



Yayasan Tambuhak Sinta

**QUARTERLY REPORT II
(January – March 2013)
IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF GOVERNANCE IN GUNUNG MAS REGENCY**





Chapter 1

Introduction

In the quarter of 2013, the Regent of Gunung Mas cancelled implementation of the Subdistrict Indicative Ceiling Policy (SICP) for 2014, despite recommendations arising from the SIBC workshop last December and attempts by Bappeda to convince the Bupati that the policy was workable under current budget conditions.

January activities concentrated on capacity building for the villages that were preparing for annual planning. Three major activities took place: (1) Internal capacity building for the YTS field team to become trainers for villagers to facilitate the annual planning process; (2) Training village government and village cadres as local facilitators for annual village planning; and (3) Monitoring implementation of annual planning in 21 villages.

Participants from the Training of Facilitators for Annual Village Planning made the following comments:

“YTS is the only party that gives us knowledge and skills on how to participate better in annual village planning. Now, I am glad that I have a chance to learn how to be a good facilitator for that event.”

(Ms. Bawing, Village Cadre of Tumbang Korik)



“Through this training, I now know about regulatory and technical aspects in conducting proper annual village planning. So far, we in village government are implementing annual planning from our desk, because of our ignorance about this.”

(Kundrat, Village Head of Hamputung)



In February, we merged two internal capacity building activities for the Kahayan team: technical assistances in village planning regulations and village budgeting, and internal capacity building for annual village planning preparation. The extra time was used for providing training and technical assistance for preparing for the annual subdistrict planning. Two subdistricts from outside our area took part in this training - Tewah and Kuala Kurun.

¹ Yayasan Tambuhak Sinta

² Miri Manasa: Tumbang Koroï & Mangkuhung; Kahayan Hulu Utara: Tumbang Sian & Tumbang Tajungan; Damang Batu: Tumbang Posu & Tumbang Mahuroi



One participant made the following comment:



“This training and technical assistance for preparing the annual subdistrict planning process is very useful for me, especially for data processing.....after getting assistance from the consultant, I could find all the mistakes I had been making in processing the data. Now, I have a chance to do it right. Thanks to YTS!”

(Yurdanus, Secretary of Damang Batu Subdistrict)

In March, we focused on technical assistance for the ‘Combined SKPD Forum’. The government of Gunung Mas followed our recommendations and implementation of the Combined SKPD Forum was quite successful.

Two participants commented as follows:



“We are newcomers in the Program & Planning Division in our agency. We feel like we have been walking in the dark. This technical assistance is showing us the light on how the planning process works and how to do it right. Of course one event is not enough. We need more!”

(Ms. Ramiasi & Ms. Tutut M. from Fishery & Husbandry Agency)

After implementing the Combined SKPD Forum, some participants made the following remarks:



“The hectic schedule of the government planning process and others activities need to be dealt with on a daily basis. Sometimes our spirits are up and down, but YTS is tireless in encouraging us to do our best and remain optimistic in creating a better process and results in this year’s annual planning.”

(Mr. Gantian Pasti, Head of Economic & Socio-Cultural Division of the Board of Planning)



“I’ve been a Camat just one month now. I found that the process of Combined SKPD is new and quite interesting. The design is also comfortable for engaging with the process.”

(Mr. Taring Erang, Rungan Hulu Subdistrict Head)



“I’ve been a Camat for four years. The process of annual planning is getting better, especially last year with the Subdistrict Indicative Ceiling Policy. I feel that the Combined SKPD Forum today is interactive and alive. I hope the realization of our forum today has greater assurance from top management than it was last year.”

(Mr. Kardinal, Manuhing Subdistrict Head)

Chapter 2

Activities and Outputs

In this quarter, the project organized five events for improving the capacity of government staff, village government and cadres, and YTS staff.

In-house training for Training of Facilitator Trainers for Annual Village Planning

Nine YTS Program Officers and Program Support Officers were trained to train Village Facilitators for the Annual Village Planning process. The training was held January 8-10 in Palangka Raya.



Outputs

After the training the participants could be divided into four categories: ‘ready to go’ trainer (3 participants), talented and quick learner (2 participants), quick learner (1 participant), and need to learn more in basic level (3 participants).

Briefing (mini workshop) on Community Campaign in Health and Education Sectors

This event was held in Kuala Kurun on January 15th. In total, 24 participants from six villages took part. The Health Agency provided three persons, and the Education Agency four persons. The new Head of BPMPDP-KB paid a visit to the event, and the Secretary of BPMPDP-KB gave a speech on behalf of the agency head. Despite the huge differences in ages, all of the participants actively involved themselves in the process, especially in action planning.



Outputs

The six villages prepared six action plans: four villages chose education issues and two villages chose health issues.

