



MASARANG  
FOUNDATION

*Annual Report 2022*

# People-driven Nature Conservation



# Contents

Foreword	2
Impact	3
Our projects:	
Temboan	4
Sugar Factory	5
Tasikoki	6
Turtle Beaches	7
Accountability	8
Organization	9



# Foreword

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It is my pleasure to present to you the Annual Report 2022 of the Masarang foundation. This past year has been one of progress and we are excited to share the work that has been accomplished.

When an organization is said to have a people-driven culture, it puts people at the center of its success. It is a defining feature of the Masarang foundation. By empowering local people, we can successfully and sustainably protect the beautiful nature of Indonesia, while restoring what we have lost.

Our projects speak louder than words. In Temboan we are reforesting a large area with a diverse range of trees that will help support the local communities, mitigate climate change and bring back endangered animals. Meanwhile, the sugar factory manufactures sustainable, certified sugar from Arenga palm sap, providing economic opportunities to the local farmers.

Working with local communities allows us to help protect wildlife. In 2022 our rangers released thousands of turtle hatchlings into the sea at our turtle beaches, helping to preserve endangered species. And the team at the Tasikoki Wildlife Centre rescued numerous animals from the cruelty of animal trafficking, returning many of them to their fragile ecosystems.

Your donations made all of this impact possible. We are grateful, yet we also realize there is still so much to be done in the years to come. We hope we can count on you to help us complete the mission: to rebuild nature with our people-driven approach, creating a more sustainable planet for generations to come.

Henk Kaskens  
Chairman of Masarang International



*Masarang International is an ANBI-foundation (ANBI-Stichting). Donations to the foundation are tax-deductible under the Dutch tax regulations. Would you like to find out more about this? Please contact us at [info@masarang.nl](mailto:info@masarang.nl)*



# Impact

*Your generous donations  
made this possible in 2022*



More than 130.000  
useful and productive  
trees were planted



Our projects  
created 80 jobs



Over 8.000 sea turtle  
hatchlings were released  
into the sea



Land equal to 45 soccer  
fields was acquired  
to be protected forever

*Background image : The observation tower in Temboan was finished in 2022. It overlooks the Temboan area, allowing us to monitor the reforestation progress and guard the area from poachers and wildfires.*



# Temboan

## *People-driven nature conservation: Cared for by all*

Not so long ago the hills of Temboan made a rather sad impression. Wildfires had destroyed its forests. Then heavy rains flushed away the nutrient-rich soil. What remained was endless grassland, man-high, making it impossible to grow trees. Without useful trees, people gave up on this land.

This is what Masarang is good at: In Temboan we are restoring a rainforest that works for all, and is cared for by all. The trees are carefully selected, making sure they produce fruits & materials that the community needs. So far, we planted over 130.000 trees and we are just getting started.

To protect trees from fire and control water flow, we created dams. Building materials are extracted from Temboan itself. The roads

are being hardened with local rocks. This makes them accessible in the rainy season. A lookout tower was built in 2022 using wood from trees lying on the ground. Left-over material is converted to bio-char, which is a powerful fertilizer for the planting activities.

None of this came easy. Buying land is challenging in Indonesia. People transfer land with a handshake and a certificate, some of which are hand-written. Masarang works with trusted local experts who have proven to be invaluable. As a result, we managed to expand the protected Temboan area to 614 hectares (appr. 860 soccer fields) in 2022.

We are excited to report that Stichting Trees for All has committed to funding the reforestation of 50 hectares of grassland. Preparations have already started. We have found a skilled project leader who will take on this important task. A total of 160.000 trees will be planted here, shaping a productive forest that supports local people in their livelihoods. Together we can prevent wildfires and maintain a beautiful rainforest.



Masarang Indonesia's director Dudung (front) and Temboan project leader Danny (back) inspect the area from the new lookout tower.



Masarang planted over 130.000 trees. After only five years this area will be a productive rainforest again.



