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# THE COMPLEXITY & CONSEQUENCES

OF THE POLICY IMPLEMENTATION ON SUSTAINABLE WAY

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# **The Complexity and Consequences of the Unstable Policy Implementation Dealing with Sustainable Ideas**

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## **ABSTRACT**

*This paper portrays a case study in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, looking at the dynamic relationship between communities and the effectiveness of implementation of community based forest management (CBFM) policies and its programme, and particularly how local institutions deal with the shifting dynamics of these policies. As there is currently an absence of research in this area this research therefore focuses on how the local community implements policy, builds relationships with other stakeholders and strengthens local community institutions.*

*CBFM has been implemented in Yogyakarta since 1995 and during that time, the central government has been changing the policy for five times. At this point, this paper argues that CBFM should rely on local institutions and deal with shifting dynamics of policies. The terms of institutions can be considered to include formal institutions, such as Constitution, government laws, charter, decree and statutes, and informal institutions, such as code of conducts, customs, local knowledge and social expectations. Furthermore, in selected communities, it is clear that the local communities can apply their informal institutions as an important component and value of traditional systems and significantly involved in forest management sustainability and establish the formal institutions simultaneously.*

**Key words;** *Community-based forest management, institutions, formal institutions, informal institutions, Yogyakarta-Indonesia.*

## INTRODUCTION

Community-based forest management (CBFM) is an idea that has spread quickly and it has been adapted by many countries (Adhikari, 1990; Armitage & Hyma, 1997; Colchester, 1994; Schmink, 2008). The concept of CBFM emerged in response to the failure of the previous model of forest management that was mainly state-led and oriented towards industry. CBFM calls for a change from state-based, centralised control and privatisation oriented to people-based or community-based (Arun Agrawal, 2001b; Mendoza & Prabhu, 2005). In response to the failure of forest management, the Indonesian government established a programme called Community Based Forest Management (CBFM) that gave an opportunity to local communities to use and utilise the state forest areas.

The basic idea of CBFM is a synergy between local people and their environment (Arun Agrawal, 2001a; H. Purnomo & Mendoza, 2011). If the local people can participate and get access to the forest resources near to them, and they use their local knowledge in a sustainable way, the forest resources will be sustainable, and the local people will gain economically and socially (A. Agrawal & Yadama, 1997). Therefore, it is clear that CBFM should describe the local knowledge relying on the forest sustainability. Besides, local knowledge is an important component and value of traditional systems and significantly involved in local community activity (Bodorkos & Pataki, 2009; Mulyoutami, Rismawan, & Joshi, 2009). North (2005) argues that the institutional structure that is involved establishes who the stakeholders are and how they can affect their choices. In terms of informal constraints, this is an integral part of institutional structure that determines human interaction and some of them may arise as a result of the uncoordinated action of individuals or organisations (Douglass C. North, 2005).

According to Ostrom (1999, p.: 51), institutions have wide definitions and numerous concepts that are based on behavioural rules, norms and approaches. In other words, “institutions are the prescriptions that humans use to organise all forms of repetitive and structured interactions, including those within families, neighbourhoods, markets, firms, sport leagues, churches, private associations, and governments at all scales (Elinor Ostrom, 2005, p.: 3). North (1990, p.: 3) argues institutions are the rules of the game in society or, more formally, are