



Selamatkan Yaki



Working to save Sulawesi crested black macaques and their native habitat

NEWSLETTER

2016

2016 WAS PRETTY AWESOME .

[IT WAS THE YEAR OF
THE MONKEY, DID YOU HEAR?]

2017... BRING IT!



Since the Selamatkan Yaki (SY) conservation programme first started, we have been able to reach various milestones, achieve numerous goals, make excellent partners and collaborators while also gaining an amazing amount of support in the process. 2016 was no different; it was yet another fruitful and fulfilling year for us and our heart-shape bottomed friends and we would like to share some highlights of 2015-2016 with you!

In our efforts to protect the Sulawesi crested black macaques (*Macaca nigra*) and their native habitat, we experience many changes and challenges; 2016 had us saying 'see you when we see you' to some of our beloved SY family members, but we also welcomed new ones; we initiated as well as contributed to numerous conservation activities and workshops in North Sulawesi; we continue to develop and enhance our strategies; together with our partners and collaborators we strengthen our efforts with the establishment of the North Sulawesi Nature Protection Alliance; we continue to expand our network of yaki conservation supporters by reaching out to students and communities in our new campaign area while also continuing to strengthen the relationships that we have built with the

communities around our beloved Tangkoko area.

I'll let you in on the details in a bit, but first, a big round of applause for all of our partners and collaborators for the amazing work that they continue to do to preserve North Sulawesi's nature, and on behalf of the SY team I would like to express our sincerest gratitude and appreciation to all of our supporters for your continued support, without which our success and achievements would be possible. Here's to another positive year for North Sulawesi!

Together we will save the yaki!

Prisillia Morley Loijens
Education Officer

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- SY team changes and additions
- Archways in Tangkoko
- Forest patrols with communities and stakeholders
- High school talks and Yaki Ambassadors
- Introducing: Green Gospel Pilot Project

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OUR TEAM

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Programme Manager

Reyni Palohoen
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Caspian Johnson
Field Project Coordinator

Yunita Siwi
Community Conservation
Officer

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Arif Wijaya
Protected Area Coordinator

Ance Tatinggulu
Protected Area Officer

Yaki images by
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Wildlife Photography

www.selamatkanyaki.ngo



SELAMATKAN YAKI TEAM: CHANGES & ADDITIONS...

AS Selamatkan Yaki continues to grow and move forward to achieve new things, we also experience changes...and additions. One of the more exciting changes is that we are now registered as an official foundation, which will allow our programme more room to work with. Unfortunately, last April we had to give Thirza Loffeld our big thanks and wished her luck for her

future and new adventures, after her amazing three years of hard work for yaki conservation in North Sulawesi. Thirza made a huge contribution to the programme as a whole, developing our strategies, strengthening our networks and building capacity with local staff as well as community representatives.

On another note, our long-timer Yunita Siwi has taken up the role of Community Conservation Officer, making sure our programme stays well connected to local communities, organisations and stakeholders whom are integral to the work that we do. The Education Officer torch was then passed on to Prisillia Loijens, whom is now also adopting a new set of responsibilities related to education and awareness raising, while continuing to hold down the programme's design fort.

Alongside them are faces that you may or may not have seen before; read on to get a glimpse of them...



Ance Tatinggulu excelled as Tangkoko Project Assistant and is now adopting new responsibilities as SY's Protected Area Officer. Ance is highly invested in ensuring that communities around Tangkoko stay involved in the many activities that we do, further strengthening our community-based conservation programme. We believe he will do even greater work in leading the various activities around Tangkoko.



Yohanes 'Yata' Sambuaga continues to dedicate his time and energy as full-time Education Assistant, working hard to support the implementation of our Education and Awareness-Raising Strategy (EARS) since we moved our campaign focus from Tomohon and Langowan to Bitung and Airmadidi in 2015, now expanding to South Minahasa. Yata will also continue to help with audio/video production to enhance our campaign!



One of the newer faces on the block is **Arif Wijaya** from Makassar, South Sulawesi whom has joined us to help coordinate our Protected Area Management (PAM) unit as Protected Area Coordinator. Arif has taken the lead on the development of a long-term strategy for PAM while also working to maintain collaborative relations that have been built with other organisations, government agencies as well as other stakeholders.



