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# Expert Dialogue on Participative Management of Protected Areas in Germany

Documentation of the Study Visit to Germany of Indonesian National and Sub-national High-level Officials

August 18th-29th, 2019



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#### LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

APBN State Budget and Expenditure Plan (Anggaran Pendapatan dan Belanja Negara)

**BMZ** German Federal Ministry for International Cooperation

(Bundesministerium fuer wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung)

**BR** UNESCO Biosphere Reserve

**BWaldG** German Federal Forest Law (Bundeswaldgesetz)

**DBU** German Federal Environmental Foundation

(Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt)

**DFV** German Forest Society (Deutscher Forstverein e.V.)

FC Financial Cooperation

FMU Forest Management Unit (KPH)

**FORCLIME** Forests and Climate Change Programme

**GIZ** German Agency for International Cooperation

ha Hectare

KfW German Development Bank (Kreditanstalt fuer Wiederaufbau)

Km Kilometer

**KPH** FMU (= Kesatuan Pengelolaan Hutan)

**KPHK** Conservation Forest Management Unit (Kesatuan Pengelolaan Hutan Konservasi)

KPHL Protection Forest Management Unit (Kesatuan Pengelolaan Hutan Lindung)

KPHP Production Forest Management Unit (Kesatuan Pengelolaan Hutan Produksi)

MP German federal State of Mecklenburg – West Pomerania

NGO Non-Governmental Organisation

**NP** National Park

NTFP Non-Timber Forest Products

**REDD** Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation

SDG Sustainable Development Goals, introduced with UN Agenda 2030

TC Technical Cooperation

**UN** United Nations

UPTD Sub-National Technical Implementation Unit (Unit Pelaksana Teknis Daerah)

**National Parks**, Biosphere Reserves, and other protected areas are contributing to biodiversity conservation and sustainable forest management in Indonesia. And some of the large protected areas have been supported by GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Internationale Zusammenarbeit) since a long time in terms of national and regional policy as well as its operationalisation.

It was not until 2018 that Kapuas Hulu district in West Kalimantan, one of the project areas of FORCLIME, was recognized as a new Biosphere Reserve of the UNESCO Man and Biosphere Programme. Parts of this protected area landscape are the National Parks Danau Sentarum and Betung Kerihun. This new title shall be utilised to work towards a sustainable and environmentally friendly land use in this region and to take advantage of the opportunities offered to the benefit of the local population. This process will be supported by German development cooperation further on.

In the management of the designated forest areas of Indonesia, the Forest Management Units (FMU; in Indonesian language: Kesatuan Pengelolaan Hutan, KPH), which have been introduced nationwide, play a crucial role. They shall ensure sustainable forest management as well as safeguard other economic, ecological and social functions of the forest. Where this is no longer possible due to the degradation of the forest ecosystem, rehabilitation must be carried out. Of special importance with these tasks of FMU will be to integrate rural communities into the use and protection of natural resources.

FMUs in Germany have existed for many years and the exchange of experiences among forestry experts from both countries already has a long tradition. This should be maintained and continued in 2019. Among others, it was of special interest how institutions in charge of the management of protected areas and forest offices cooperate. FMU tasks with regards to nature conservation should also be emphasized, as well as the way in which private land users, other authorities and the general public are involved in nature conservation projects in a participative manner.

With this in mind, a group of high-level officials from the Indonesian Ministry of Environment and Forestry representing a number of directorates (Strategic Policy, Peatland Damage Control, Peat Inventory, Forest Area Allocation, Research and Development, Forestry Education and Training, Forest Revenue, Human Resource Development Planning, Non-Timber Forest Products) as well as the provincial forest administrations of West Kalimantan guided by members of the GIZ FORCLIME project team, visited Germany between August 18th and 29th 2019.

The process of dialogue included visits to various offices and institutions involved in nature conservation and forest management across north-eastern Germany.



**Dr. Ayu Dewi Utari**Head of Bureau of Planning,
as the Project Executing Agency of FORCLIME

#### ABOUT THE OBJECTIVES AND INTENTIONS OF THIS TRIP: Interview with Mr. Georg Buchholz, FORCLIME Programme Director

**GIZ:** Mr. Buchholz, why does FORCLIME regularly conducts expert dialogs?

Mr. Buchholz: There are basically two main aspects for the implementation of study tours/expert dialogues which we are offering on a regular basis. First, we would like to inspire the participants demonstrating strategies and technical solutions for challenges, which are comparable to the situation in Indonesia. This is not in order to just copy set-ups from a different environment such as Germany but to show that good results can be negotiated if all relevant stakeholders are cooperating in a participatory way. Through observing the German experience, we see many similarities in underlying challenges within our sector although the framework conditions are of course different.

The second aspect is about networking among Indonesian government staff and the FORCLIME programme. Study tours as well as other kinds of expert exchanges provide a learning environment outside the normal 'comfort zone' of government officials in Indonesia. Since we are inviting mixed groups including participants from different government agencies and different levels of administration, mutual understanding and future cooperation among the participants is facilitated. Our study groups from very diverse settings are afterwards still connected and peer learning is possible. Hence it is also a means of trust building both among government officials as well as counterparts and FORCLIME staff.

**GIZ:** Are there special reasons for selecting "Participative Management of Protected Areas in Germany" as the main topic of the study trip 2019?

Mr. Buchholz: Yes, the design of our events is on specific topics being currently discussed in the Indonesian forestry sector. One of FORCLIME's objectives is to contribute to the protection of Indonesian forests through providing benefits for rural communities. This can be achieved through joint forest management in general and participatory protected area management in particular. National parks make up part of our partner districts in Kalimantan and Central Sulawesi. In 2019 the topic of biosphere reserve is on the political agenda, both on local level with our pilot district Kapuas Hulu, West Kalimantan being declared as a UNESCO Man and Biosphere reserve, but also with the advancements of the "Lore Lindu Biosphere Reserve" in Central Sulawesi within our cooperation framework. In our opinion, biosphere reserves provide good prerequisites for marketing of regional products and services, creating great opportunities for the local communities. These positive local developments are accompanied by the ongoing national policy process of the formulation of a government regulations on biosphere reserves, also supported by FORCLIME, so it was a perfect timing for this topic and sharing experiences from Germany. To emphasize the advantages of a biosphere landscape and thereby contribute to



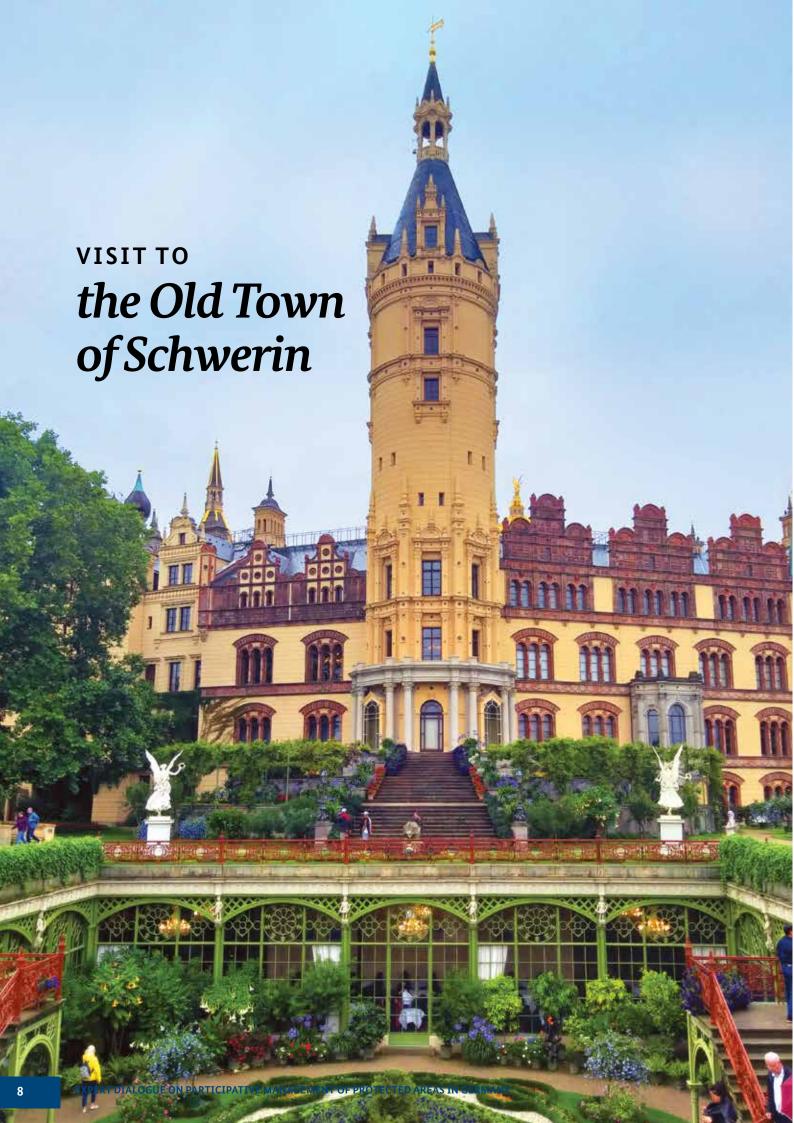
regional development, intensive cooperation between the local institutions and bundling of all forces is required. This can be demonstrated by well managed reserves in other parts of the world independent from vegetation type and cultural background since some basic principles are basically the same.

