

# MANAGING SUSTAINABLE FOREST RESOURCES AND CREATIVE ECONOMY THROUGH PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY AMONG STAKEHOLDER IN JAVA FOREST, INDONESIAN

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## **Abstract**

Forest governance to ensure sustainability requires a support system that is developed based on the consideration of the interaction and exchange of values between stakeholders. The research objective is to analyze Managing sustainable forest resources and creative economy through partnership strategy among stakeholders in Java Forest Indonesian. The research method uses an inferential survey approach to the partnership between forest stakeholders and the Forest Village Community Institution (LMDH). The number of forest stakeholder units is 57 that have LMDH partners with observation units involving the leaders of forest stakeholders and LMDH units. The results of the study show that efforts to ensure the sustainability of forest resources cannot be separated from the interaction of social exchanges with the surrounding community. These interactions provide access for the community to participate in managing resources, gain value and contribute to maintaining these resources. Interaction with LMDH as an institutionalized process as an important part of FMUs in implementing forest resource management. The partnership has developed into a system that encourages creative economic activity in the community. Partnership as a system developed and built to support the sustainability of forest resources and create a developing creative economy. The theoretical implication is that forest governance cannot ignore the function of partnerships as a dynamic system. Partnership as a strategy to ensure sustainability of forest resources and create a creative economy Forest Village Community Institution (LMDH).

**Keywords:** sustainable forest resources, partnership. Forest Village Community Institution (LMDH), creative economy,

## INTRODUCTION

Forest sustainability is a world concern, especially for countries that have forests that are the lungs of the world. Although sustainability does not yet have a global structure that provides legal sanctions for violations, awareness of the importance of sustainability has become an orientation that is integrated into the forest governance system.

Theoretically regarding forest governance, [1] suggest a multifunctional ecosystem-based approach to change our understanding of forests. and promote the integration of the ecosystem approach into forest management. It is affirmed that forest governance ensures undiminished benefits from resources to their users over time without damaging effects on the regeneration of target populations or other related species or on ecosystem structure and function. Sustainable forest management is considered the most important tool for monitoring, assessing, and reporting on forest management [2].

However, although important, SFM is not easy to implement. Stakeholders do not understand the importance of ensuring forest sustainability. Moreover, each country has its own assessment and interests regarding sustainability. CSFs are needed to provide rapid responses on forest management and practices that help in minimizing the impacts of climate change. To achieve this target, it is necessary to develop the methodology used [3]. The methodology developed will lead stakeholders to have the same knowledge, the same understanding of sustainability.[4] that there are no recommended indicators for comprehensive monitoring and assessment of CSFs, even though they have been developed worldwide. This shows that understanding and knowledge about SFM is still diverse. This causes practical efforts to apply SFM are very diverse and limited. Unity of orientation among stakeholders to promote forest sustainability is still lacking[5-8].

On sustainable forest governance [3] raise issues such as scientific knowledge and the diversity of practical combinations. Each includes different possible combinations of forest policy and management [9, 10]. The objective of conventional forest management is to achieve maximum productivity which is no longer relevant to support sustainability. However, in certain countries and business actors, this paradigm is still the main orientation. [11] stated that implementing sustainable forest management (SFM) policies in the field is not easy, and depends on the socio-ecological context.[12] describes sustainable development as an inclusive process,

Indonesia, which is one of the lungs of the world, has a diminishing forest condition due to forest degradation for economic and social purposes. Dilemmatic conditions are sometimes faced, namely between the choice of socio-economic problems and environmental problems. It is difficult to strike a balance in sustainability. Efforts to ensure forest sustainability continue to be carried out through various schemes and involve the community. The government has rolled out a Social Forestry (PS) policy in which there is a Social Forestry Forest Utilization Permit (IPHPS) and Forestry Partnership Recognition and Protection (Kulin KK) scheme in 2016. forest stakeholders seek to realize these policies by developing strategic frameworks such as partnerships with communities. Strategic steps continue to be pursued by both the forest stakeholder unit and the government to ensure that partnerships with the community continue to work, among others, through economic and social and cultural approaches. Communities need to be involved in economic activities that originate from the use of forest products. The utilization is managed in a creative economy system that expands people's opportunities to remain productive and protect the environment[13],

The two sides, namely the ecological and economic aspects, need to go hand in hand as a joint process. The partnership was chosen as a strategy to encourage community involvement, access and responsibility in managing forests for the sake of sustainability. Community involvement in managing forest resources sustainably needs to pay attention to various aspects, especially the community's economy. Such schemes in practice are not easy. Communities involved in the scheme need to get incentives to keep participating in efforts to maintain sustainability. The incentives are more on the socio-economic aspect. Partnership as a strategy to encourage a paradigm shift from conventional forestry to sustainable forests management [14-19].