In July we happily welcomed **Dr. Caspian Johnson** as our Field Project Coordinator. Hailing from the UK with his background in primate ecology combined with experience in species monitoring, Dr. Caspian is now spearheading our Biodiversity Monitoring Unit (BMU), strengthening our team even more in facing upcoming challenges in the efforts to save the yaki and their habitat in North Sulawesi.

PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT (PAM): COMMUNITIES TAKING THE REIGNS...

Since its establishment in 2015, the Forest Conservation Community Forum (named FMKH), has made big contributions to support the management of Tangkoko; from outreach around the neighborhood, to building amazing archways in the area and teaming up with stakeholders to conduct forest patrols in Tangkoko, FMKH has been a big support of forest conservation and protection efforts.

TANGKOKO ARCHWAYS

Ever come across archways that are as colorful, diverse and...just...really pretty as the ones around Tangkoko? FMKH has been hard at work, building archways at the entrance of their villages, getting 3 archways built in the past year: Pinangunian, Batu Putih Bawah and the latest in Kasawari. Soon to come is the 4th archway located in Duasudara, while FMKH Winenet Satu is planning to build a yaki statue in their village! These archways also brilliantly illustrate and inform the rich biodiversity within the Tangkoko area and FMKH hopes that these landmarks can express their support for conservation as well as act as a symbol of pride in their efforts in raising public awareness on the importance of preserving forest and its biodiversity, especially yaki, for many Tangkoko community generations to come.



Yaki Ambassador Indonesia Khouni Lomban-Rawung leading the inauguration of Kasawari archway



Pinangunian Archway



FMKH members at the opening of Batu Putih archway

GET TO KNOW

FOREST CONSERVATION COMMUNITY FORUM (a.k.a FMKH)

FMKH was initiated by SY through the PAM working unit, formed in 5 villages around the Tangkoko area: Batu Putih Bawah, Duasudara, Winenet Satu, Pinangunian and Kasawari. We believe that the involvement of local communities is crucial in strengthening protected area management systems, especially in Tangkoko-Duasudara Nature Reserve. In fact, community is one of the key factors of the successful management of a conservation area.

FMKH aims to:

- Improve forest governance policies
- Change behaviour towards a more sustainable way of using natural resources
- Strengthen community-based forest protection
- Identify and coordinate with other stakeholders related to forest management around the nature reserve
- Procurement of long-term funding for forest protection (external and internal through government support)

FMKH conducts monthly meetings in each 5 villages, at which any issues related to the environment are discussed, in addition to brainstorming ideas for community involvement. FMKH members from these 5 villages then meet up every 3 months to evaluate implemented ideas and activities and to discuss environmental issues related to Tangkoko.

FOREST PATROLS WITH NATURE RESERVE MANAGEMENT



FKMH, SY, EPASS and BKSDA enroute to Batuputih on the Pinangunian-Patar-Batu Putih track

pivotal role in protecting this area, considering that this is also a mandate of the law. There are several stages in the mechanisms of this patrol conducted by FMKH together with EPASS project and BKSDA; the first stage is trials, to test out patrol routes that start from 4 different entrances of the reserve. As of May 2016 two patrol trials have been conducted: the Pinangunian-Patar-Batu Putih route carried out by FMKH Pinangunian, while the Kasawari-Rumesung-Batu Putih route was carried out by FMKH Kasawari and FMKH Winenet Satu.

One of the goals of FMKH is to strengthen the community-based forest protection system. One of the indicators of a sound nature reserve can be measured by the declining level of threats in the region. Based on this reason, FMKH has taken the step to encourage the North Sulawesi Conservation of Natural Resources Department (BKSDA Sulut), under which Tangkoko management falls, to conduct forest patrols in and around the nature reserve on a regular basis. Community involvement plays a



Patrol trial saw a freshly (illegally) logged tree inside the Tangkoko-Duasudara nature reserve

TREE PLANTING AND OUTREACH



Head of Kasawari (far left) joined FMKH members planting various seeds



When provided the chance, FMKH members also give talks and spread information about the yaki and conservation at the various meetings that they attend, be it at church or just whenever they meet other locals around Tangkoko. The aim of giving these talks is to raise local awareness and to encourage more locals to get involved, to actively protect and preserve the forest and its biodiversity, more specifically within the Duasudara reserve.