Beside the special topic of 2019, the study tours to Germany also provide continuous input on administrative set-up and structures of Forest Management Units according to the fact that Central Europe has a long tradition in forestry and is known as reference for forest management in Indonesia. The diverse landscape of forest ownership also provides some insights on how multifunctional forestry can be organized as a joint effort of both the public and the private sector. This is of significant relevance for our partners since Indonesia is implementing an ambitious social forestry programme.

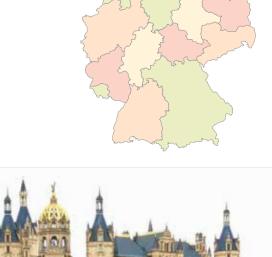
**GIZ:** What follow-up measures do you expect after the study trip and what concrete effects would you like to see?

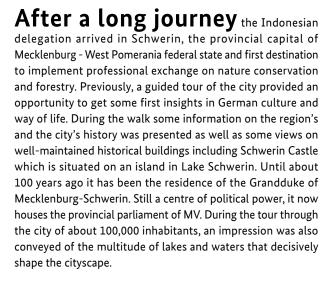
Mr. Buchholz: As we know from the discussions during the journey the participants reflect their experiences, develop new ideas, and make use of inspirations provided. With regards to protected area management I expect in the long run, that a more participative way by means of a multi-stakeholder platform is implemented and contributing to a beneficial development of the region. This should facilitate the resolution of land tenure related conflicts, enhance efforts in businesses development through marketing of non-timber forest products and agricultural commodities, and promote eco-tourism and environmental services. Based on experiences from previous years, I also expect closer cooperation among the members of the travel group which might ease administrative procedures.

In addition, it would be a great achievement to establish a closer cooperation among protected areas in Indonesia by providing experiences and lessons learnt for each other.



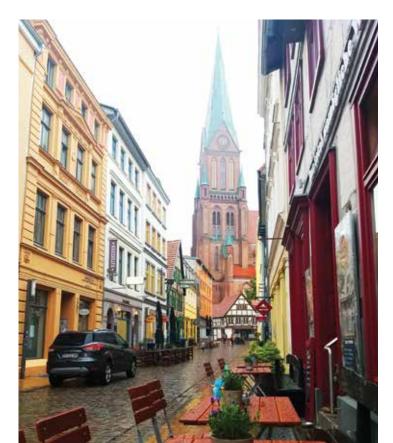














#### **VISIT TO**

### Ministry of Agriculture and Environment, Federal State of Mecklenburg - West Pomerania





Left: Ms. Hella Stein (2nd left) and Mr Ulf Tielking (centre; both of Ministry of Agriculture and Environment) with representatives of Indonesian delegation.

Below: The delegation from Indonesia with representatives of the Ministry of MV Mr. Olaf Ostermann and Mr. Ulf Tielking as well as German Forest Society employee Ms. Sabine Kuehling

As an opening event of the study tour 2019 the Indonesian delegation visited the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment in Schwerin. Here the Minister responsible Mr. Till Backhaus welcomed the guests and summarized the importance of the environmental sector in the German federal state of Mecklenburg- West Pomerania (MP). He also highlighted the main objectives of the provincial government and, given the special features of the state, the outstanding importance of forests in the region. In terms of nature conservation, MP plays a prominent role nationwide because there are many large protected areas e.g. three National Parks as well as three Biosphere reserves. Not least because of these circumstances, the government of the state is particularly interested in international cooperation.

Subsequently Ms. Sabine Kuehling briefly introduced the German Forest Society, assigned by the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture with implementation of the Forest Expert Programme. Commissioned by GIZ she also prepared this year's study tour and gave a brief introduction to the schedule of the trip.

In order to clarify the circumstances of his state, Mr. Ulf Tielking, Director of Forestry Policy and Supreme Forestry Department, compared some structural data with those of Indonesia. He emphasized the low population density in MV, some special characteristics of the natural landscape and the great importance of agriculture. Since this initial situation can trigger conflicts, special strategies are required to reconcile the various goals.



## DAY MONDAY • 19 AUGUST 2019

Although only 24% of the state's land is forested, forestry plays a significant role in the regional economy. This was explained by Mrs. Hella Stein, also a member of the Ministry and responsible for sustainable forest management and timber market matters. She also presented the structure of the forest, the tree species composition, and forest ownership as well as the wood production potential in the province.

Eventually Mr. Olaf Ostermann presented nature conservation strategies and the basic principles of protected area management in MV. He cited internationally recognized agreements and principles such as United Nation's Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB), guidelines for management of protected areas of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the European Union's Natura 2000-directive, which must be observed in national politics. These foundations refer to the 17 International Development Goals (SDG) of the United Nations.

The distribution and delineation of the protected areas of different categories within the province is due to the natural conditions but also caused by historical preconditions and developments. In particular, the momentum of German reunification was used to establish several large protected areas. Some of these landscapes have been used as military training areas before or were prohibited to the use of general public for other reasons. That's why nature could develop with very little impact by human economic activities and unique ecosystems emerged.

There are currently 16 National Parks and 17 Biosphere reserves, 105 Nature Parks, 5 so-called "National Nature Monuments" as well as each about 8800 "Nature Protected Areas" and "Landscape Protected Areas" in the whole of Germany. The different protection categories have different conditions and restrictions. In addition, individual characteristics of each and every protected object are outlined in individual protected area regulations.



**Above:** Ms. Sabine Kuehling (German Forest Society), Mr. Ulf Tielking and Minister Till Backhaus (both Ministry of Agriculture and Environment) discussing with visitors from Indonesia. **Below:** Mr. Olaf Ostermann (Ministry of Agriculture and Environment) highlighting protected areas in Germany.



#### **EXPECTATIONS AHEAD OF THE STUDY TRIP -**

Discussion with indonesian participants of 2019 expert dialogue

**GIZ:** In the run-up to this year's GIZ FORCLIME's study trip, you have undoubtedly been thinking about what to expect in Germany. What do you think you can learn about forestry structures, environmental protection and political governance? Do you have any expectations regarding German culture?

Mr Gatot: Well, since I was told that there is no difference between production and protection FMUs like we have in Indonesia, I am curious about this setup. Besides I'm very much interested to find out about the degree of economic and managerial independence of German FMU.

Mr Gatot Soebiantoro

**Mr Awrya:** Yes, and business activities of FMU might also be quite interesting. What can

management units arrange beyond concession areas in order to create revenue for both government and local communities? At least it is a political priority in Indonesia to provide income not only for private sector companies but also for the smallholder farmers in rural areas.

