



**THE ROLE OF ECONUSA FOUNDATION IN
PROTECTING THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S
RIGHTS IN TANAH PAPUA**

UNDERGRADUATE THESIS

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ABSTRACT

This analysis assesses the role of the EcoNusa Foundation in protecting the rights of Indigenous Peoples (IPs) in the context of Papua, a region rife with problematic rhetoric: on paper, IPs' rights are clearly recognized, but their implementation is still hard to achieve, creating a "state vacuum" that then opens the door to deforestation, natural resource plunder, and the marginalization of indigenous communities. This work tries to answer how the EcoNusa Foundation, as a non-state actor, fills this void and its contribution to the advancement of climate justice. For analysis, the researcher employed a qualitative single-case study methodology, looking at different secondary data from a theoretical thematic perspective. David Lewis's Tripartite Model on the Role of NGOs, the multidimensional principles of climate justice, and the main pillars of Social Movement Theory will be combined and used as a framework to guide the research. EcoNusa's operations were found to be a progressive and mutually supportive combination of its three primary roles. EcoNusa provides direct and tangible support through restorative-sustainable economic development and participatory mapping on the ground. As a catalyst, through targeted policy advocacy and "soft" yet powerful public campaigns, the Foundation promotes systemic change to shift negative narratives. Building extensive partnerships with both civil society and government actors strengthens the Foundation's role as a partner. A deeper study found EcoNusa to be a critical social movement organization, using its framing strategy to bridge local struggles for indigenous peoples' rights with the FOLU Net Sink 2030, Indonesia's national and international commitments. This transforms local demands into strategic solutions for national priorities and creates big-time political leverage. As a result, EcoNusa's work provides an effective and practical climate justice model on the ground by directly addressing the distributive, procedural, and recognition dimensions of indigenous peoples. The conclusion is that the EcoNusa Foundation effectively fills the gap between the state and the people governed, not by replacing it, but by empowering communities and generating the political initiatives necessary for the state to fulfill its constitutional obligations. This research point outs that a rights-based approach that empowers indigenous peoples is not only a must-do but also one of the most effective and essential strategies for achieving a just and lasting future in Papua and Indonesia.

Keywords: Climate Justice, Social Movement Theory, EcoNusa Foundation, Indigenous Peoples' Rights, NGO Role.

ABSTRAK

Dalam konteks Papua, wilayah yang sarat dengan pelanggaran hak-hak Masyarakat Adat (MA), studi ini mengkaji peran Yayasan EcoNusa dalam membela hak-hak tersebut dengan retorika yang problematis: di atas kertas, hak-hak MA diakui, tetapi implementasi sulit dilakukan, menyebabkan "kekosongan negara" yang memungkinkan terjadinya deforestasi, eksploitasi sumber daya alam, dan marginalisasi penduduk asli. Studi ini berupaya mengeksplorasi bagaimana Yayasan EcoNusa, sebuah entitas non-negara, mengatasi celah ini dan bagaimana ia mempromosikan keadilan iklim. Peneliti menggunakan pendekatan studi kasus tunggal kualitatif untuk menganalisis berbagai data sekunder dari perspektif tematik teoretis. Model tripartit tentang peran NGO oleh David Lewis, prinsip-prinsip multidimensi keadilan iklim, dan prinsip-prinsip kunci teori gerakan sosial akan diintegrasikan dan digunakan sebagai landasan untuk mengarahkan penelitian ini. Tiga tanggung jawab utama EcoNusa ditemukan sebagai perpaduan progresif dan kolaboratif. Pemetaan partisipatif di lapangan dan pembangunan ekonomi regeneratif-berkelanjutan adalah dua cara EcoNusa menawarkan bantuan langsung dan nyata. Yayasan bertindak sebagai katalis dengan memajukan kebijakan yang terarah dan melaksanakan inisiatif publik yang "lunak" namun efektif untuk mengubah narasi negatif dan mewujudkan perubahan sistemik. Yayasan sebagai mitra diperkuat dengan menjalin hubungan erat dengan pemerintah dan pemangku kepentingan masyarakat sipil. Melalui pendekatan pembingkaiannya untuk menghubungkan perjuangan lokal demi hak-hak masyarakat adat dengan isu-isu sosial yang lebih luas, EcoNusa diidentifikasi melalui investigasi yang lebih menyeluruh sebagai kelompok gerakan sosial yang krusial. Komitmen domestik dan internasional Indonesia diwujudkan dalam FOLU Net Sink 2030. Tuntutan lokal diubah menjadi solusi strategis bagi prioritas nasional, yang menghasilkan pengaruh politik yang substansial. Akibatnya, secara langsung menangani dimensi distributif, prosedural, dan pengakuan masyarakat adat, upaya ini menawarkan paradigma keadilan iklim yang layak dan efisien di lapangan. Kesimpulan: dengan memberikan kekuasaan kepada masyarakat, alih-alih mengambil perannya, Yayasan EcoNusa menjembatani kesenjangan antara pemerintah dan yang diperintah, serta menghasilkan usulan legislatif yang dibutuhkan negara untuk memenuhi tanggung jawab konstitusionalnya. Studi ini menekankan bahwa strategi berbasis hak yang memberdayakan penduduk asli tidak hanya diperlukan secara etis, tetapi juga merupakan salah satu langkah paling sukses dan krusial menuju masa depan yang adil dan berkelanjutan di Papua dan Indonesia.