After the devastating series of forest fires in 2016 and the amazing team work that followed to diminish them, FMKH Kasawari in collaboration with Batuangus Resort planted trees in Batuangus Nature Park with the aim to make the park become green again. The wildfires had lasted for about a week, burning a large area of the nature reserve and park.



Giving talks about yaki and conservation around the neighborhood



Benefits of having FMKH:

- Having a place to discuss and express opinions
- Helping resolve local conflicts
- Sharing experiences and information between villages
- Involving the community in the area management
- Improving communication between local communities and relevant stakeholders
- Facilitating communities to deliver information on environmental issues or to report threats to the region

So far FMKH members represent 20 people per village, but expansion is in the books. Regeneration is pivotal to FMKH future plans and developments, so the forum will continue to engage and involve young people in activities related to conservation, with hopes that they are able to recruit more members from the next generation. Independent

and sustainable funding has also become a priority as FMKH activities are currently funded by donors from abroad; hopefully in the future FMKH will be able to finance their activities independently, and one of the early steps toward this goal is to register FMKH as a community forum with a legal status, and acknowledged by law.

WITH THE MOTTO
“PROTECTING FORESTS... PROTECTING COMMUNITIES”
FMKH STANDS IN THE FRONT LINE AS AGENTS OF
BEHAVIOUR CHANGE TO INSPIRE OTHER PEOPLE
AROUND THEM TO TAKE PART IN CONSERVATION.

- Ance Tatinggulu
Protected Area Officer

SUPPORTING TANGKOKO GUIDES

Thanks to the contribution and support of our partners and local photographers, we produced Guide Booklets which were distributed to all guides working in Batu Putih Nature Park. The making of this booklet is a form of our commitment in supporting the management of Tangkoko in order to increase the capacity of local guides. This booklet aims to enhance the knowledge of local guides, to help them understand and practice efficient guiding, ensuring that visitors of

the park are well-informed about biodiversity inside the park and nature reserve. Additionally, Dudley Zoo UK had funded head torches for the guides, delivered personally by Jodie Dryden, our UK Regional Coordinator. The torches were specially adapted to shine a red light rather than white, which will be less harmful to animal's eyes, such as tarsiers, when the guides are locating them on evening tours. We continue to support the guides with development of an

English language course and Standard Operating Procedures to help improve guiding quality, as well as supporting their role with the upcoming information center in the park.



Guide Training 2015

SPECIES ACTION PLAN 2016

Three years have passed since the first ever yaki conservation workshop, where multiple stakeholders identified the species' threats and mitigation strategies, the outputs resulting in a valuable tool: the Species Action Plan (SAP). It was therefore timely for an evaluation of progress towards action points in the SAP and priority areas to invest in.



SAP Workshop introduction by Selamatkan Yaki Programme Manager Harry Hilser



L-R: Johny Ngala (FMKH Winenet Satu Coordinator) - Dr. Holly Farmer (WWCT) - Dr. Nerissa Chao (ASAP/IUCN) during brainstorm session

December 2016 saw a great turnout from stakeholder groups meaning lively discussions in a participatory format designed to maximize input from all. Informative talks about the importance of ex-situ (zoo and sanctuary) populations were provided by guests Dr Andrew Bowkett and Dr Holly Farmer from Whitley Wildlife Conservation Trust (WWCT) UK, whilst Dr Antje Engelhardt from Macaca Nigra Project (MNP) enlightened participants on the biology and ecology of this fascinating species. Secretariat Manager of the Asian Species

Action Partnership (ASAP), Nerissa Chao, presented examples of ASAP's work and how action plans can be a useful tool for protecting species. A major focus of the gathering was on outputs and moving forwards - results intended to be utilized by all stakeholders to measure species and habitat conservation goals. A Technical Committee will monitor progress over time, identifying barriers and optimising collaborative opportunities to implement recommended action points. Thanks to all involved in making this a fruitful and enjoyable gathering!