Ms Aty: Due to my professional background utilisation of peatland is of major importance for me. I wonder whether there are any business activities on peat land in Germany since in Indonesia 45% of entire peat landscape is located outside concession areas. This land shall be protected but at the same time utilization is permitted by government

regulation. Is there a chance for communities to gain income from these sites.

income from these sites in Germany? What

about non-timber forest products and environmental

about non-timber forest products and environmental services for the sake of rural livelihood?

Mr Awrya: A different topic is management of protected areas. With regards to that I would like to find out about the financing of these conservation activities. Is it just public or also private funds? Are public funds provided by the provincial or federal government? Or are there even more sources of budget involved?

Mr Muhammad Awrya Ibrahim

Mr Gatot: Right, and in addition to that I would like to ask about public investments and expenditure in general – who pays for public buildings and infrastructure as can be seen in the city of Schwerin?

**Ms Aty:** Obviously the city of Schwerin also provides a lot of green public areas, even marked with signs in English language. Are expenditures with regards to that all covered by the municipality? And how is land use planning handled to secure these areas?

**Mr Awrya:** And the public generally seem to stick to rules and regulations – how are the laws enforced in Germany? Can we talk about this with some relevant experts?

Eventually I also want to experience some German way of life in terms of food, shopping and entertainment.

**GIZ:** This is a whole bunch of open issues we hopefully will be able to tackle in the course of our tour. In addition to that: are there special wishes on what you want to get to know and see?

**Ms Aty:** Yes! I would like to see old cities, including old castles and historical architecture in general. Maybe there are some sites to visit like the city of Dresden.

**Mr Gatot and Mr Awrya:** Of course, we are also very interested in visiting German National Parks. On one hand, the organizational structure is important, but we would like to see the natural attractions in the parks as well.

**GIZ:** Ibu Aty and Bapak-bapak, unfortunately Dresden is not included in our itinerary, but we will visit several other famous places with historical architecture. We will definitely provide some time to attend to these sight-seeing sites.

One more and final question with regards to your expectations: What do you think could be your personal benefit of this trip?

**Ms Aty:** I hope we will benefit from experiences of the local experts and can take home some lessons learnt accordingly. Even if conditions are very different it might be inspiring and perhaps some ideas can be implemented in Indonesia. As mentioned before I'm looking forward to get some recommendations with regards to the management of protected peatland and learn about cooperation through multi-stakeholder approaches.

**Mr Awrya:** We definitely will come across a lot of technical solutions for challenges in the fields of nature

conservation and sustainable forest management similar to Indonesia. So we can expect to take home some useful recommendations. Moreover I think that within our group we will have interesting discussions and also deepen relations with each other.

Mr Gatot: Last but not least, I would like to highlight that we probably will get closer insights into the organisational set-up of FMUs, which are far advanced compared to Indonesia. This can be very beneficial since structural details of forest management in Indonesia need to be

developed further in order to clarify task and responsibilities of all stakeholders.

**GIZ:** So quite a number of topics to talk about. I hope we can answer all your matters in the course of our study tour 2019 and I recommend asking detailed questions accordingly. I am looking forward to our joint experience and thank you very much for your kind information provided!







**Below:** Most members of the Indonesian group in front of the biosphere reserve's information center "Pahlhuus"

fter the theoretical introduction on the topic "Protected Area Management" in the responsible Ministry of the Federal State of Mecklenburg - West Pomerania, the group from Indonesia turned to a real protected area. For this purpose, initially the information center "Pahlhuus" of the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Schaalsee in Zarrentin was visited. There, Ms. Ulrike Mueller, in charge for public relation and education in BR administration presented both the location and the region with its special features and provided an overview on Biosphere reserves in Germany by means of a short movie. The local BR is characterized by 20% forest, 48% agricultural land, 19% grassland, 6% water, 4% other land uses, and covers a total area of 31000 ha. The most important aspects of the landscape are the Baltic beech forests, natural beech and riparian forests, bogs, numerous mesotrophic lakes and ponds, and a varied cultural landscape with many valuable habitats. Thus many mammals and bird species are common, outstanding flagship species is the European crane (Grus grus). One of the principles of BR is the close cooperation with local partner companies of different industries, e.g. in the field of tourism, arts and crafts, agriculture, fisheries and the food industry to promote regional products and services and to ensure a common regional development. The Pahlhuus serves as a visitor centre, providing a permanent exhibition. As public information, environmental education and promotion of regional development are among the major objectives of the reserve guided walks starting from here and other events are offered. Among the challenges for







**Top:** By means of using a long boardwalk visitors can experience the peat bog landscape of Schaalsee Biosphere Reserve. **Above:** Indonesian ladies preparing for an exhausting walk.

the area management are some introduced and even invasive species (e.g. Nandu bird from South America) as well as securing a multi-stakeholder cooperation.

The status of the UNESCO biosphere reserve also influences forest management in the region. Ms. Ingeborg Suhren, staff of the Nature Conservation Authority within the BR administration, therefore emphasized the special conditions for forest management. Forest stands composed of indigenous tree species are part of the nature conservation strategy hence introduced tree species are successively removed as far as possible. Since private forest owners are free to select the tree species to be established according to German forest laws, financial incentives are offered to promote near-natural forest design. Moreover public authorities offer voluntary change of ownership of forest estates within the BRlandscape if possible to increase the share of state forest land. Re-afforestation of state-owned forests is usually done by means of natural regeneration which is in line with the general approach to ensure undisturbed natural processes aiming on the development of near-natural ecosystems.

After this introduction at the Pahlhuus, various open airactivities of the BR administration were visited which serve as eco-tourist attractions, for environmental education-purposes and also for preserving typical landscape structures and thus the habitat of characteristic animal and plant species:

A boardwalk through a peat bog area gives visitors access to this special habitat. The recently completed renewal of the path made use of recycled plastic for the first time, because wood constructions rot within a few years and have only a limited lifespan.

The new design promises a longer life and lower maintenance efforts. At various points of the footbridge information boards are set up providing explanation on the special conditions of the peat landscape and the species occurring there.

In the elevated edge area of a large wet meadow, a viewing platform with privacy screens has been set up, which allows discrete watching of water and wetland birds. The range of species include cranes, which are frequently found in large numbers, as well as a variety of ducks and geese. In order to maintain an open landscape and to prevent a succession through trees, local farmers are compensated for grazing with cattle. Wherever the settlement of woody plant species is desired, hedges and trees are purposefully introduced as structural elements in the landscape.

At another location, where the spread of forest vegetation on formerly open wetland is well advanced, introduced water buffalo are used for grazing and repressing of tree and shrub growth. Since there are already problems with introduced species in other places of the BR Schaalsee, the question of the targeted use of exotic mammal species for landscape management was discussed controversially.

One of the important strategic approaches to landscape development in a biosphere reserve is the intensive cooperation with the local population and local companies. This cooperation can turn into a win-win situation if the private sector benefits from the region's special protection status e.g. in product marketing and contributes to regional and landscape development through its economic activities. In order to clarify these interactions, several partner companies of the BR were visited:

In a fishing business on the shores of the Schaalsee, predominantly locally occurring fish species are smoked and marketed in the adjoining restaurant. This restaurant is well known and well received by both tourists and locals.

"Mosterei Kneese", a cider mill company specializing in the cultivation and processing of traditional local fruit varieties, supplies catering businesses as well as private customers with numerous types of beverages. Among the products are homemade organic juices, cider, and recently even beer. Partnering with local farmers, traditional extensively managed orchards are created and maintained, providing valuable habitats and contributing to biodiversity.



Top: By means of using a long boardwalk visitors can experience the peat bog landscape of Schaalsee Biosphere Reserve

Below: Indonesian ladies preparing for an exhausting walk







**Below:** On site Mr. Neuss and Mr. Schmiedeberg (both FMU Guestrow) explain about local soil conditions and silvicultural strategies.

## **As in previous years**, the FORCLIME Study Tour 2019 offered the opportunity to learn about the set-up, tasks and strategies of a German Forest Management Unit. Therefore FMU Guestrow, an agency of the "Landesforsten MV" (MV Provincial Forest Service, public enterprise) was visited.