# Sugar Factory

## *Commercial activity hand-in-hand with mother nature*

The Masarang sugar factory is a key project to show that nature conservation works best when we take into account the economic opportunities of local people. In the factory the staff heats sap of Arenga Palm trees using free geothermal steam (without carbon emissions). This process creates palm sirop and sugar, which is then packaged and sold. The sugar factory provides a stable income to the local farmers.

Arenga Palm trees do not need synthetic fertilizers. Their roots go deep and they thrive in bio-diverse forests. This makes them more sustainable than oil palms, which have shallow rooting systems and do not effectively protect the landscape from erosion.



*Palm sugar has gained popularity in Indonesia in recent years. It has a distinctive taste and is used in everything sweet.*

Once the Arenga Palm tree stops producing sap, the wood of its sturdy trunk is an excellent building material.

The sugar factory has had its challenges. Between 2020 and 2022 the shipping rates sky-rocketed, making it unviable to export the sugar to Europe and Asia. Also, the factory and its equipment was poorly maintained.

In 2022 we revitalised the company with renewed financial support. A new manager was appointed, who successfully implemented a shift to the local market. International shipping rates are slowly coming down, and we do expect to restore exports again in time.

The network of farmers who can supply sap has grown, and this will continue to be a key priority in 2023. Lastly, the team started processing the sap from sugar palm trees which were planted by Masarang in Pulisan.



*'Om' Paulus (76) has been a sugar palm tapper for most of his life. The sugar palm trees provide an income to many people.*





# Tasikoki

## *Our heroes working day & night to end Wildlife Trafficking*

Wildlife trafficking is big business in Indonesia: It is an estimated \$ 6 billion market. More than just a number, it represents animal cruelty and depletion of Indonesia's biodiversity. Horrific transportation methods cause most of the animals to die along the way.

The Tasikoki Wildlife Rescue Centre operates in Bitung, which is a large transit harbor for illegal wildlife. The centre plays a big role in raising awareness amongst customs officers.

Not long ago we welcomed two new wildlife detection dogs of the Wildlife Conservation Society. Their super-sensitive noses help customs officers to find smuggled wildlife. Four dog handlers are staying at our facility to care for and train the dogs.



*The wildlife detection dogs help Indonesian customs officers to find smuggled wildlife.*



*In June 2022 Tasikoki rescued 49 wild animals from a single group of smugglers. Amongst them was Astuti, a baby Orangutan. Orangutan mothers never leave their babies: she was killed.*

Tasikoki has a strongly motivated staff and many volunteers that go the extra mile each day for the rescued animals. These animals have an important role in delicate ecosystems, for example because they spread seeds of rare species of trees. If we want to preserve nature, we must put an end to wildlife trafficking.



*Rescued wildlife is being released in their original natural habitat.*



# Turtle Beaches

*Protecting critically endangered sea turtles from extinction*



*Green sea turtles are among the 5 species of turtles that build nests on the beaches that are protected by the Masarang foundation.*

When you visit the sea turtle beaches of North-Sulawesi it is hard to miss: the grayish color of the sand. The beaches contain magnetite, a valuable magnetic mineral. Mining corporations were assessing the beaches, so Masarang decided to acquire them: The sea turtle nesting grounds of Tulap Beach, Temboan, and Salimburung Island have been saved. Our rangers protect turtle nests from poachers.



A total of 5 species of turtles are known to nest here. One of them is the majestic Leatherback Sea Turtle. It can grow up to 1.80 meter and is critically endangered. When we discover a nest, we move it to the protected hatchery. Here the eggs can develop, safe from poachers and predators. This greatly improves the survival rates of the baby turtles, increasing the turtle populations.



*Rangers patrol the beaches to stop the poaching of sea turtle eggs.*

In 2022 our rangers released over 8.000 hatchlings. These came from 94 nests, which is a steep decline from 2020 when there were 144 nests. This is a clear sign that these fragile nesting grounds continue to be under immense environmental pressure.

We are committed to protecting our turtle beaches with the help of your donations. We hope that these efforts will result in an increase of the number of nests for 2023.





