

# Rimba Raya

## BIODIVERSITY RESERVE



InfiniteEARTH™  
Beyond Carbon. Beyond Sustainability.

2018 | MID YEAR REVIEW

Seeds  
of Change

## Working towards a better future



Rimba Raya is located in Central Kalimantan, one of the largest provinces in Indonesia. Central Kalimantan has over 2 Million inhabitants with approximately 70% living in rural areas with limited access to services such as sanitation, electricity, passable roads, hospitals and schooling, not to mention internet access or other 'luxuries' that dominate the modern world.

As a REDD+ project, Rimba Raya not only undertakes to Reduce Emissions caused by Deforestation & Degradation but we also have a certain responsibility to help indigenous people in our concession by improving their quality of life and assist them in initiating and establishing business opportunities that will ensure that they become financially independent.

Rimba Raya has 14 villages within the concession and we need to ensure that each village is provided with equal opportunities.



Rimba Raya Initiatives align to all 17 of the United Nations Development Goals (SDG's) which seek to address the root causes of poverty and provide a universal development model that works for all people. Learn more on [Rimba-Raya.com](http://Rimba-Raya.com)

### In This Issue:

Welcome	Pg 1
Announcing a new partnership	Pg 3
Education & Scholarships	Pg 5
Plastic and waste management	Pg 7
Tree planting	Pg 9
Camp Rimba	Pg 10
REDD+	Pg 11
Community Story	Pg 12

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Rimba Raya  
BIODIVERSITY RESERVE



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Rimba Raya

BIODIVERSITY RESERVE

An InfiniteEARTH™ Project

PROTECTS

65,000ha

of High Conservation Value  
(HCV) Tropical Peat Forest

An area almost the size of  
Singapore

## THE CARBON VALUE OF THE RIMBA RAYA BIODIVERSITY RESERVE:

130m tonnes  
of total avoided emissions over 30 years

=

4.5m tonnes  
of avoided emissions annually

## THAT'S THE ANNUAL EQUIVALENT OF:



39,544,817,580

Miles driven by an average  
passenger vehicle



218,429

Tanker trucks' worth  
of gasoline



23,759,239,704

Miles flown in a  
commercial airplane



2,436,503

Homes' electricity use  
for one year



1,000,000

Cars removed from the  
world's highways



1,856,644,537

Gallons of gasoline  
consumed



87,870

Railcars' worth of  
coal burned



4.8

Coal-fired power  
plants in one year



38,200,988

Barrels of oil  
consumed



5,236,375

Tons of waste recycled  
instead of landfilled

## AND THE SEQUESTRATION EQUIVALENT OF:



15,618,970

Acres of U.S. forests



427,616,379

Tree seedlings grown  
for 10 years



Rimba-Raya.com



RimbaRayaForest



Rimba\_Raya\_



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## InfiniteEARTH announces a partnership with Veridium Labs

We've spoken often about our Conservation partnership with Orangutan Foundation International (OFI) which is a key element in the implementation of our ongoing efforts to protect orangutans and all the other species found in our 64,000 hectare forest.

We are delighted to announce a partnership with Veridium Labs who has in turn formed a partnership with technology giant IBM, which can only mean that this step into modern tech is going to do great things for our project; Rimba Raya Biodiversity Reserve.

Our measurable contribution from Rimba Raya to emission avoidance up until this point is equivalent of removing one million cars from the world's highways every year for the next 30 years. This is not including the 602+ species we have protected in the reserve including many that are endangered.

“For years, we've been trying to mitigate environmental impacts at every point in the value chain, however previous solutions still presented significant complexities and costs. Our digital environmental assets are designed to help companies and institutional investors purchase and use carbon credits to mitigate their environmental impacts today, and even hedge their potential carbon liabilities risks in the future.”

- Todd Lemons

Chairman of Veridium Foundation



The new marketplace which Veridium Labs is creating through digitizing carbon credits will enable companies and institutional investors to purchase Triple Redd+ credits to help mitigate their environmental impacts. The increased sale of carbon credits will enable significant amount of investment flow towards reforestation, community building and ecosystem development within the region.

Thus far, Veridium Labs has purchased over one million credits from Rimba Raya. This sets the stage to assist us in achieving the highest level of environmental and social impact for climate, biodiversity and community development within our project area.

Over time, the scale at which we can grow our various initiatives and start new initiatives will increase significantly. These are indeed, very exciting times for Rimba Raya and its surrounding communities.