At the beginning of his presentation, head of office Mr. Ralf Neuss explained about the prerequisites and structural conditions of the forest organization in the federal state. Looking at a forest cover below average compared to all German federal states (24%) in total 29 FMU are responsible for the management and care of all types of forest properties (so-called "universal forest service") except the areas of National Parks. Coordination of these agencies is provided by provincial headquarters, located in Malchin, supported by a general service unit attending to planning, research and IT. The Ministry of Agriculture and Environment in Schwerin supervises the state forest enterprise, in addition a supervisory board of directors takes responsibility for decisions of particular strategic importance. The FMUs attend to the entire scope of multifunctional forestry including to act as public service provider caring for forests of cities, villages, private owners and cooperative private owners as well as to realise tasks as lower public forestry authority. Hence



FMUs are caring for in total about 500.000 ha including about 193.000 ha of state forest. Additionally, "Landesforsten MV" is commissioned with several non-profit tasks of common interest like in the fields of environmental education, nature conservation, training and public relations. Operational activities comprise of timber production and forest regeneration, hunting management, government forest real estate and asset administration as well as all other economic use of state woodlands. Each FMU is internally divided into several sub-districts ("resorts"), managed by forest rangers. In total there are 191 of these sub-districts in MV.

The FMU Guestrow takes responsibility for 16840 ha of forest land. Of these, about 1/3 are the property of the public forest enterprise. The unit is divided into 7 districts, which are dominated by coniferous tree species (58%).

Mr. Neuss also reported about the range of products (like timber and venison) and services (like eco-tourism accommodation

and hunting events) offered by his office. He also clarified that for accounting purposes income and expenses are differentiated according to entrepreneurial and non-profit (sovereign) activities.

After lunch Mr. Neuss and Mr. Schmiedeberg, head of forest resort Kirch Rosin, took the Indonesian delegation on a field trip in order to visualize information as presented in the office. Silvicultural strategies were illustrated using several mixed tree stands as an example. On this occasion, topics such as low-impact logging, natural and artificial regeneration of forest resources and maintenance of the forest stands were discussed intensively. In passing, cultivation areas of a nearby private tree nursery could be seen.

The final event of the visit to the Forest Management Unit's forests took place at an outdoor education-facility ("green classroom"), where the representatives of Guestrow forestry office once again demonstrated the multifaceted tasks of the FMU as well as their great hospitality.

**Below:** Lively discussions about sustainable forest management among Mr. Neuss and Mr. Schmiedeberg (both FMU Guestrow) and participants of the study tour





# Nossentiner-Schwinzer Heide Nature Park





To collect insights about another category of protected areas in Germany the Indonesian group carried on with the Nature Park Nossentiner-Schwinzer Heide, entering Karower Meiler information center. Here Ms. Evelin Kartheuser, deputy head of the office first introduced the visitors to the regional landscape, which like most of Mecklenburg- West Pomerania was designed by glacial influences. An overview map and some basic figures allow to imagine the dimension of the park: Comprising a total area of about 35.500 ha it has an extent of about 40 by 20 km. The park includes several other categories of more strictly protected areas like Nature Protected Areas and Landscape Protected Areas. Compared to Biosphere Reserves Nature Parks are smaller in size and in MV they are no public authorities with sovereign functions (different also from National Parks and FMUs). Eventually Nature Parks are not an internationally recognized category and their core zones are much smaller than in other large protected areas.

#### Among the main tasks of Nature Parks are as follows:



Landscape rehabilitation



Research (incl. monitoring and evaluation)



Environmental education



Information and public relations



**Above:** Schoolchildren, teachers and Indonesian visitors guided by Ms. Evelin Kartheuser (Nossentiner-Schwinzer Heide Nature Park) at "Nature Park School" in Krakow am See.

All tasks shall be implemented by means of cooperation with local and regional partners while the Nature Park provides infrastructure and offers events.

For demonstration of close cooperation with local institutions Ms. Kartheuser took the visitors to a public elementary and junior high school in Krakow am See, which was awarded the title "Nature Park School" only recently. This partnership is accompanied by the fact that the school implements an environmental education focus every year and that all classes work on projects in nature at least once a year. Among the youngest students some children are volunteering as "Junior-Rangers", being equipped with small backpacks, caps, and some basic equipment and are committed to nature at an early age.

By means of self-designed posters some students explained the activities which are being implemented as part of their education focussing on nature.

Below: Pak Ponti in front of Dobbestin monastery

If environmental information cannot be transmitted at school, there is also the possibility to focus on nature-related topics in other places. For this purpose, a special vehicle trailer has been developed, which contains some useful tools and exhibits for basic natural science education. For instance some animal skins are provided to visualize and let children touch the fur of indigenous species. In addition, there are utensils for simple biological studies and seating for a lesson at any outdoor location.

Eventually Ms. Kartheuser took the guests from Indonesia to the field to collect some more impressions from the Nossentiner-Schwinzer Heide Nature Park. On this occasion, historical forms of forest utilisation were presented from a scenic hiking trail, but at the same time more general cultural-historical facts were also explained. One more highlight to be seen was the monastery Dobbertin, which was founded in 1220 and housed nuns of the Benedictine Order. During the Reformation in the 16th century, the monastery was converted into a luxurious residence for unmarried ladies of aristocratic families.







**Left:** Map of Nossentiner-Schwinzer Heide Nature Park lake landscape. **Below:** Ms. Evelin Kartheuser presenting the Nature Park.

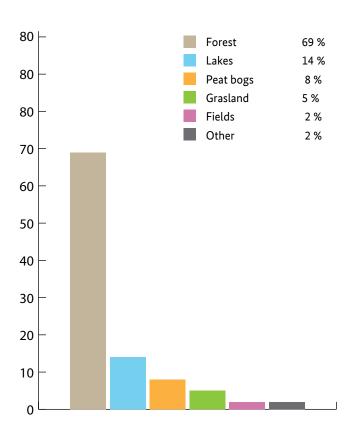






In order to obtain general information about the structure, objectives and characteristics of the Mueritz National Park, the office of the park management, housed in the castle Hohenzieritz, a former summer residence of the kings of Prussia, was contacted first. Here Dr. Sven Rannow, head of Planning, Regional Development and Infrastructure welcomed the guests and provided comprehensive information on the park. He highlighted the differences of several categories of protected areas in Germany again stressing that in a NP at least 70% of the area have to be dedicated to nature conservation. Furthermore he outlined the genesis of Mueritz National Park and that it was established about 30 years ago. Currently 70 permanent employees are working in the institution to ensure its management and numerous responsibilities. Special features of the region are more than 100 lakes as well as forests and agricultural landscape and open landscapes, which are strongly influenced by cultural history, in particular by agricultural and forest utilization activities. Among them timber harvest, charcoal making, tar and chalk production, glass manufacturing and peat exploitation played a major role in former centuries. Besides hunting privileges of the duke of Mecklenburg and later on military exercises also had its strong impact on the landscape.

#### The land use of the area can be assigned to the following categories:



Right: Land use categories in Mueritz National Park

Alike the biggest part of the federal state of MV, the landscape of this region was decisively shaped by the influence of the ice age some 10,000 years ago. Similar to other protected areas, the park is subdivided into different zones. The core zone, which is most strictly protected, mainly comprises Lake Mueritz, extensive peatbog and reed grass areas as well as beech forests, of which some are recognized as UNESCO World Heritage Site. More agriculturally-characterized areas like meadows and pastures continue to be extensively grazed in order to preserve the character of the landscape.

Flagship species of the region are in particular crane, eagle and red deer. But in general extensive monitoring measures also prove that the number of animal and plant species including mammals, reptiles, birds, fish, beetles, butterflies, spiders, vascular plants, moss, lichens, fungi and algae is increasing continuously.

Later Mr. Rannow elaborated on different instruments on how to manage a restricted area and to solve the conflicts arising from different expectations of the user groups involved. In particular they are referring to:



Knowledge and acceptance, which have to be raised by means of environmental education and participative processes.