Partnerships are conceptually based on social exchange. the concept of partnership means sharing profits and losses. The concept of partnership based on the theory of social exchange becomes a solution to solve problems and anticipate negative changes such as the problem of low sustainability in the forest governance system. [4] explains that partnerships make each other connected with resources and interests

The partnership itself experiences various practical obstacles, including in the knowledge structure. Empirical evidence is needed that can strengthen the knowledge structure about partnerships as a strategy to strengthen the knowledge structure about SFM. The future of forests requires significant attention to reforestation as well as to avoiding degradation and deforestation, combining adaptation and mitigation measures [20, 21]. Research on partnership strategies for sustainable forest governance can be used as a concept that leads to collective activities among stakeholders to ensure a paradigm shift in SFM and practices together.[3] proposed a focused study on productive strategies and communal systems covering local and national policies, and models for future change scenarios. The partnership strategy can be used as a model to direct the paradigm shift of conventional forest governance to SFM through a process that considers values as a source of change [22-27].

Paradigm change through partnership cannot ignore the participants in the partnership like the community. Therefore, partnerships need to ensure the fulfillment of community needs. Partnership is a framework that directs partnerships to ensure forest resource governance and encourage the creative economy of the community. The partnership approach cannot ignore the economic aspect for the community and even places it as a top priority but of course with a new design and approach. The purpose of this research is to analyze Managing sustainable forest resources and creative economy through partnership strategy among stakeholders in Java Forest Indonesia.

## **LITERATURE REVIEW: FOUNDATION THEORY**

### **Social exchange theory (SET)**

Exchange and control of rights to something become the basis for interacting through exchange. [4, 9, 28] asserts that social exchange theory understands relationships in purely instrumental and transactional terms. Instrumental means having goals towards values and each other being oriented to maintain the interests and values that are the goals. [29, 30] show that social exchange is a mutually beneficial interaction in terms of cost reduction. On the other hand, socioeconomic welfare will increase along with benefits with reduced costs. SET assumes that interaction increases with reward and decreases in unfavorable situations.

### **Partnership strategy for sustainable forest management and creative economy**

The effectiveness of the partnership strategy to promote effectiveness in sustainable forest management and economic development is highly dependent on the

match between the strategy and the characteristics of the organization. In institutions based on natural resource management such as forest stakeholder unions, the partnership strategy ensures the sustainability of forest resources. Partnerships encourage responsibility and minimize risk. The partnership strategy encourages institutions to gain access to ensure sustainability in forest resources, mastering the knowledge that is used as a basis to encourage communities to participate in maintaining forest sustainability, [31] propose a cooperative strategy as an effort to encourage efficiency and competition. [30] suggest that social interaction will continue with economic, social, cultural, and environmental benefits for the community and vice versa. These social interactions can be formalized in the structure of a partnership strategy [16, 32-36].

The partnership strategy ensures that the implementation and evaluation of sustainable forest governance becomes more effective. Sustainable forest resources as an important aspect that ensures the sustainability of the forestry business. The partnership minimizes the occurrence of forest degradation or deforestation caused by non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations in the form of illegal activities against forest potential and forest areas.