Partnerships mean that we can extend our helping hand further than would otherwise have been possible, so it's with great pleasure that InfiniteEARTH announces its partnership with Veridium Labs that will further provide funding needed to sustain current initiatives and create funding for new initiatives by providing additional sales of carbon credits that assist in sustaining the 14 villages in the Rimba Raya Biodiversity Reserve.





This extract from an article on [www.COINSPEAKER.com](http://www.COINSPEAKER.com) provides some additional details

Rimba Raya  
An InfiniteEARTH™ Project

“U.S.-based multinational company IBM and Hong Kong’s Veridium Labs have decided to join their forces and expertise with a view to utilize blockchain, the distributed ledger technology for enhancing the efficiency in the carbon-credit market and facilitating the process of offsetting carbon credits. Veridium Labs is an environmental financial technology company that is actively working on solving a difficult problem concerning the ways to trade carbon offset credits in an open market. And now it hopes to achieve this aim with tokens and the blockchain. Via partnership with IBM, Veridium Labs will have an opportunity to sell carbon offset tokens on the Stellar blockchain. Each of this three companies will be entrusted with its special tasks. Veridium will work on building the structure and defining the value formula. Stellar will provide the digital ledger for the transactions while IBM will deal with technical aspects of trading activities and tokens management. All three companies will work together to develop the token called Verde. IBM has never issued any tokens using a public blockchain before. So, it will be its first experience. The idea of this partnership is to tokenize carbon credits which will enable pollution-heavy companies to offset the harm that they cause to the environment while carrying out their operations. The funds that will be received from selling the Verde token will be allocated for reforesting a 250-square mile patch of rainforest that is situated on the island of Borneo in Indonesia.”

by Julia Sacovich

REDD+

CCB TRIPLE GOLD

VCS VERIFIED CARBON STANDARD





We had great pleasure in hosting Lydia Langford of Natural Capital Partners, to the Rimba Raya Biodiversity Reserve in February 2018.

Lydia was representing their client WILLMOTT DIXON, a construction and property services company based in the UK.

WILMOTT DIXON, a purchaser of InfiniteEARTH's carbon credits, the income of which is already used to support the community in a variety of initiatives, have made an additional donation which will provide scholarships to 14 very deserving students.



Students were gracious and generous in spirit. There was an atmosphere of celebration punctuated with traditional dance and gift giving.

Most families in Borneo cannot afford what they feel are prohibitive costs for education and usually prefer to pull the children out of school altogether, the rationale being that the income children can earn is welcome, and often necessary, in a home where funds are extremely limited.

This of course exacerbates another issue; that being child labour.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

Mr. Djonni Andhella, CEO of Rimba Raya Conservation, has also made a personal donation that will give an additional 10 students a full scholarship.

These donations cover the final 3 years of tuition, supplies, uniforms, transportation and other expenses incurred by the children in their endeavour to gain an education.



We were warmly welcomed into the schools and homes of the scholarship winners.



It's difficult to put a monetary value on the benefits these 24 children have and will receive. An opportunity to complete high school is a luxury in Borneo and provides the students the potential to pursue higher education, these are dreams shared by children all around the world.



## EDUCATION CONTINUES TO BE OUR FOCUS

Education has always been an initiative in which we have invested over the years, providing supplies, uniforms, books and pocket money to the children in all 14 villages.

However starting this year we are determined to ensure that we are making an even bigger contribution with our new 3 year scholarships which will see students through the final three years of their high school education.



Having seen and spoken to the children first hand, I was struck by how determined they are to go as far as they can and almost all have dreams of obtaining a university degree.

Poverty shouldn't restrict them. They believe that if they are working hard to achieve good grades, then they should be able to continue to further develop their studies.

We agree with them.

Which is why we are using income from the sale of carbon credits for the scholarship program.



Our long term goal will be to provide all children in the Rimba Raya concession with an education and therefore more opportunities to earn higher incomes and improve the lives of future generations, a true domino effect.



Future funding for more scholarship programs will be focused on children in the most remote villages of the concession.

The reason for our focus on remote villages is because those villages are without high schools and so there is an added burden to the family to pay for transportation costs to villages with high schools. This additional cost really hits underprivileged families.

Although the focus may reduce the overall number of students who receive scholarships, we want to be fair to all children within the project area.



## #PLASTIC #WASTEREMOVAL



Recently the news has been filled with stories and images of all the plastic that's clogging our rivers, lakes and oceans.

Although our 14 villages within the Rimba Raya Biodiversity Reserve are remote, the effects of modernisation are still evident in all areas, especially garbage.

Traditionally, the rivers have been used as a means of discarding unwanted items and in the past this was of no consequence as the items were biodegradable and there was little to no impact on the environment.