Training of Facilitators for Annual Village Planning

Two classes were conducted in this event. One class took place in Kuala Kurun, January 16-17, and trained participants from six villages. The other class was held in Tumbang Miri, January 17-18, with participants from 15 villages.



Outputs:

- In the first event, 21 out of 24 participants completed the pre-test and post-test. Altogether, 16 participants showed a positive improvement after the training; two participants showed no change; and six participants showed a negative change.
- In the second event, 14 participants showed a positive improvement after the training; three remained the same; and seven participants showed a negative change.

Training of Facilitators and Technical Assistance for Annual Subdistrict Planning

Participants in these activities gained a new understanding about the importance of annual planning at subdistrict level. The trainer used lectures, discussion, practice, and simulation methods.

The pre-test and post-test results showed participants increasing their knowledge overall. Some demonstrated quite significant progress (5 out of 12 participants). Simulation sessions revealed that participants need to improve their skills in using supporting instruments, including software. More practice on a regular basis is required. This could be achieved if their top management trusted them to conduct various types of meetings.

One alumni of the training provided these interesting comments:



“The training and technical assistance to prepare the annual subdistrict planning is useful indeed. But what makes that event special is the new design that allows subdistrict staff to be event organizers and facilitators or ‘TPM’. I hope next year that the training and technical assistance are not too close to the implementation dates. Being a chair of TPM and also facilitator was a first-time experience for me. I know it was not perfect, but I look forward to having that opportunity again in the future.”

(Mrs. Rosalia, Secretary of Kuala Kurun Subdistrict)

Technical Assistance for Combined SKPD Forum Preparation

There are three achievement targets for this event: (1) Data processing for presentation of five SKPD in Joint SKPD Forum; (2) Joint SKPD Forum design; and (3) Preparing facilitators from Bappeda.



Outputs:

Only the last two targets were achieved. The first one will be completed after the event (data from Bappeda was sent to SKPD on March 7).



Chapter 3

Results Achieved in Comparison With Initial Objectives

Annual Village Planning

There were two good stories arising from the first quarter: (1). Despite disappointment over cancelation of the subdistrict indicative budget ceiling policy, people in the villages still believe in the system of annual planning for village development; and (2). This year, subdistrict representatives, including government service units from the subdistrict, attended the annual village planning in all 22 locations that YTS facilitated.

Implementation of action plans of Training of Facilitators for annual village planning in six pilot villages as follows:

Subdistrict of Kahayan Hulu Utara

1. Tumbang Tajungan

The event was successful and participation of villagers was quite high. The process was based on guidelines provided in the training of facilitators for annual village planning. One factor that influenced the success was the good preparation by the organizing committee, especially in mobilizing participants. A total of 42 persons took part – 17 women and 25 men.



Left: Mr. Naik Muin giving the opening speech at the annual village planning in Tumbang Tajungan
Right: Some of the participants at the annual village planning in Tumbang Tajungan

2. Tumbang Sian

The process referenced guidelines provided in the training of facilitators. However, the organizing committee was fully functioning. Program Officers from YTS had to support the committee in making and distributing invitations, and in taking photos during sessions. A total of 46 persons, including 18



women and 28 men, took part.

Left: Village Head, Guthin, delivers the opening speech in the annual village planning in Tumbang Sian
Right: Esra, village cadre, facilitated the event

Subdistrict of Miri Manasa

1. Tumbang Koroi

The village government of Tumbang Koroi did not receive the annual village planning schedule from the subdistrict government. Therefore, the village conducted this event without any preparation. In addition, the Village Head was absent as he was unaware of the schedule. In any event, 31 persons attended the event, three women and 28 men.



The process of annual village planning in Tumbang Koroi

2. Mangkuhung

The event was held on time and was successful. The organizing committee, including facilitators, worked properly and the process followed the guidelines in the facilitator training. 50 persons attended, including 22 women and 28 men.



The process of annual village planning in Mangkuhung

Subdistrict of Damang Batu

1. Tumbang Posu

This event was successful, and the process followed guidelines from the training of facilitators. The factors that influence the success were the good preparation of the organizing committee especially in mobilizing the participants. Participation of villagers was quite high, altogether ± 25 people took part.



The process of annual village planning in Tumbang Posu

2. Tumbang Mahuroi

Village facilitators followed the guidelines closely and the event was deemed a success. Participation levels were much higher than last year. The organizing committee was well organised, especially in mobilizing participants. A total of 50 villagers attended; including men and women.



The process of annual village planning in Tumbang Mahuroi

Annual Subdistrict Planning

Four out of five subdistricts became monitoring sites. All of these subdistricts took part in the training and technical assistance for the annual subdistrict planning. YTS Program Officers monitored activities in the three subdistricts of Miri Manasa, Kahayan Hulu Utara, and Damang Batu. Bappeda monitored annual planning activities in Kuala Kurun.

