



# Women's Involvement in the Utilization of Non Timber Forest Products in West Sumatra

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## INTRODUCTION

The involvement of women in agricultural sector and rural development in developing countries is considered as a common condition. In some part of Asia, women are being used as an unpaid labor force to meet rural development project goal in the name of women's participation. In the case of Indonesia, women involvement in agricultural sector as a labor has caused women to have a dual role. As part of women's role in managing her household, has forced women in rural areas to look for alternative incomes by utilizing forest resources. In NagariIndudur, West Sumatra, Indonesia, the utilization of non timber forest products has been managed by local government (Nagari). In 2008, NagariIndudur issued Nagari regulation (Perna 04/WN-IND/IV-2008) about the obligation to maintain and manage forest products. After a few years, community gain benefit by harvesting the forest products. In addition, it is not only community leaders and farmers groups supported this regulation, but also women's group Selembar Daun.

## RESEARCH METHOD

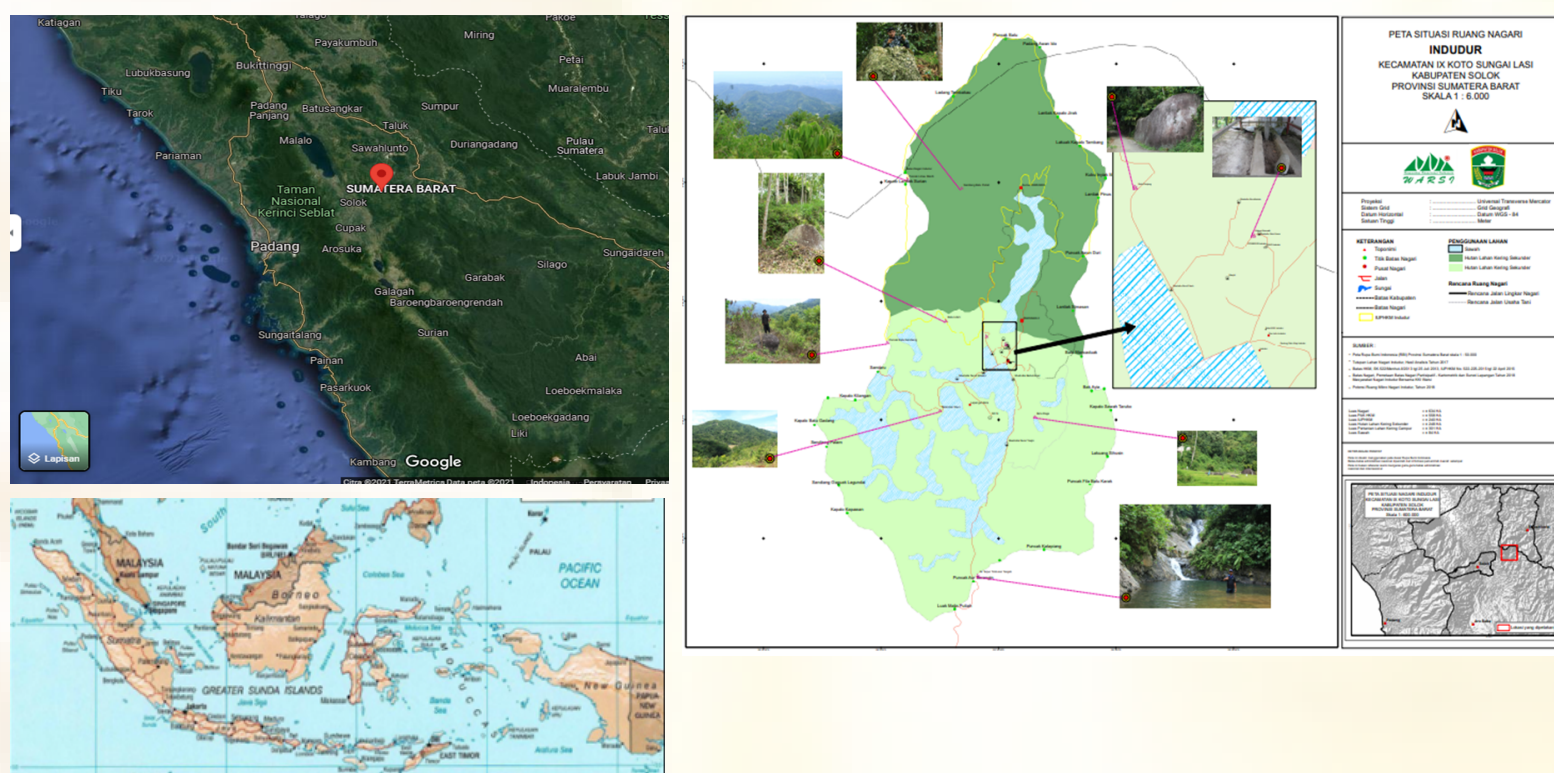
- This study was conducted using a survey method.
- The population in this study was member of Selembar Daun Women's group in NagariIndudur, Solok District of West Sumatra Province, Indonesia.
- Total of 55 of member Selembar Daun Women's group were interviewed. In depth interview were carried out with key informants
- This research used Harvard Analytical Frame work.
- The data was gathered through two interrelated tools.

>> First is activity profile that shows productive activities, reproductive activities and social and community involvement activities.