Law and order, which require appropriate legal and institutional framework conditions and means of law enforcement like rangers patrolling in the field.



Resources and incentives, where issues of land ownership, infrastructure and regional development are of major importance.



In terms of participation he introduced 5 levels of increasingly active stakeholder involvement (information, consultation, collaboration, cooperation and empowerment) which should be realized successively and in an appropriate way.

After discussing the theoretical basics of park management, the afternoon of the day was reserved for insights into the practical implementation and admiration of the charming Mueritz landscape. For this purpose, the smaller part of the two-part national park area near the village Serrahn was visited.

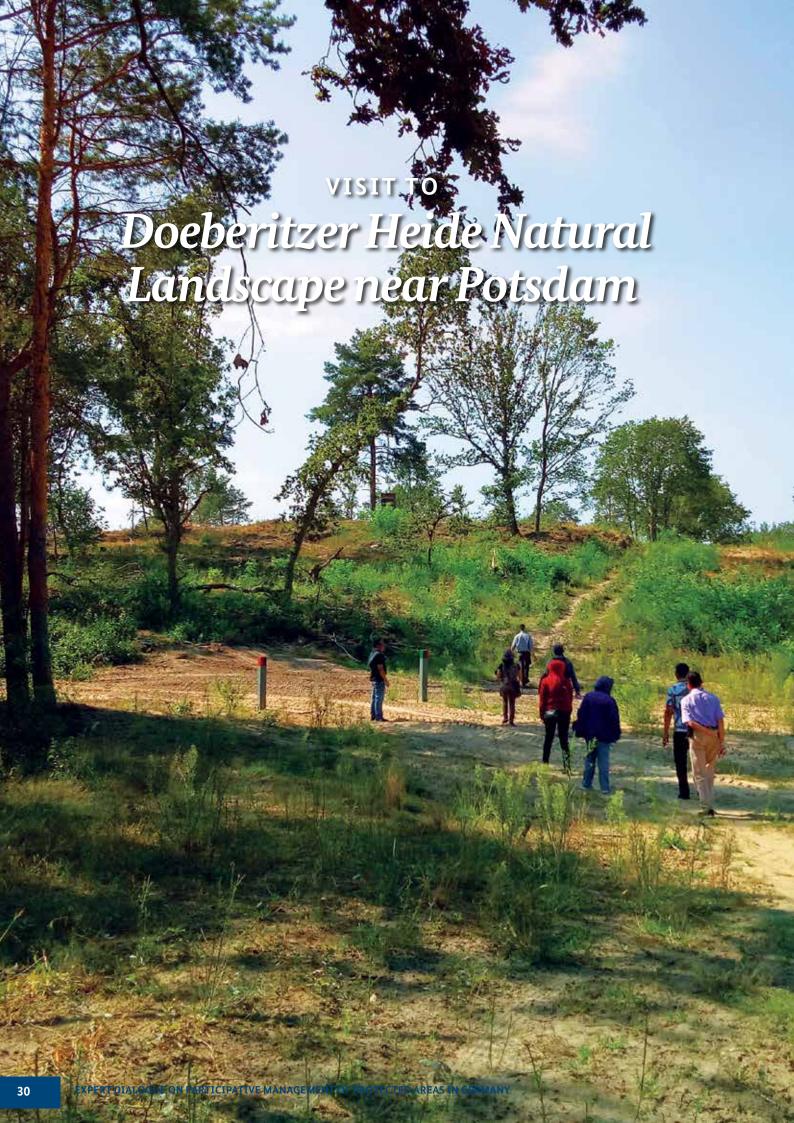


**Above:** Core zone and UNESCO World Heritage Site in Mueritz National Park. **Below:** Dr. Sven Rannow (Mueritz NP) presenting special features of the National Park and participative management approaches.



Under the knowledgeable guidance of the head of one of the NP districts, Mr. Ralf Pauli, who is also responsible for wildlife management in the park, the group wandered through a wooded area and learned numerous details about the structure, the past and present treatment and the conservation status of the site. Even a part of the World Heritage Site- forest stands could be admired. Of particular interest were issues of visitor guidance and methods of transfer of knowledge about forest and nature. The target of the hike was a branch of the National Park Administration, which was housed in a former forest ranger station. Within the adjoining buildings, the participants found a photo exhibition with motifs from the national park and a multimedia information centre, where many details about German beech forests were displayed.







Similar to a number of other large protected areas in the federal state of Mecklenburg- West Pomerania the Doeberitzer Heide Natural Landscape was a former military training area. The area of about 3600 ha in direct proximity to the cities of Potsdam and Berlin was handed over to the Sielmann- foundation, a private institution focussing on biodiversity conservation and environmental education established by the well-known nature filmmaker Heinz Sielmann in 1994. The Doeberitzer Heide area is divided into a "wilderness zone" of 1860 ha in size, where European bison and Przewalski's horse, an endangered wild horse subspecies native to the steppes of central Asia, live almost undisturbed and contribute to the maintenance of an open and semi-open landscape as desired (so-called mega-herbivore project). Adjacent to the inner zone a surrounding area of almost the same size as the core zone provides 55 km of hiking trails and recreational space for visitors exploring the countryside. In this area forest

management activities are also still ongoing. Besides the big herbivores the area provides habitat to about 5500 species of animals and plants, among them the characteristic cranes and rare bird species like wild-tailed eagle and hoopoe.

After an unsuccessful search for an information centre allegedly present nearby the Indonesian group decided to go for a walk through the reserve. This was ended after a short time due to the distance to the Natural Landscape's inner zone and high outside temperatures.

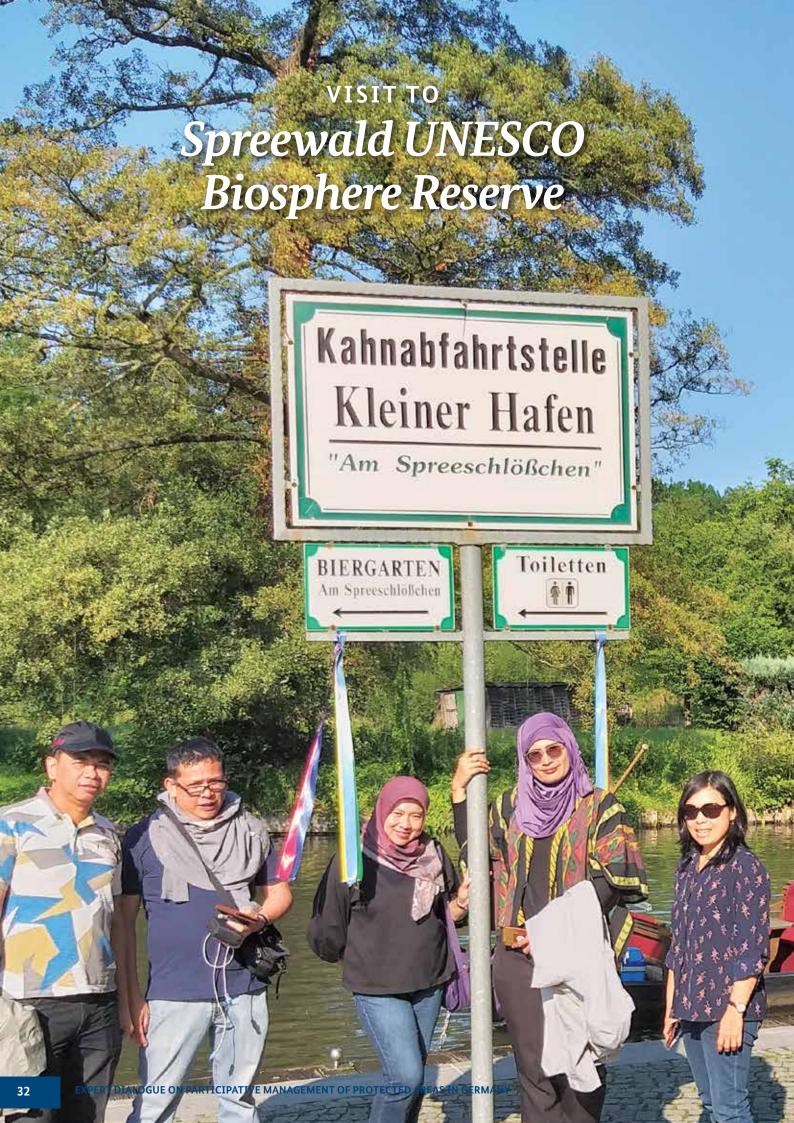
Finally a volunteer staff member, whom the group happened to meet, gave some information on Doeberitzer Heide. He confirmed, that the information centre was abandoned, the management of the area is inadequate and activities with regards to forest management are very questionable.



