

ENVIRONMENTALISM IN JAVA AND EAST KALIMANTAN: TRANSREGIONAL DIMENSIONS OF INTEGRATION

THIS PROJECT IS FUNDED BY THE SEVENTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION WITHIN THE JOINT RESEARCH PROJECT „INTEGRATION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA: TRAJECTORIES OF INCLUSION, DYNAMICS OF EXCLUSION“ (SEATIDE), WORK PACKAGES 3 UND 4, (DECEMBER 2012-MARCH 2016).

ITS STARTING POINT ARE ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS OF AIR AND WATER POLLUTION AS WELL AS DESTRUCTIVE EXPLOITATION OF OTHER NATURAL RESOURCES IN INDONESIA, ESPECIALLY FORESTS AND MARINE LIFE. WHILE POLLUTION CANNOT BE DEALT WITH ON A LOCAL BASIS, THE MODES OF EXPLOITATION CAN BE ADDRESSED LOCALLY, SO IT CAN BE EXPECTED THAT LOCAL ACTORS AND COMMUNITIES HAVE DEVELOPED THEIR OWN STRATEGIES FOR ENVIRONMENTALISM. THE REGIONS, WHERE RESEARCH WAS CONDUCTED, WERE LOCATED IN JAVA AND KALIMANTAN. MANY MIGRANTS, FOR INSTANCE TEACHING PERSONNEL, HAVE COME FROM JAVA TO KALIMANTAN TO ‘EXPORT’ EDUCATION, AND NUMEROUS PEOPLE FROM KALIMANTAN REGULARLY LEAVE FOR JAVA TO SEEK EDUCATION.

THIS PROJECT AIMED AT DESCRIBING AND EXAMINING THE STRATEGIES LOCAL COMMUNITIES EMPLOY TO CONTRIBUTE TO SUSTAINABILITY IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF INDONESIA. IT EXAMINED THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE FACTORS MOBILITY, ISLAM AND EDUCATION INFLUENCE THESE STRATEGIES. MOREOVER, IT ADDRESSED THE USE OF RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, WHICH IS NEEDED TO RETAIN CRITICAL ECOLOGICAL RESOURCES, AND GOVERNANCE THAT INFLUENCES RESILIENCE DURING SELF-ORGANIZATION. FURTHERMORE, IT WAS SHOWN HOW THESE OFTEN INFORMAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FEED BACK INTO THE LOCAL COMMUNITIES. THE METHODS USED WERE MULTI-SITED FIELDWORK, PARTICIPANT OBSERVATION, GUIDELINE-BASED INTERVIEWS, EXPERT INTERVIEWS, AS WELL AS FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS.

FOR WP3, MONIKA ARNEZ CONDUCTED RESEARCH ON ISLAMIC BOARDING SCHOOLS (*PESANTREN*) IN FEBRUARY 2014 IN CENTRAL JAVA. FOR WP4, MONIKA ARNEZ CONDUCTED FIELDWORK IN EAST KALIMANTAN, INDONESIA, IN JULY AND AUGUST 2014. THE AIM WAS TO EXAMINE THE STRATEGIES LOCAL COMMUNITIES EMPLOY TO CONTRIBUTE TO SUSTAINABILITY AND TO DEAL WITH ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS. SHE ANALYZED HOW THE PROJECT FOR MANGROVE ECOSYSTEM CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE IN THE ASEAN REGION (MECS), THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD, SCHOOLS, NGOS, AND FISHERMEN EXCHANGED KNOWLEDGE ABOUT MANGROVE FORESTS AND INVOLVED LOCAL COMMUNITIES. ANOTHER PROBLEM ARNEZ’S RESEARCH ADDRESSED IS THE DISTRIBUTION OF RESOURCES ALONG ETHNIC LINES. IN THIS CONTEXT, HER RESEARCH ANALYZED EFFORTS OF ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVISTS, MOSTLY DAYAK, TO TACKLE PROBLEMS RELATED TO COAL MINING ALONG ETHNIC LINES. IT SHOWED HOW DAYAK PEOPLE, BY OPENLY DEMONSTRATING FOR THEIR RIGHTS AND FORGING TIES WITH LOCAL POLITICIANS IN THE CITIES IN EAST KALIMANTAN THEY ALSO PAVE THE WAY FOR THEIR BETTER INTEGRATION IN THESE TOWNS, WHERE THEY ARE A MINORITY.

OUTCOMES:

1. „SHIFTING NOTIONS OF NATURE AND ENVIRONMENTALISM IN INDONESIAN ISLAM,” IN: BARBARA SCHULER (ED), *ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE IN SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIA; HOW ARE LOCAL CULTURES COPING?* (LEIDEN: BRILL, 2014), CHAPTER THREE, PP. 75-104.

UPCOMING PUBLICATION:

2. “WHOSE LAND, WHOSE RESOURCES? ADVOCACY, CONSERVATION AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN TWO EAST KALIMANTAN RESOURCE FRONTIER CITIES,” IN: SILVIA VIGNATO (ED.), *UNIMAGINABLE COMMUNITIES: HIDDEN FORMS OF INTEGRATION OR DISINTEGRATION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA* (TEMPTATIVE TITLE) (CHIANG MAI: SILKWORM), 27 P.

IN ADDITION TO THE PUBLICATIONS PUBLISHED DURING THE DURATION OF SEATIDE, MONIKA ARNEZ ALSO PLANS A BOOK ENTITLED “LIFELINE MAHAKAM: TRANSFORMATION OF CULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT IN TRANSREGIONAL PERSPECTIVE.”