In terms of social function, sustainable forest management can contribute to the development of the creative economy, the expansion of new livelihoods, the increase in income of the new economic sector for the community, and the absorption of new jobs. In terms of environmental function, forest management is expected to contribute to important services, namely carbon sequestration, soil and water conservation and biodiversity. The aim of sustainable forest management is to maintain a balance between economically viable, ecologically acceptable and acceptable conditions [2]. Policies in sustainable forest management (SFM) are becoming wider at various levels, both nationally, globally, and in business. SFM aims to maintain the sustainability of the ecological, economic, social,

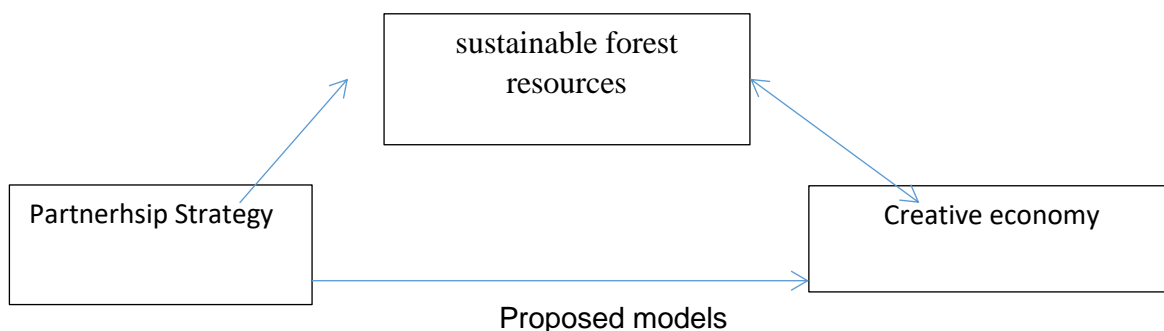
Partnerships and sustainable forest governance guarantee the growth of creativity and employment as well as intellectual property and innovation that are used as a source of value creation activities or the so-called creative economy. [29, 30], argued about the creative economy, namely the existence of an economic system that is based on 1) knowledge-based work creativity, 2) intellectual property, 3) innovation in work and the growth of the creative sector. The creative economy grows and develops based on the knowledge structure which is a configuration of various actors and factors.

Partnerships can simply be interpreted as mutually beneficial cooperation between stakeholders. Partnerships are intended to achieve profit or reduce the risk of loss. The choice of partnership as a strategy is based on a long-term orientation that is the goal. Good social interaction between forest stakeholder units and Forest Village Community Institution as well as between communities themselves have patterns and forms that seek to provide benefits and provide mutual benefits. The partnership strategy allows for a common orientation to maintain interests and benefits with the same orientation, namely sustainable forest management. This arrangement is in line with the arrangement of the creative economy to provide real benefits for the community Forest Village Community Institution. The partnership between the forest stakeholder unit and LMDH will encourage productivity by creating innovation and creativity in the creative economy system.

In life economics, social exchange occurs in the context of exchange systems that compete for facilities that are rarely found in the market [12, 37]. This process continues until it forms a system of exchange and binds institutions. [11] that collaboration among stakeholders based on regionalization of knowledge production and learning can help implement SFM. [38] suggested

Forests provide various services to communities such as shelter, food and tradable goods; forests contribute to air purification, water purification and soil preservation; provide

animals with natural habitats and contribute to nature conservation and climate change mitigation. However, such efforts require stakeholders in the partnership structure and partnership strategy



The proposed hypothesis

Ha 1: Partnership strategy affects sustainable forest resources

Ha 2: The partnership strategy encourages the development of community creative economic activities

Ha 2: sustainable forest resources and community creative economic activities influence each other

**METHODOLOGY**

This research is associative with a mixed method (mixed method) because it involves quantitative and qualitative approaches for data collection and analysis, so that it becomes a single study with a sequential explanatory strategy. The unit of analysis is the partnership between the forest stakeholders and LMDH. The unit of analysis in this study was all FMUs in Java Island, as many as 57 (fifty seven) units. The observation unit is the leadership of all Forest Management Units (KPH) and LMDH in Java Island until 2020, and interviews with selected sources.

Measurement of partnership strategy refers to on namely 1) collusion strategy, with indicators between measuring the effectiveness of the strategy and the success of influencing the supply and demand for goods/services. 2) Strategic alliance strategy, successful collaboration, merging and complementing resources for mutual benefit.