**Above:** Enjoying the city of Potsdam and it's urban atmosphere.

#### Strolling around in Potsdam

Another provincial capital to be visited was Potsdam, largest city and seat of the government of the German federal state of Brandenburg. Although time was limited, some impressions of the weekend atmosphere in the city centre as well as views of old buildings could be recorded. Depending on individual preferences, the Indonesian foresters could sit in a cafe in good summer weather, enjoy street music or stroll through the shops. Somewhat confusing was the information that not only in Berlin but also in Potsdam a "Brandenburg Gate" can be seen.





#### Proceeding to the next protected area

the guests from Indonesia entered Spreewald Biosphere Reserve, well known as a recreational site not only for tourist from the big city of Berlin, which is about 1 hour away. Hence a comprehensive infrastructure and sightseeing programme is offered for visitors. On the occasion of a relaxed boat trip through the extensive network of tributaries of the Spree river and connecting canals, the driver of the boat provided extensive information about the history, culture and people of the region. In an open-air museum there was also the possibility of learning about earlier forms of life and land use displaying historic buildings, vehicles and equipment. Even today, sour cucumbers and other vegetable products are among the typical products of the region. Furthermore, ecotourism, which mainly benefits small enterprises in the private sector, is of central importance to the economic development of the region.

After taking stock of these conditions, the group visited the office of the Biosphere Reserve Administration in Luebben the next day. Here Mr. Eugen Nowak, head of the office welcomed the visitors and first gave an overview of the fundamental goals normally associated with setting up a BR.

#### There are usually 3 main functions to be fulfilled:



Nature conservation (protection and rehabilitation of ecosystem)



Development (marketing of regional products and services)



Logistical function (like research, monitoring, education and information).



**Above:** Boat cruise on Spree river tributaries and connecting canals for perfect access to the biosphere reserve.

According to the Lima Action Plan 2016-2025 of the UNESCO's Man and Biosphere Programme BRs should be model regions for the implementation of sustainable development meeting the sustainable development goals (SDGs) of the United Nations.

Depending on the specific species inventory of the particular area conservation measures include activities to rewet peat areas or to improve habitats of certain species. In order to strengthen regional development tourism is already introduced since almost 150 years after a railway connecting Luebben with Berlin was established in 1877. Marketing of regional brands is supported by an association, in which all producers are members and together ensure promotion and protection of their trademark. And in order to reconcile conservation with economic development through an extensive, nature-adapted management of farmland organic farming is widely used. Meanwhile about 70% of agriculture is done according to organic farming principles.

The vision of BR Spreewald is to be acknowledged by UNESCO as a:

- region of high ecological value
- sustainable tourism region
- region with high quality agriculture (quality instead of quantity)
- recognized research region

where more and more people understand what sustainability means and how it is implemented in practice.

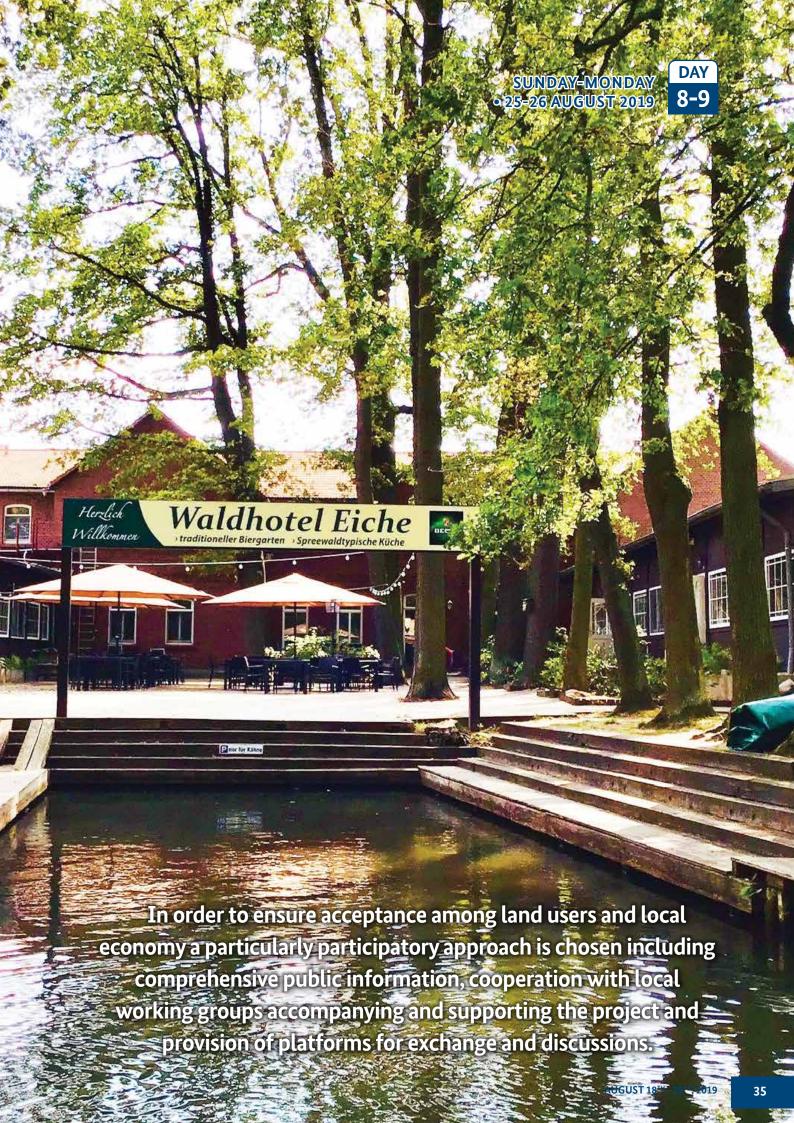
Areas which are protected according to Flora Fauna Habitat (FFH) directive as part of the Natura 2000 programme of the European Union form substantial parts of Spreewald Biosphere Reserve and add to a network that extends across the entire EU. Ms. Maxi Springsguth highlighted that protection of species and ecosystem of regional importance is the overall goal of this strategy contributing mosaic pieces to an all European image of biodiversity. Since these so-called FFH- areas must be equipped with individual management plans Spreewald BR was commissioned to coordinate this process within its regional responsibility. In order to ensure acceptance among land users and local economy a particularly participatory approach is chosen including comprehensive public information, cooperation with local working groups accompanying and supporting the project and provision of platforms for exchange and discussions. Mapping, data collection and development of proposals for implementation of management activities is done by private planning offices delivering the basis for extensive consultations with all stakeholders affected. If sound compromises have been found appropriate agreements will be fixed and arrangements on certain measures concluded in order to guarantee the best possible ecosystem management. Eventually the final version of the FFH-management plan will be approved by superior authority.

The participatory process can be time consuming and in order to clarify this Ms. Springsguth picked out the example of a private forest, where the share of deadwood should be increased to improve the habitat of a certain beetle species. Here it took about three years until an arrangement was found and the compensation was accepted by the forest owner.