>> Second is an profile of access, control and benefit of resources

## RESEARCH RESULTS

### Research Area



### Respondents Profile

Table 1. Respondent Profile of Selembar Daun Women's group in Nagari Indudur, Solok District, West Sumatra, Indonesia

Respondents Profile		Total Respondents (people)	(%)
Age	≥ 20 – < 30 years	3	6%
	≥ 30 – < 40 years	11	20%
	≥ 40 – < 50 years	6	11%
	≥ 50 – < 60 years	25	45%
	≥ 60 years	10	18%
Formal Educational background	Elementary School	33	60%
	Junior High School	10	18%
	Senior High School	11	20%
	Undergraduate	1	2%
	None	0	0%
Non Formal Educational background	Sewing training	7	13%
	Candle Nut Processing Training	3	5%
	PNPM Training	1	2%
	Cooking training	2	4%
	None	42	76%
Main job	Farmers	48	87%
	Trader	5	9%
	Exercise instructor	1	2%
	Paud manager	1	2%
Other side job	Work in Parak	48	87%
	None	7	13%
Marital status	Married	41	74%
	Married (but spouse stays in other city)	2	4%
Family member	Single/widow	12	22%
	1 – 3 people	33	60%
	4 – 6 people	22	40%

- The percentage of respondents with the age range ≥ 50 to <60 years is 45% of the total number of respondents.
- Although 18% of them are at the age of over 60 years old, they still want to involve and participate in the women's group activities.
- 60 % of the total number of respondents only graduated from elementary school. only 2 % of them are graduated from university.
- Although there were only 3 respondents who has been trained for candle nut processing into candle nut oil, this is become the starting point of the expansion of women's group activities.

Table 2. Productive Activity Profile of member of Selembar Daun Women's group in Nagari Indudur

Productive activity	Family labor				Hired labour		Productive activity	Family labor				Hired labour		
	Father	Mother	Boys	Girls	Man	Women		Father	Mother	Boys	Girls	Man	Women	
<b>1. Paddy</b>														
Seeding	√	√√	√	-	√	-	<b>3. Arecanut</b>	Land preparation	√√	√	√	-	√	-
Land preparation	√√	√	√	-	√√	-		Planting	√√	√	-	-	√	-
Planting	√	√√	√	-	√	√√		Weeding	√	√	-	-	-	-
Weeding	√√	√	√	-	√	-		Harvesting	√	√√	-	-	-	-
Fertilizing	√√	√	√	-	√	-		Selling	√	√√	-	-	-	-
Penyemprotan	√√	√	√	-	√	-		<b>4. Cinnamon</b>						
Harvesting	√√	√	√	-	√√	√	Land preparation	√	-	-	-	-	-	
Selling	√	√√	√	-	-	-	Planting	√	√	-	-	-	-	
<b>2. Candlenut</b>														
Land preparation	√√	√	√	-	√	-	Weeding	√	√	-	-	-	-	
Planting	√√	√	√	-	√	-	Harvesting	√	√	-	-	-	-	
Weeding	√	√	√	-	-	-	Processing	-	√	-	-	-	-	
Harvesting	√	√√	√	-	-	-	Selling	√	√	-	-	-	-	
Candlenut oil processing	√	√√	-	-	-	-	<b>4. Honey bee</b>							
Selling candlenut	√	√√	-	-	-	-	Harvesting	√	-	-	-	-	-	
Selling candlenut oil	√	√√	-	-	-	√	Selling	√	-	-	-	-	-	

√ = active √√ = dominant active

Table 3. Reproductive Activity Profile of member of Selembar Daun Women's group in Nagari Indudur

Reproductive activities	Subject			
	Father	Mother	Boys	Girls
Cooking	√-	√√	√-	√
Washing clothes	-	√√	√-	√
Taking care kids	√	√√	√-	√-
Collecting wood	√	√	-	-
Cleaning house	√-	√√	√-	√
Shopping to the market	√-	√√	√-	√
Accompany children for study	√-	√	-	-
Take children to school	√	√	-	-

√ - = rarely involve √ = involve √√ = dominant involve

Table 4. Access, Control and Benefit Profile of Selembar Daun Women's group in Nagari Indudur

Resources	Access		Control		Benefit	
	Man	Woman	Man	Women	Man	Woman
Paddy field	√	√	√	√√	√	√√
Parak	√	√	√	√√	√	√√
<b>Forest product</b>						
Rubber	√	√	√√	√	√	√
Arecanut	√	√	√	√√	√	√√
Candlenut	√	√	√	√√	√	√√
Cinnamon	√	√	√	√	√	√
Bee honey	√	-	√	-	√	√
<b>Information</b>						
Television	√	√	√	√	√	√
Radio	√	√	√	√	√	√
Internet	√	√	√	-	√	√
<b>Extension</b>						
Agricultural extension	√	√	√	√	√	√
Extension on health	√	√√	√	√	√	√√

√ = active √√ = dominant active

## CONCLUSION

- Gender mainstreaming initiatives have mostly focused on empowering women economically.
- It is important that women have access to and control over inputs, extension, market, and play a role in decision making process in rural development.
- Women in Nagari Indudur, West Sumatra, Indonesia are able to work productively utilizing resources from land and forest products and contribute to short term productivity gains.
- Though they are still spent time for reproductive works which is unpaid domestic and care work, women have equal access to resources and have a voice in how the income form land and forest products are spent.
- This is related to matrilineal system in Nagari Indudur.
- It is suggested that in order to enjoy long term sustainable benefit, women power relation and social institution should always be a part of women involvement in Nagari Indudur.