Measurement sustainable forest resources refers to, among others 1) compliance with laws such as regulations and administration, payment of obligations, 2) responsibilities and rights of use and control, 3) community relations and workers' rights, 4) benefits from forests, 5) impacts environment, 6) management plan, 7) monitoring and evaluation, 5) forest with high conservation value, 6) plantation forest, Creative economy measurement refers to [29] work creativity knowledge-based, 2) intellectual property, 3) innovation in work and the growth of the creative sector. The creative economy grows and develops based on the knowledge structure which is a configuration of various actors and factors.

Data analysis using SEM variab procedure using SEM PLS.

**RESEARCH RESULT**

The next convergent validity test using Average Variance Extracted (AVE) shows the ability of each indicator to explain latent variables quite well. The AVE value provides evidence of convergent validity (Fornell and Larcker, 1981) where the AVE threshold value is >0.5 (Hair et al., 2006).

Table 1

AVE, and CR . test results

Variable	Cronbach's Alpha	rho_	Variance Extracted (AVE)
Partnership strategy	0.924	0.931	0.655
sustainable forest resources	0.911	0.914	0.652
creative economy	0.875	0.888	0.721

From the results of all the reliability tests above, in the form of Cronbach's Alpha . values, Composite Reliability, and rho A indicate that all latent variables in this study are reliable. From the test results using the SmartPLS version 3 application, the AVE value for each variable is > 0.5, so it is concluded that the indicators that are maintained can measure each variable validly. The results of discriminant validity testing based on the Fornell-Larcker criteria show a correlation between variables with other variables and between variables and the variables themselves. The results of the Discriminant Validity Test (Fornell-Larcker) show that each indicator in the variable itself is greater than the value of each indicator which is the same for other variables. So it can be stated that the discriminant validity has been confirmed and valid.

From the evaluation results using the SmartPLS version 3 application, the R2 value for the Economic variable . is obtained creative is 0.248. So that the endogenous variable of business performance can be explained by 24.8% by the exogenous variable of sustainable forest resources and the exogenous variable of partnership strategy. From the evaluation results obtained Path Coefficients value which shows: (1). The partnership strategy variable has a positive effect on the sustainable forest management variable (2). The business strategy variable has a positive effect on the business performance variable.

Evaluation Results of Q2 Prediction Relevance (Predictive Sample Reuse or Q square) or Stone-Geisser's shows the predictive capability with the blindfolding procedure has a moderate effect. The results of the Standardized Root Mean Square Residual (SRMR) test show a value of 0.064 which means the model is Fit. The Normed Fit Index (NFI) is 0.965,

Hypothesis test results shows that all supported hypotheses are as follows:

Table 2

AVE, and CR test results

Variable influence	Original samples (0)	Sample Mean	Std	Tstatistics	P-Value
Partnership → strategy sustain	0.402	0.423	0.155	2,758	0.009
able forest resources → Partnership strategy → creative economy	0.325	0.362	0.147	2,587	0.002
sustainable forest resources ↔ creative economy	0.372	0.392	0.124	0.265	0.005



## **DISCUSSION**

The average index of partnership strategies is on the strong average. The dominance of the cooperative strategy in KPH-KPH characterizes the relationship and interaction between business units and cooperation partners which includes 3 (three) main elements of the network environment, namely: actors, resources and activities in their business activities. At the corporate level, the focal firm can have relationships with cooperation partners through certain activities (such as sharing knowledge, resources and other capabilities), and the same should be done at the business unit level according to their authority. Cooperative strategies with business partners and stakeholders in the business ecosystem can be realized as a combined innovation of various types of businesses that generate new capabilities.

Sustainable forest governance such as the existence of responsibilities and rights to use and control forests, community relations and worker rights, forest benefits, environmental impacts, management plans, monitoring and evaluation, implementation of HCVF, and implementation of plantation forests are included in the high category value interval. Compliance with the law is included in the very high category value interval, the creative economy is developing quite well, such as creativity and innovation

Sustainability of forest resources (SDH) within the KPH working area determines the sustainability of the production of forest products in the form of wood and non-timber extracted in the short, medium and long term, including the ecosystem environment and biophysics of managed forests, and their impact on upstream and downstream social life. . Forests are renewable resources so that with consistent silvicultural, protection and conservation actions, their sustainability will be guaranteed.