**Above:** Typical landscape of Spreewald Biosphere Reserve with extensive, nature-adapted farmland management







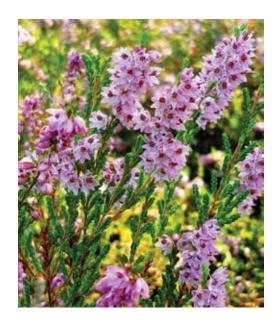


The visit to Proesa DBU Natural Heritage Site within Niederlausitzer Heidelandschaft (heath landscape) Nature Park and the associated expert exchange took place exclusively outdoors. Therefore, the visitors were particularly grateful that the weather remained warm and dry and hence everybody could fully enjoy the beautiful area. The hosts of the day were Mr. Andreas Petzel, representing the German Federal Forest Service's responsible Forest Management Unit Lausitz, assigned with the management of the DBU estates in this region and Mr. Jens Pietrzak, head of one of 16 forest resorts of the FMU. DBU is the German Federal Environmental Foundation (Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt), equipped with substantial capital by the German Federal Government in order to support innovative projects for environmental conservation. Among numerous activities of DBU is the responsibility for 70 areas (about 69000 ha) being part of the so-called Natural Heritage contributing to large area conservation in Germany. Mr. Petzel was also joined by Mr. Lars Thielemann, head of the Niederlausitzer Heide Nature Park and Alex Zimmermann, project manager of a special research project to be introduced later.

Left below: The heather plant (Calluna vulgaris), an undemanding plant, shaping the heath landscape in a typical way.

Right below: Sheep and goat husbandry is a traditional form of land use in heathland that prevents forestation. This goat makes friends with Margaretha Pangau-Adam, who accompanied the Indonesian group as interpreter and additional resource person.

First, Mr. Petzel introduced the Federal Forestry Administration, it's functions in the management of the DBU properties and the DBU Natural Heritage site Proesa. This area covers an area of over 3300 hectares and includes a large forest district and two extended open landscapes. The entire area was also used for about 30 years as a military training area until German reunification, whereby the open heath areas developed. Nature conservation measures in the area have so far been largely financed by revenue from forest management. Since the current forest management concept stipulates that timber harvesting should only take place on tree stands younger than 100 years and wood production has already been abandoned at around 1,000 hectares this is becoming increasingly difficult. Therefore, in the future, new funding sources, e.g. from subsidy programs or





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compensatory measures have to be tapped. Basically open areas are supposed to be kept open and diverse and natural structures shall be promoted. Since another objective is to make the area available for recreation purposes a minimum network of roads and trails should be maintained.

The conservation of the open areas is usually done by grazing with flocks of sheep (Heidschnucke breed) herded by a shepherd. This traditional way of sheep husbandry could even be observed during a walk across the area when a shepherd was wandering past.

Since Proesa Natural Heritage is not only part of the Natural Heritage programme but also part of a Nature Park Mr. Thilemann highlighted the need of intense and trustful cooperation of all stakeholders. This includes joint programmes and planning procedures as well as the procurement of financing for research and development projects.

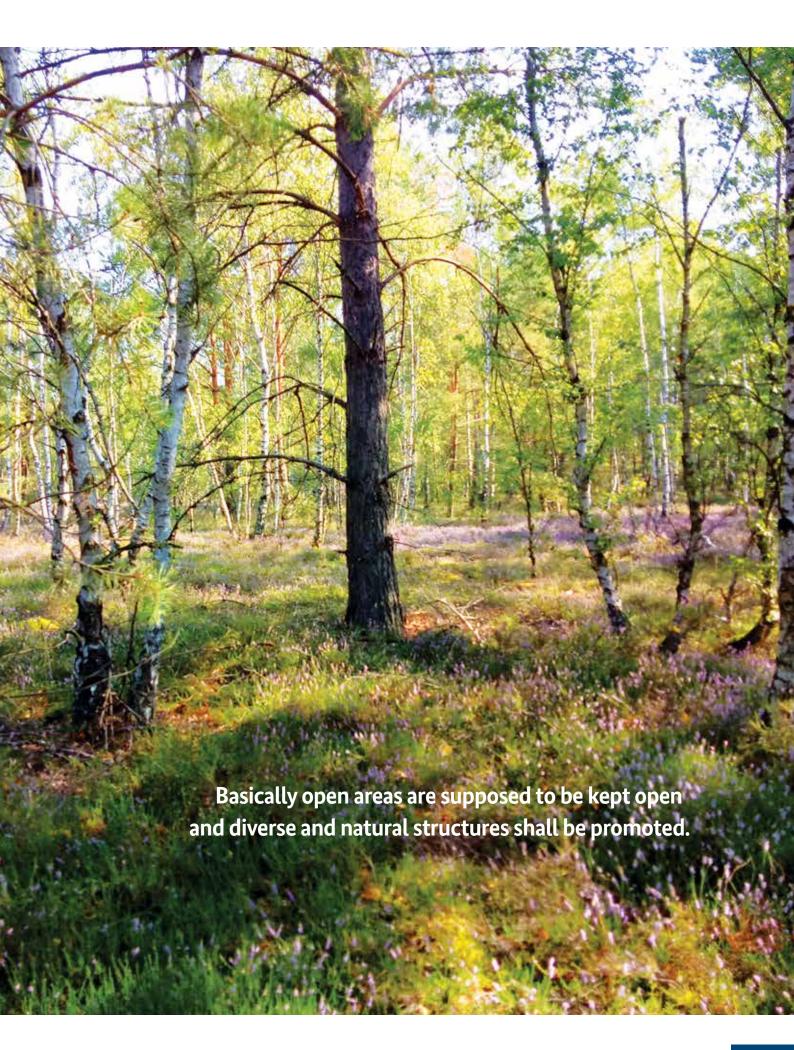
One of the current research programmes is dealing with the special conservation activity of reintroduction and protection of the rare grouse species capercaillie. Mr. Zimmermann as the responsible researcher explained about the chances and challenges of this project in favour of a species that has been extinct in the region since the late 1990s. Reasons for the decline of this species were very intensive forestry, open pit coal mining and military use of the landscape (including occurring wildfires). Since these activities have all been discontinued, there is reason to believe that the capercaillie can once again become an part of the local ecosystem. In order to reestablish a population, around 60 birds from Sweden, where the species is still abundant, were introduced and released since 2012. For the success of the measure above all a consistent monitoring is of high importance. In addition, too high a population density of the potential predators like fox, marten and raccoon should be avoided.

**Left below:** Young oak stands (*Quercus petraea*) cope with sandy soils. **Center below:** The capercaillie (*Tetrao urogallus*) used to be native and is currently reintroduced to the area. **Right:** The pioneer tree species pine (Pinus sylvestris) contributes to the reforestation of open landscapes









# Joint walk through City of Berlin



After arrival, check in and dinner in Berlin the Indonesian visitors were curious about the German capital and embarked for a evening city walk. With more or less extensive tours, there was an opportunity to view buildings such as the (Berlin) Brandenburg Gate, the Reichstag building or the Federal Chancellery. Also, one could get an impression of the relaxed atmosphere on a beautiful summer evening in a German city.





**Above:** The German Reichstag building, housing the federal parliament is one of the most popular tourist sites in Berlin **Below:** The visit of "Checkpoint Charly", a former border crossing of the inner German border, is also mandatory



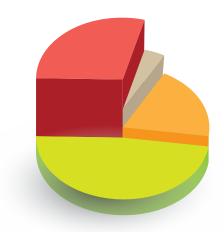
# Various introductions

## And presentations of associations on forestry and nature conservation

#### **German Forest Owners Association (AGDW)**

The last day of the FORCLIME expert exchange programme 2019 started with a walk to the "Haus der Land- und Ernaehrungswirtschaft" (house of agriculture and nutrition economy"), which accommodates various associations and lobby groups from the agriculture, forestry and nutritional economy. Here the Indonesian delegation was first received by Mr. Alexander Zeihe, representing the "Association of German forest owners associations" (AGDW). He and his colleague Mr. Moritz Foet provided some basic information on forest ownership in Germany, the importance of forest industry and AGDW.

The private forests are in possession of more than 2 mio owners including individuals, companies and cooperative owners, the average size of all private forest estates is about 2,7 ha. These forest owners are mostly organised in about 4500 local and regional forest owner associations which are usually managed by volunteering members. As a result, these groups are not very efficient and only few operate at a professional level. Hence one of the main priorities in national forest policy is the professionalization of these associations in order to ensure a productive and sustainable management of the private forest as far as possible without the support of government institutions.