The introduction of plastic and our need to wrap, or even double wrap, everything in this 'magic' product, has changed things and the amount of plastic found in our rivers has increased exponentially.

It's difficult to change perception of local individuals who have always used the river as though it was an endless commodity. By throwing the garbage in the river they believe it's taken 'away' and so they never think of it again.

## DISCARDED NOT DISAPPEARED

I watched a man unwrap a bar of soap and casually throw the wrapping in the river, a river that the children swim in, a river that supplies their most staple food item- fish. A river that is central to the survival of the community.

I was disappointed and sad because these are people who know better, we've talked about how we need to work together to protect the environment. Our Pedal program teaches them and their children in school about plastic pollution, yet they continue the practice of throwing everything into the river.

Then I realised that this is what has been done for hundreds of years, changing habits doesn't just happen in a day and we have to continue to talk, to teach, to lead by example and in this way create new habits and an awareness of consequence.







## WORKING TOGETHER TO KEEP BORNEO CLEAN

It's our mission to keep our corner of Borneo in Indonesia as pristine as possible, protecting the wildlife and their habitat while assisting local communities to grow and develop economically and socially.

By continuing to encourage conscious action, people will see the fruits of their labour.

## RIVER CLEAN UPS AND GARBAGE BANK INITIATIVE

We continue to expand on our waste management programs which includes the 'Garbage Bank' that pays for recyclable items and PEDAL -the Village Education Program for Nature and Environment. PEDAL is used as a means to educate and train people on best practices and sustainable action.

We are implementing a new River Clean-up initiative.

The goal will be to remove trash and debris from the Seruyan River and its shores. The river is 85km from the top of the Rimba Raya project area to the ocean.

Using the PEDAL program to implement a new awareness campaign, we will promote conservation and highlight the problems associated with littering in the river and surrounding areas.



## WE CAN'T DO IT ALONE!

It is hoped that the government will improve the methods used to transport garbage from remote areas which don't have the same infrastructure as larger towns.

The local government is sometimes embarrassed that they aren't doing as much as we are in terms of effective waste management. We aspire to lead by example and encourage the government to start programs that compliment our initiatives.



## TREE PLANTING

Deforestation fueled by slash and burn practices, logging and agricultural expansion continues to be one of Borneo's biggest issues.

Indonesia's forests have shrunk to a fraction of their former size.

According to the Guardian Newspaper, 150,000 orangutans have been lost over the last 16 years as a result of habitat loss from deforestation.

Biodiversity is dependent on the survival of healthy forests.

In 2018 we have planted 25,000 trees thus far, these include mangrove, fruit and forest trees.

The orangutans living within our concession can be seen high in the canopy and in carefully made nests in the top branches of trees. Our efforts will ensure that their offspring will be able to build nests in the same forest!

There is nothing like planting a tree with the knowledge that in the future it will provide food, shelter and comfort to a plethora of species within the Rimba Raya Biodiversity Reserve.



An InfiniteEARTH Tree Planting initiative at Rimba Raya has seen almost 180,000 new trees being planted in the 64,000 hectare peat swamp forest since 2013.

We want to ensure the survival of different species of trees and have therefore grown and purchased several varieties of seedlings from the local indigenous population for our replanting efforts. This not only reforests Rimba Raya but also provides additional income for the local communities.

Through a new Mangrove Tree planting initiative, we will plant an additional 25,000 mangrove seedlings. These will be sourced from local suppliers and planted in an area near the Rimba Raya Project, identified by experts as in need of mangrove reforestation.

We will coordinate with the Seruyan government Environment Department to obtain the proper permits and determine the optimal location for replanting. I look forward to providing you with an update by the end of the year.



## Camp Rimba

In our 2017 Year end update, I spoke about the 25 orangutans which were released into our concession. We call the release area, "Camp Rimba." This is now their new 'Home' and already the population of Orangutans is growing!

A feeding platform in the peat forest, is a meeting point for these and other orangutans, a place to gather, groom one another, forage, and socialize.