Monitoring focused on the effectiveness of the subdistrict organizing committee functions and implementation of the planning event – ie, how to facilitate better with sufficient instruments.

Implementing action plans for annual planning in three pilot subdistricts and two additional subdistricts.

1. Subdistrict of Tewah

Tewah was unable to implement its own action plan, because they only had one day to prepare for the event after the training. They had to rely on Bappeda to facilitate the process.

2. Subdistrict of Kuala Kurun

Kuala Kurun implemented its action plan by establishing an organizing committee, which delivered the event on schedule. The Kurun Secretary facilitated the event.

According to the Bappeda team, the process ran quite well and the subdistrict staff involved themselves actively in the event, which was well attended.

3. Subdistrict of Kahayan Hulu Utara

Kahayan Hulu Utara implemented their action plan despite the absence of the subdistrict representative in the action planning session. The subdistrict facilitator of PNPM facilitated the event. Subdistrict staff tackled the remaining organisational functions. Altogether 70 persons took part.



Discussion session in annual planning of Kahayan Hulu Utara

4. Subdistrict of Miri Manasa

Miri Manasa did not fully implement its action plan as recommended. The Organizing Committee was not actively involved and the district government team dominated discussions. The subdistrict Head facilitated the event, and participation totaled 56 persons, 15 women and 41 men.



Process of annual planning in Miri Manasa subdistrict

5. Subdistrict of Damang Batu

Damang Batu implemented its action plan on schedule after establishing an organizing committee. The Secretary of Damang Batu facilitated the event. The process ran quite well, with active participation from both women and men. Altogether 63 people attended, 16 women and 47 men.



Left: Mr. Gantian Pasti, Resource Person from Bappeda
Center&Right: Annual planning process in Damang Batu subdistrict

The Secretary of Damang Batu demonstrated a strong commitment and spirit to improve the process and results of annual subdistrict planning. He encourage the staff and others stakeholders to take part in the organizing committee.

The local assembly representative made this observation:



“Today, annual planning in Damang Batu is better. It is more structured and the objectives of this event have been made clear.”

(Mr. Bambang Harapan, Local Assembly Representative from Election Area Number 3)

Combined SKPD Forum and Annual District Planning

The results of the Combined SKPD Forum were better than in previous years. More projects will be coming to the villages as the result of the top down planning (SKPD planning with Special Allocation Fund from central government, which has been available since December 2012). Implementation is now dependant how well projects proposed from villages and subdistricts match with the program funded under the Special Allocation Fund (DAK). The Education Agency is proposing projects totaling 26 Milliard Rupiah.

The results of the Combined SKPD Forum were presented in the district annual planning forum, and the Regent/Bupati did not suggest any changes, which means that the results of the Combined SKPD Forum were accepted in the annual planning forum.



Photos:
 1. Discussions at Public Works desk
 2. Discussions at Education desk
 3. Discussions at Agriculture & Plantation desk
 4. Discussions at Fishery & Husbandry desk
 5. Discussions at Health desk
 6. Consultation with Head of Bappeda

Community Campaign on Health and Education Sectors

The Kahayan Project Program Officers monitored progress in the community campaign on health and education sectors in six villages, and reported the following results:

Subdistrict of Kahayan Hulu Utara

Village	Action Plan	Progress
Tumbang Tajungan	Promote preschooler education through educational play group	Play group, 'Tunas Harapan', is established & has made significant progress. It contains 18 children and has two volunteer tutors.
Tumbang Sian	Strengthen villagers' informal education for junior or senior high school equivalency.	Play group, 'Eka Harati', for preschoolers, has 16 children.

Subdistrict of Miri Manasa

Village	Action Plan	Progress
Tumbang Koroi	Establish villagers' informal education for junior or senior high school equivalency.	Village government and local cadres are making an institution umbrella as required by the Education Agency.
Mangkuhung	Communal self-help to clean up the village regularly (monthly), build a garbage dump, and conduct mother & child safety campaign	Started monthly village clean up, but dropped other activities because too busy.

Subdistrict of Damang Batu

Village	Action Plan	Progress
Tumbang Posu	Develop household medicine plantation	No progress
Tumbang Mahuroi	Advocacy on teachers' performance	No progress



Chapter 4

Risk Management

As the Project ends October this year, it is important to sit together with government agency counterparts to discuss project completion and to devise a strategy for continuation of the initiative to enhance the quality of governance in Gunung Mas.

Chapter 5

Action Plan for Next Quarter

APRIL 2013
3-4 April 2013 Training on government strategic planning for 20 SKPD 15-19 April 2013 (tentative) Technical Assistance for Health Agency’s strategic planning
MAY 2013
Mid-term Project Evaluation Workshop (date to be determined)
JUNE 2013
Participate in Gunung Mas anniversary celebration through exhibition on Governance Project jointly with KSK