Dr. Andrew Bowkett (WWCT) in a discussion with our partners from MNP and EPASS Project

EDUCATION & AWARENESS RAISING STRATEGY (EARS):

High school never ends...



Teaming up: Ambassadors Christi (2015), Joudy (2015) and Jerry (2014) at a school on Lembbeh island, Bitung



CCO Yunita with the legendary YAC Golden Ticket in South Minahasa

Almost quite literally for some of us! See, after successful trips to high schools in our first campaign areas Tomohon and Langowan—as updated in our [previous newsletter](#)—we continue on with our adventurous and educational endeavours with some of North Sulawesi's best, starting with visiting high schools in our second campaign areas Bitung and Airmadidi. After finishing 34 high school talks and reaching about 2500 students plus 70 teachers in 2015, we successfully gained 18 new Youth Yaki Ambassadors through 3 days and 2 nights of training at our action-packed **Yaki Youth Camp (YYC) 2015!** These Youth Ambassadors represent the second step in our '2-Step-Approach' in local capacity building, and after the training at YYC, with assistance from our team they took the lead on giving talks about the yaki and its conservation at all junior high schools in Bitung and Airmadidi. Together, we reached a staggering number of nearly 5000 junior high school students in the area! Aside from school talks with the team, our Ambassadors also initiate independent school talks and camps, and they love to help out with many other EARS activities when they can.

Fast forward a year later, in 2016 we slowly began to expand our campaign to someplace new and bigger (quite literally, as we are now aiming to reach a whole region as opposed to just selected cities/towns like previous campaign years): South Minahasa, which has some of the richest forests where many macaque groups can still be found. However, with the rapidly growing farmlands and high potential of illegal hunting and trading, we deemed it necessary to give it our best effort yet to reach out to the people there. After months of planning and finalisations, with the support of the lovely folks at Wildlife Reserves Singapore we were able to set off to our first South Minahasan high school! With 37 high schools on the list we knew our team was in for quite a ride, but 5 weeks and nearly 3000 students later, it was time for the third YYC with 19 of the bravest, most enthusiastic and confident high school freshmen in South Minahasa! Assisted by our most active Ambassadors from the 2014 and 2015 batch, we trained the new Ambassadors and together we will continue to spread conservation messages through art, music, dance, theatre, journalism and presentation skills throughout South Minahasa!



Yaki Youth Camp: The most creative camp ever!

Take us to Church!

The fact that Christians make up nearly 70% of North Sulawesi's population (BPS, 2015) has inspired us to develop the Green Gospel (GG) project, an approach to increase the capacity of local priests. In 2014 we conducted the first priest workshop, where participants from the church community, stakeholders and NGOs worked together in groups to identify environmental

issues in and around their areas/ congregations and brainstorm about how to mitigate these issues by linking conservation messages to the Bible. As a result of the well-established relationships between SY and church leaders since then, we were invited to provide talks at a total of **5 church youth camps** in the past year and a half, reaching approximately 800 participants. Furthermore,

based on recommendations and suggestions by participants of the 2014 workshop, our education team have developed a Sunday School syllabus and resource book consisting of 7 different lessons that will help children to learn about the environment through Sunday School. Along with that, we produced a **GG mini documentary** to help us introduce the project to a wider



A draft copy of the Sunday School syllabus developed by SY



A lesson on animal welfare for Kasawari Sunday School



Participants of Green Gospel Workshop 2015 included local priests, Mayor of Bitung, Yaki Ambassador Indonesia and partner NGOs

audience. These materials were then distributed to the 10 largest churches in North Sulawesi to aid with spreading conservation awareness through the church. We provided a copy of the syllabus to each participant of the **2015 GG workshop**; these were handed out for evaluation and to help us gain feedback from Theology experts

whom attended this workshop. For further evaluation, in 2016 we conducted the **GG Pilot Project**, through which we implemented the syllabus draft, to experience any trial errors. The pilot spanned over 7 weeks and involved Sunday School children in Kasawari and Makawidey (villages in Bitung), with the help of FMKH Sunday

School teachers and supported by two local churches. We are currently working on the pilot report and we aim to have the syllabus finalised in 2017 to be distributed to churches in North Sulawesi, with hopes for a more region-wide implementation by churches, community groups, priests and Christians in general.