# Accountability

## How we warrant a big impact of your donation

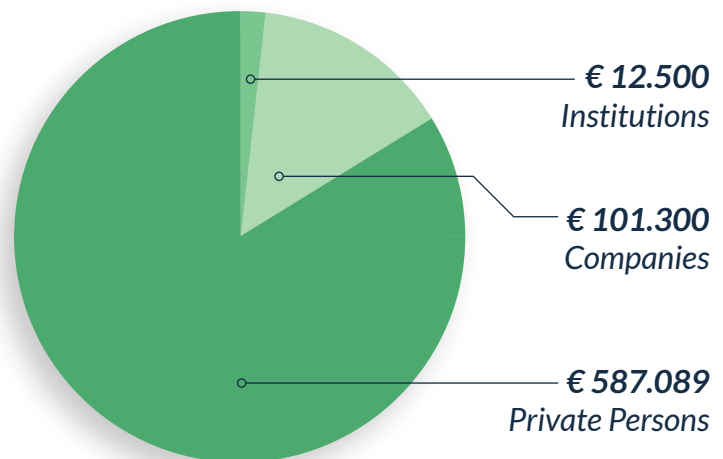
Board members of Masarang do not receive remuneration for their work. We save costs whenever possible, making sure that most of your donation ends up at the actual projects and makes a difference.

### DONATIONS RECEIVED

In 2022 we received a considerable donation of € 500.000 from the estate of Mr Markus Zimmermann for which we are very grateful.

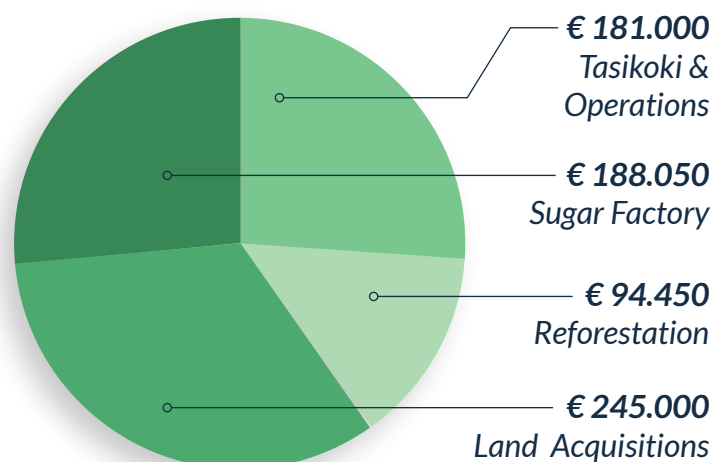
The donations we receive vary strongly between years. If you wish to donate to the Masarang foundation, please consider a monthly donation. This helps us stabilize the monthly operational budgets. Thank you for your generous and much needed support.

2022



### OUTGOING FUNDS

Land acquisition and its reforestation comprise roughly 50% of our spending. The Tasikoki Wildlife Rescue Centre is a large expense because of the care for over 450 animals. Without Tasikoki, there would be no awareness among customs officers to stop Wildlife Trafficking. We keep looking for ways to save costs, e.g. by growing our own animal feed. In 2022 the sugar factory required our financial support to allow for a restart, following the covid-19 pandemic.



The detailed financial accounts of 2022 are available on our website.



# Organization

## *Meet the people of Masarang*

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

Chairman: Henk Kaskens  
Treasurer: Johannes Freije  
Secretary: Peter Krekel

### ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATES

In 2022 the following changes were made:

- Hans van Willige left as a board member of Masarang. We are thankful for the work he has done. His strategic insights have greatly helped our organization grow.
- Volunteers Jos Eilert and Miranda Ruchtie left the team. We want to thank them for their time and efforts towards Masarang's digital communication.
- Peter Krekel joined the board as a secretary and will be responsible for the communication strategy of Masarang.

A special thanks goes out to Rowena Facee Schaeffer and Robert Hoedt for their help in keeping in touch with the many partners and supporters of Masarang.

Finally, a big thanks goes out to you, the supporters of Masarang, for your contribution to the big impact we make. We are developing a productive, biodiverse rainforest in Indonesia and stopping wildlife trafficking, amongst many other great impacts. This is only possible because of your generous donations.

