

## Project Update: March 2010

After 5 months of the project, our program has got good feedback from villagers in the project area. We have requested three individuals from three farmers groups who need to be guides for next paddy's planting season. They are Situfa Jaya, Dihit and Lambaya Village and we have appointments to conducted farmers' group meetings at the end of March 2010 because they will be starting the seedling process in April.

Up to March 2010, we have taught more than 40 villagers in 4 villages the paddy planting process that is different from the traditional model. We have tried to plant Legowo 4:1, 3:1, 2:1 and SRI models which use an organic approach.

Right now, farmers have seen many different effects of these new models, such as quantities of stems of paddies; 1 - 2 seeds in each hole become 15 – 40 stems of paddies. In traditional models, they planted 4 - 8 seeds each hole and these become no more that 12 stems of paddies.

We have used four kinds of natural resources that we change into organic fertilizers and organic pesticides, such as animal faeces as basic fertilizers, natural micro-organism used, aromatic leaves processed for pesticides and tools for weeding that we called "sosrok".

By the end of March 2010 we plan to make paddy harvest process and as we have planned before, we have more confidence in teaching them that we have heavier paddy "grains", so that we have higher paddy production.

We have 8 villagers (other participants) that planted their rice field using our models, and we are trying to motivate others villagers to do the same.