Awareness left, right, front and centre...

Our Yaki Ambassador family continues to grow! We happily welcomed Khouni Lomban-Rawung, First Lady of Bitung city 2016-2021, to our family as Yaki Ambassador Indonesia. Khouni has been a great supporter of our campaign since we first started in Bitung in 2014 and she continues to put yaki conservation as top priority as best she can. But our welcome doesn't stop there: the past year we have been approaching local tourism department and have been carefully selecting Yaki Ambassadors through Bitung, North Minahasa and South Minahasa tourism pageants! Read more about our Ambassadors in our latest issue of **Yaki Magz!**

With their help, we reach out to even more people and communities through various approaches and many other EARS activities. Equipped with campaign materials and our own unique, green as can be custom-made information tent, we continue our monthly visits to local traditional markets and joining other events and festivals, such as the super fun events on Earth Day, World Animal Day, International Macaque Day, or the annual week-long North Sulawesi Development Exhibition to the recently-launched Lembeh Festival 2016, through which the government of Bitung introduced yaki as one of Bitung's tourism icons! Score!



Our trustee portable information tent



Campaign stickers on public transport!



Yaki Ambassador Indonesia at our info stand with National Geographic journalist Jenni Holland



One of our billboards in downtown Bitung

We are also excited to have been able to put up 9 campaign billboards in our second campaign areas, 6 of which are located in Bitung and the other 3 in Airmadidi, featuring heads of districts, heads of departments, even the Mayor of Bitung and his

vice! This way, more people are exposed to our campaign and message, also helping us build new relationships and expand our network, resulting in a huge amount of local media support—both online and printed—while local radio channels continue to support us through the airwaves by broadcasting our conservation messages regularly and inviting

our team to join their live radio talk shows as guest speakers. With the support of the Bitung city government, in mid-October 2015

we held our **Selamatkan Yaki Exhibition**, which follows the previous exhibition that we held in Tompaso, Minahasa. This time we featured photos of other endemic Sulawesi wildlife taken by Indonesian photographers, along with artwork contributed by our artistic volunteers such as Oriana Chalbaud, Hellen Bersacola and many more, including the guys from BlackBone Studio Manado who painted a 5-meter mural featuring endemic Sulawesi wildlife!



Students playing our Yaki Live Game surrounded by yaki artwork

TOGETHER WE WILL SAVE THE YAKI!

Selamatkan Yaki Slogan

August 2016 saw Lauren Amos and Eva Hoad, two young fearless and inspiring zookeepers from the UK, jump out of a plane to raise funds for our programme! Lauren herself is no stranger to fundraising for SY; in 2015 she ran a half-marathon to help support us and this time, using the line ‘Skydive for Yaki’ they raised not only funds (and eyebrows), but also awareness about North Sulawesi’s unique and endemic macaque! You can read more about their inspiring **high-adrenaline stunt** on our website. More education and awareness-raising support for the Critically Endangered yaki was provided by National Geographic photographer Stefano Unterthiner and journalist Jennifer Holland who visited North Sulawesi in 2016, on assignment to write a **highly insightful article** accompanied by a brilliant collection of yaki photos! Furthermore, since the production of our campaign merchandise we have been seeing our campaign slogan in many places and the green wristband branded with ‘Torang jaga Yaki karna torang



Skydive for Yaki, the most adventurous fundraising of the year!



Campaign wristbands to up your cool by 100%!

peduli! (Manadonese for ‘we protect the yaki because we care!’) are a major hit; students, government officials, everyone wants one! An English version in grey is also available for our international supporters, so if you own one of our wristbands, help us promote our cause by posting a selfie with your wristband accompanied by an encouraging caption and the tag **#Selfie4Yaki!** We look forward to more positive and productive times working together to support the protection of this amazing species and its forest home!

PARTNERS AND COLLABORATORS

Many thanks go to all of our partners and sponsors of the programme, for their contribution towards the protection of the yaki and their habitat



Selamatkan Yaki
Save Sulawesi macaques



PARTNERS



No monkey business
www.mpcfoundation.com



moroccan primate conservation foundation

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SAVE OUR SPECIES



EAZA - IUCN/SSC



We protect the yaki because we care!

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