The partnership strategy implemented by the forest stakeholder unit and LMDH as a process that shows the existence of complementarity both in terms of resources and efforts to reduce risks and increase benefits in sustainable forest governance. The results show that the strategy at the company level and the business level is significant in explaining profitability. This profitability is indicated by lower costs in implementing sustainable forest governance and greater benefits from the creative economy growing in the community. Economic activities increase community involvement in sustainable forest governance and further reduce the costs and risks of forest stakeholder unions in implementing sustainable forest management.

The results showed that the partnership strategy increased the effectiveness of forest governance and the growth of the creative economy. Community involvement guarantees low. The partnership strategy ensures a low level of conflict in the management of forest resources between forest communities and forest managers. KPH-KPH have a high ability to maintain the sustainability of SDH in forest areas that they manage, both mandatory and voluntary schemes with partnerships. Failure to involve communities around forests in forest management and fulfillment of rights and low needs can encourage illegal logging and other conflicts so that unsustainable forest management. The results of the study show the importance of a partnership strategy with stakeholders, namely the community in forest management.

Success in implementing a partnership strategy promotes the effectiveness of sustainable forest governance. Communities and forest stakeholders can obtain ecological results that can be extracted without reducing the natural resources themselves. Communities obtain the surplus needed to maintain the ecosystem at the same level or increase over time in the structure of the creative economy. The partnership strengthens the structure of sustainable forest governance while at the same time encouraging the development of the community's creative economy.

The partnership strategy between forest stakeholders and the community ensures compliance with laws such as regulations and administration in the forest management system, responsibilities and rights to use and control both for forest stakeholders and the community and encourage the growth of the creative sector. Creative economy. The partnership strategy is in line with the main objective of SFM, which is to maintain community economic productivity while ensuring biodiversity from forest ecosystems as well as long-term benefits. The partnership strategy ensures more effective sustainable forest management. Efforts to improve the quality of forest resources have a positive impact on forest management and the community's economy. On the other hand, creative economic growth will encourage public awareness to help maintain and expand efforts to ensure that forests remain sustainable. Therefore, social interaction between forest stakeholders and the community is not only a process of exchanging values. This interaction is a form of ethical collective awareness of the environment. Forest management requires sustainable community support and participation. Communities get economic and social benefits and these conditions will strengthen the structure in sustainable forest governance. Various forest values including biodiversity conservation can be integrated into a sustainable creative economy development plan. Social interaction between forest stakeholder units and the community is not only a process of exchanging values. This interaction is a form of ethical collective awareness of the environment. Forest management requires sustainable community support and participation. Communities get economic and social benefits and these conditions will strengthen the structure in sustainable forest governance. Various forest values including biodiversity conservation can be integrated into a sustainable creative economy development plan. Social interaction between forest stakeholder units and the community is not only a process of exchanging values. This interaction is a form of ethical collective awareness of the environment. Forest management requires sustainable community support and participation. Communities get economic and social benefits and these conditions will strengthen the structure in sustainable forest governance. Various forest values including biodiversity conservation can be integrated into a sustainable creative economy development plan. Communities get economic and social benefits and these conditions will strengthen the structure in sustainable forest governance. Various forest values including biodiversity conservation can be integrated into a sustainable creative economy development plan. Communities get economic and social benefits and these conditions will strengthen the structure in sustainable forest governance. Various forest values including biodiversity conservation can be integrated into a sustainable creative economy development plan. Communities get economic and social benefits and these conditions will strengthen the structure in sustainable forest governance. Various forest values including biodiversity conservation can be integrated into a sustainable creative economy development plan.

On the other hand, economic impacts on communities such as income opportunities, jobs, trade, and benefits will drive changes to sustainable and better sustainable forest governance structures. Unity of forest stakeholders and LMDH can influence the supply and demand for goods/services that are sourced from the sustainable use of forest products. Merging in partnerships as a form of formal collaboration that complements each other allows the forest stakeholder unit to implement a sustainable forest management system and the community to gain value from the sustainable use of sustainable forests.

### ***Limitations***

Observation unit The research was limited to the head/manager of the forest stakeholder unit and the LMDH leader as the data source. The study used cross sectional data.



**CONCLUSION**

The partnership strategy as a social interaction between forest stakeholder units and LMDH increases the supply and demand for goods/services in the creative economy system and encourages success in ensuring a sustainable forest governance system.

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