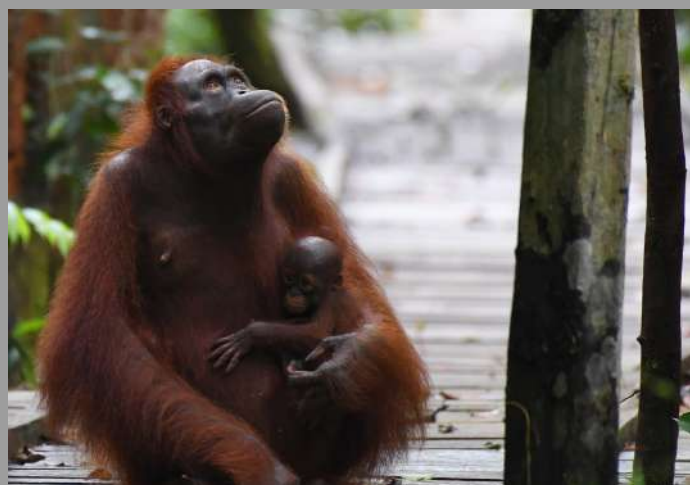
On my visit in February 2018, the first orangutan to show her face was Mercedes, a very timid female who kept her distance at first. The reason became clear when we saw a tiny bundle clutching her chest. Mercedes had given birth to a gorgeous baby just 3 months prior. This is certainly a testament to the fact that these orangutans are settled and secure.

She slowly approached and showed us her baby, the trust she exhibited was breath taking and I for one was in awe.

She sat a short distance away from us, and diligently slapped the mosquitoes away from her little one. She eventually passed us and went to the platform for some bananas and sugar cane. Several males arrived and they all seemed extremely gentle as they moved around the mother and infant.

I know that orangutans share 97% of our DNA, but I was still impressed with the expressive faces and the obvious personalities in each of these wonderful creatures. This experience made me realise that our efforts have been successful and we are more motivated than ever to expand Camp Rimba.

Our goal is to continue releasing more orangutans into the concession and build structures better suited to care for the ones who return and need assistance.







# REDD+

Rimba Raya Biodiversity Reserve continues to be successful as a REDD+ project and we are very happy that our newly released orangutans are thriving in Camp Rimba!

All 25 ex-captive and rehabilitated orangutans love their new home and only visit the feeding platform for easy snacking rather than out of necessity. They are building nests, foraging and settling into a thriving community.

REDD+ stands for countries' efforts to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, and foster conservation, sustainable management of forests, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks.

As a REDD+ Project, we depend on the income gained from the sale of carbon credits through our management company InfiniteEARTH to ensure that our community is thriving and that we continue to protect and preserve our forest.





Ibu Tutriatunningsih, (known as Trie or Tutri) is a young mother who was born in the village of Muara Dua, Central Kalimantan, Borneo, Indonesia. She valued member of the Rimba Raya team. This is her story and it's one that relates to our theme of education.



“ I am the eldest of three siblings with two younger brothers. We were raised in a simple family environment, our father was the head of the family and the head of the local school and our mother was a dedicated and loving housewife. Living in an environment that stressed the importance of family, gave me a happy and content childhood. As the only daughter, I had a special bond with my father which became even closer when my mother passed away.

My father, as headmaster of the local school village, drummed the importance of education into us all and we knew that we had to do everything we could to ensure that we worked towards obtaining a higher education. I attended the local Elementary School in Muara Dua Village under my fathers watchful eye. Then, I continued Secondary School in Seruyan District, Central Kalimantan, followed by Upper Secondary in the Tabalong District of South Kalimantan. Going away for school gave me an opportunity to expand my horizons and the distance from the easy comfort of my village and family forced me to become more independent.

Ayah (as the Indonesians call 'father') was someone who was and continues to be very influential in my life. He is a friend, but also my protector despite our differences in opinion. We respect each other and enjoy our lively debates together. My dad has taught me to live a good life, to talk about my dreams and then to reach for them. He has taught me to forgive, to survive and use difficulty as my motivation to improve my life as well as the lives of my own children. My Ayah Jumeri, is always going to be my hero.

I have decided to complete my university degree, but living in a remote village like Muara Dua, doesn't make this an easy task. I don't have internet access and have to travel by motor bike at least an hour and a half on bumpy dirt roads, to the next village to submit my assignments. But I'm determined to get my degree which I hope to use to teach others who also dream of having an education. It will certainly open doors for me with greater opportunities in the future.

Obtaining a degree isn't easy with two children at home who need me present. Adit and Dika are my pride and joy. As a single divorced mum in a conservative society, I need to be strong and unrelenting. I work hard to support my family while working toward obtaining my degree. It's expensive but I am determined to complete it within the next two and half years... you can be sure of that! The benefit of having a degree will make all the sacrifices we've made as a family worthwhile.

I have great hopes for the future of my children, wishing them to grow to be good and happy children as all children should. I want them to have a decent education, do a good job and be successful. I hope to lead them through my example. ”

- Trie



## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Rimba Raya initiatives are funded by  
InfiniteEARTH's sale of carbon credits.

We focus on helping local communities  
embrace the positive aspects of being  
part of a REDD+ project.



[Rimba-Raya.com](http://Rimba-Raya.com)