Gold Verification status.

About the Project Developer



InfiniteEARTH

InfiniteEARTH is dedicated to Sustainability Solutions that go Beyond Carbon Neutral & Sustainable. We are committed to the development of economically viable, market based solutions to climate change and environmental degradation by addressing the underlying drivers of deforestation – primarily poverty. To that end, InfiniteEARTH projects focus on the preservation of Endangered Species Habitat, High Conservation Value (HCV) and High Carbon Stock (HCS) Forests, and the protection of National Parks through the creation of social and physical buffer zones. Additionally, our projects are designed to meet all 17 the UN Sustainable Development Goals by funding sustainable development in rural communities through capacity building and technology transfer of low impact technologies such as access to clean water, solar systems, fuel-efficient cook stoves, aquaponics, agro-forestry (“jungle crop” model), funding of other community enterprises and the delivery of various social benefits programs such as health care and early childhood education materials.