

Media Update
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Freeport Indonesia Reducing Carbon Emission Through Mangrove Cultivation

Jakarta/Timika - PT Freeport Indonesia (PTFI) is galvanizing its mangrove cultivation program as part of the company's endeavor to reduce greenhouse gas emission to 30 percent by 2030. This was conveyed by PTFI on the occasion of a Kompas Talks seminar carrying the theme "Invest in Our Planet" that was held on Tuesday (9/5) to commemorate the recent World Earth Day.

PTFI and other speakers including representatives from Peat and Mangrove Restoration Agency BRGM and Diponegoro University concurred mangrove cultivation is a means to achieve blue carbon, which offers an effective solution to cut down on greenhouse gas emission and mitigate climate change in Indonesia. Moreover, mangrove forests in Indonesia on average have the capacity to capture up to 58.25 tons of CO₂ or twice higher than the global estimate.

As a company committed to consistently striving for environmental conservation, PTFI's mangrove cultivation program demonstrates concern for achieving balanced ecosystems in the vicinity of its operation site.. "Through the mangrove cultivation program that has been in place since 2005, PTFI joins in supporting greenhouse gas emission reduction and promoting sustainable nature conservation. We expect these efforts to offer real contribution in achieving the Enhanced Nationally Determined Contribution (ENDC) and net zero emission targets established by the government," **PTFI Vice President, Environmental, Gesang Satyadi** stated.

As of 2022, PTFI had planted mangroves over a total area of 444 hectares (Ha) in the tailings landmass, with a survival rate of 90 percent. This site helps to establish new ecosystems over an area of 1,100 Ha designated for natural colonization in the Ajkwa River estuary that forms the habitats for various species such as crabs. Nevertheless, multisectoral synergy is still needed in order to accelerate greenhouse gas emission reduction.

"Bringing to bear greenhouse gas emission reduction and achieving the net zero emission goal necessitates the engagement of various stakeholders, in particular as the general public still lacks an understanding of the need and means to reduce greenhouse gas emission. We are hopeful the track records of sustainability efforts made to date by BRGM and PTFI can encourage other institutions and entities to follow suit towards jointly achieving the common goal," **BRGM First Secretary Ayu Dewi Utari** said.

Ahead, PTFI is setting a target to plant 500 hectares of mangroves every year in order to produce 6,000 to 7,000 hectares in natural colonization. This target will involve participation in mangrove planting by local communities, through establishment of working groups towards bringing about positive impacts for the local economy.

"With the potential for mangroves to act as blue carbon, PTFI's cultivation program will serve as an effective practice by the private sector to reduce greenhouse gas emission and transform it into organic carbon, and at the same time positively impact the economies of local communities," **Prof. Dr. Denny Nugroho Sugianto from the Faculty of Fishery and Marine Science at Diponegoro University** averred.

The mangrove cultivation undertaking by PTFI is in tandem with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) agenda. The "Life Below Water" goal focusing on conservation and sustainable marine utilization is supported by PTFI through its endeavor to protect and restore coastal and marine ecosystems in its vicinity. Communities in East Timika are similarly acknowledging that fish populations in the tailings area have increased, allowing them to pursue a livelihood as fishermen.

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