Kata Kunci: *Keadilan Iklim, Teori Gerakan Sosial, Yayasan EcoNusa, Hak-Hak Masyarakat Adat, Peran NGO.*

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

MIFEE	: Merauke Integrated Food and Energy Estate
FWI	: Forest Watch Indonesia
RFN	: Rainforest Fund Norway
IEJ	: Indigenous Environmental Justice
UNDRIP	: United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
FPIC	: Free, Prior, and Informed Consent
MHA	: Masyarakat Hukum Adat or)
OTSUS	: Special Autonomy
EcoNusa	: Ekosistem Nusantara Berkelanjutan
FOLU	: Forestry and Other Land Use
NGOs	: Non-Governmental Organizations
SMOs	: Social Movement Organizations
POS	: Political Opportunity Structures
NSMT	: New Social Movement Theory
SMT	: Social Movement Theory
UN	: United Nations
WWF	: World Wide Fund for Nature
PERDASUS	: Special Regional Regulation
SIEJ	: Society of Indonesian Environmental Journalists
G20	: Group of Twenty
AMAN	: Indigenous Peoples Alliance of the Archipelago
PPMAN	: Association of Indigenous Peoples Defenders of the Archipelago
BRWA	: Ancestral Domain Registration Agency
RUU	: Draft of Law
PERMEN LHK	: Ministerial Regulation Environment and Forestry
KUPS	: Social Forestry Business Groups
ILO	: International Labour Organization
RMT	: Resource Mobilization Theory
SMI	: Social Movement Industry

PPT	: Political Process Theory
IPCC	: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
UNFCCC	: United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
BAPPERIDA	: Regional Development Planning Agency
BALITBANGDA	: Regional Research and Development Agency
CJT	: Climate Justice Theory
RPJMD	: Regional Medium-Term Development Plan
CBD	: Convention on Biological Diversity
MK	: Constitutional Court
REDD+	: Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation Plus
PERDA	: Local Regulation
KLHK	: Ministry of Environment and Forestry
IAL	: PT Indo Asiana Lestari
AMJI	: Aksi Muda Jaga Iklim or Youth Action to Guard the Climate movement.
UUPWP3K	: Coastal and Small Island Management Law
KOBUMI	: PT Ekosistem Bumi Lestari
SED	: School of Eco Diplomacy
COVID-19	: Corona Virus Disease 2019
SEI	: School of Eco Involvement
IMP	: Ilmuwan Muda Papua
RTRWP	: Provincial Spatial Planning Plan
RPJMD	: Regional Medium-Term Development Plan
MRP	: Papuan People's Assembly
KPK	: Corruption Eradication Commission
IDR	: Indonesian Rupiah
KORAL	: NGO Coalition for Sustainable Fisheries and Oceans
KJA	: Floating Net Cage
CEO	: Chief Executive Officer
NICFI	: Norway's International Climate and Forest Initiative
RFN	: Rainforest Foundation Norway

NDC	: Nationally Determined Contribution
MUI	: Indonesian Ulama Council
KORAL	: Coalition for Sustainable Fisheries and Marine Resources
TNC	: The Nature Conservancy
CII	: Conservation International
WWF	: World Wide Fund for Nature
INDEF	: Institute for Development of Economics and Finance
KOBUMI	: Koperasi Konsumen Bentara Ekologi Nusantara
COP24	: Conference of the Parties
CSOs	: Civil Society Organizations
SK	: Official Decrees
MPTP	: Mahkota Permata Tanah Papua
CJoP	: The Crown Jewel of Papua
WALHI	: Wahana Lingkungan Hidup Indonesia)
UNIPA	: State University of Papua
AJI	: Alliance of Independent Journalists
Pokja PPS	: Social Forestry Acceleration Working Group
LTKL	: Lingkar Temu Kabupaten Lestari
Norad	: Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation
SDGs	: Sustainable Development Goals
GPI	: Protestant Church in Papua,
TEK	: Traditional Ecological Knowledge
WRI	: World Resources Institute