



VOICES FOR JUST CLIMATE ACTION

INDONESIA

COUNTRY STORY



**What do you know about Indonesia, and what have you heard?
It is an archipelagic country in the Global South, consisting of
over 17,000 islands and home to a population of approximately
290 million people across 38 provinces.**

Indonesia faces a range of climate-related challenges. Rising sea levels and frequent flooding pose significant risks in urban centres like Jakarta. In other regions, such as Yogyakarta and Bandung, the impacts of climate change manifest as both flooding and prolonged droughts. These vulnerabilities are further exacerbated by human-induced factors. For instance, limited access to piped water, coupled with illegal groundwater extraction by businesses and individuals, has resulted in land subsidence. This worsens already inadequate access to basic services, particularly for communities in informal settlements, where access to clean water and sanitation is limited.

The situation in coastal areas and on small islands is equally concerning. Farmers, fishermen, and local communities in these regions face the compounded impacts of droughts, tropical cyclones, and flooding. These events undermine food security, erode livelihoods, and contribute to the loss of assets.

Indigenous communities living in and around forests are also facing immense challenges. Deforestation, land conversion, and land grabbing have displaced many Indigenous people, stripping them of their traditional livelihoods, food sources, and territories. These pressures make them particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

These examples highlight how climate change disproportionately impacts marginalised groups. Unfortunately, communities such as slum dwellers, rural populations, fishermen, farmers, youth, and Indigenous peoples are often excluded from meaningful participation in climate-related decision-making processes. Despite being at the frontline of climate impacts, these communities possess valuable local knowledge and solutions that could help mitigate and adapt to climate change. Yet, their contributions are often overlooked, and they face significant barriers to receiving support.

This is where **Voices for Climate Action (VCA)** plays a crucial role. Through VCA, we empower these communities by facilitating peer learning, strengthening networks, and building their capacity to address climate challenges. Our efforts also focus on mobilising additional resources at the local level and advocating for the rights of these communities. We work alongside them to ensure their voices are heard in climate dialogues and decision-making processes.

As a result of our work, we have strengthened the capacities of over 3,500 individuals, including 1,216 women, 100 women's federations, 1,373 youth, and 80 Indigenous Peoples. We have built solidarity among diverse marginalised groups across eight provinces and dozens of cities and districts. We have mobilised nearly 400,000 euros in resources through joint advocacy efforts to support locally driven climate solutions. Additionally, we have empowered change-makers and leaders who drive positive transformation in their communities. These collective efforts have led to the recognition of community rights in several key policies.

However, our mission is far from complete. With nearly 30 more provinces to reach, much work remains. We need your support—and the commitment of all stakeholders—to scale up, scale out, and deepen our efforts in advancing **Voices for Climate Action** across Indonesia.

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