#### According to that in the Federal Republic of Germany there are:

State forests (federal republic)	29 %
State forests (federal states)	4 %
Communal forests (cities and communes)	19 %
Private forests	48 %

All national timber production comprises about,

62 mio m<sup>3</sup>
private forests contributing about 45 %

to this total amount.

Roughly 1.2 mio jobs are being provided by

## 130.000 enterprises

in the forestry, timber production and pulp and paper industry, generating a turn-over of

180 billion Euro per year.

The structure of forest ownership in Germany evolved over the centuries, depending on historical events and decisions. Of major importance is the fact that private forest ownership is guaranteed by various laws including the German constitution and that forest owners enjoy a great degree of freedom in the management of their forest.

AGDW was founded about 70 years ago as the "Association of the German Provincial Forest Owner Societies" and represents the interests of private and communal forest owners in the political environment as well as with regards to the private sector, science and research at national and increasingly European and international level. One main feature is contributing to international forest policy and setting of norms and standards. According to the statute the association pursues the purpose of "supporting and promoting the capacity and represent forestry of non-state forest entities". Members are "societies of the non-governmental forest in the federal territory". Hence the membership of individual forest owners is excluded, instead forest owner societies of the German federal states form the association.

#### **EUROPARC Germany**

The organization EUROPARC was presented to the participants of the study trip by Dr. Neele Larondelle. She recalled how many so-called large protected areas, which since 2005 are also described with the term "National Natural Landscapes" are available in Germany. This is in total

16

#### **National Parks**

(about 0.6 % of German territory)

**17** 

#### **Biosphere Reserves**

(about 3.7 % of German territory)

104

#### **Nature Parks**

(about 27.8 % of German territory)

1

(Certified) Wilderness Area

#### Ms. Larondelle explained, that EUROPARC:



Is an umbrella organisation of NP, BR, Nature Parks and Wilderness Areas.



Is the brand holder of National Natural Landscapes as established in 1991



Is a non-profit organisation



is based in Berlin with a 12 member team



Has 4 voluntary board members



Has 78 members (mostly protected area – administrations but also NGOs like WWF Germany)

#### Some of the main tasks and activities of EUROPARC are to:



Support networking among members



Advise protected areas in various matters



Train park staff with regards to different subjects



Publish information material and specialized literature



Run several websites



Organize meetings and conferences



Raise funds from public and private sources for protected areas



Develop and administrate projects for protected areas



Lobby on different political levels for the concerns of protected areas



Mediate between governments, NGOs and society.

Furthermore several programmes have been initiated and promoted like the junior ranger programme introducing mainly primary school students to nature conservation. Besides that voluntary programmes and corporate voluntary programmes are organized and supported.



#### **German Forest Society (DFV)**

Structural data and other information on the German Forest Society was presented by Ms. Alexandra Arnold, managing director of this association. The DFV was founded 120 years ago in 1899 in Schwerin. It is formed by its regional branches which are mostly organised within the federal states. Members can be representatives of public forest services as well as private enterprises like foresters, forest owners and academia. Besides other interested societal groups like timber industry, tree nurseries business and nature conservation are also welcome. Currently about 6000 members are registered.

DFV is a non-governmental, non-profit organisation financed by its members. Main objective of the society is transfer of assured knowledge and exchange of practical experiences. According to the statutes, the association has a president, three vice-presidents, a managing director and the assembly of regional societies (11). All activities shall be implemented in order to improve the wellbeing of the forest including the preservation of its economic, ecologic and social functions. At the same time the society shall focus on the improvement of framework conditions of forestry in Germany. This can be done by initiation of political processes, building platforms for broad discussions and networking on forest topics. In order to ensure training and knowledge transfer among members meetings and field trips are organized.

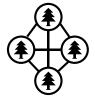
#### Further initiatives to serve the purposes of the association are:



Initiation and management of working groups on specific/ hot topics



DFV's network of international sustainable forest management (NIWA, focussing on international cooperation)



It's young network forestry (youth organisation)



Implementation of the Forest Expert
Programme (commissioned by the
German Federal Ministry of Food and
Agriculture). In this function DFV has
also contributed to the preparation and
implementation e.g. of the FORCLIME
study trip 2019.



Editorial and edition of the member magazine "pro Wald"



Operating of a central website and management of an online shop.

### IMPRESSIONS OF LARGE PROTECTED AREAS AND SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT IN GERMANY

- inspirations to take home to Indonesia:

GIZ: Dear colleagues, with regards to the main topic of this study trip "participate management of large protected areas in Germany" we have seen a variety of examples including landscapes but also institutions conserving them. We discussed the issue with people responsible and learned about their experiences - so what do you think about the German approach?

> Ms Sarah: Well, this cannot be answered with a few words only. But I would like to share some observations: First there is a strong commitment of all the people we met. And they certainly pursue different management strategies depending on the type of protected area

> > and individual framework condition. But all have long-term visions about how nature should develop and how to bring degraded areas back to a natural state.

Ms Sarah Yuliana

Ms Sri Parwati

Mr Untat: I think there are more achievements in Germany because the process was already started early and there is substantial support by the general public. The awareness of local communities and individuals is much higher than in Indonesia. This also facilitates close cooperation and networking of all stakeholders, like involvement of the private sector e.g. partnering with biosphere reserves.

> Ms Prima: Yes, that is my observation too. The institutions cooperate very closely and each one knows exactly what their tasks and functions are. As a result, there is little overlap of competencies, which

> > is not always the case in Indonesia. Above all, there seems to be little competition between federal and state institutions, so there are also differences in the efficiency of the administration. Also, employees seem to be in the right places according to their capacities.

GIZ: These findings relate to the area of protected area management. But does that also apply to the forestry sector? What has really surprised you most in terms of forest management?

Mr Untat: Again, there is a very long-term orientation and, among others due to a long tradition of monitoring, a solid database like for instance maps from 100 years ago. But again: here, too, the close cooperation between different actors is very surprising for me. While the FMUs in Indonesia focus primarily on business development, the Germans are also concerned with the support of the local communities and tasks for society (nature conservation, environmental education etc).

Ms Sarah: Nevertheless, the FMUs seem to be able to generate the required funds for the management of the state forest at least to a large extent themselves! For me it is quite surprising how the forest-related laws are enforced in Germany. Instead of punishment, the conviction of the people is in the foreground, which creates a certain awareness. This is really a sign of advanced development. At least in Papua we would have to offer financial incentives to effect a sustainable treatment of the forest.

Ms Prima: Sustainability in Germany is obviously on every foresters mind and they are motivated to manage the forest accordingly. They are quite organised and professional when implementing all their different activities. But at the same time the conditions are very different if you compare size of areas and extend of biodiversity. And the well-developed infrastructure such as road network, machinery and equipment etc., of course, also help a lot. With regards to the general awareness I think this might be a result of widespread and commonly implemented measures such as environmental education, cooperation with schools and public relations.

GIZ: Discussing the issue, we have collected a number of observations and peculiarities from the field of nature conservation and forestry. Are these things tied to the framework conditions in Germany, or can certain aspects serve as inspiration for Indonesia? What suggestions could you make at home?

Ms Prima: For me partnership and cooperation is key! This includes the multi stakeholder-approach, combining everybody's expertises and joining forces. Local communities shall be convinced to partner with government institutions in order to get more benefits from both forest management and nature conservation. This will improve both rural living conditions and protection of environment.

Mr Untat: I do agree that we should introduce and support multi stakeholder- platforms in order to enhance communication with all stakeholders involved. This will encourage communities to engage, create benefits for them and improve living conditions. At the same time we must make more efforts to raise public awareness of the need for protection and sustainable management of the forests.

**Mr Untat Dharmawan** 

Ms Sarah: This requires more work of convincement rather than just rules and

regulations. Also we should further develop a good spirit and commitment within the government institutions. With regards to rural communities, we have to intensify socio-economic research in order to learn more about how to support economic development of remote rural areas.

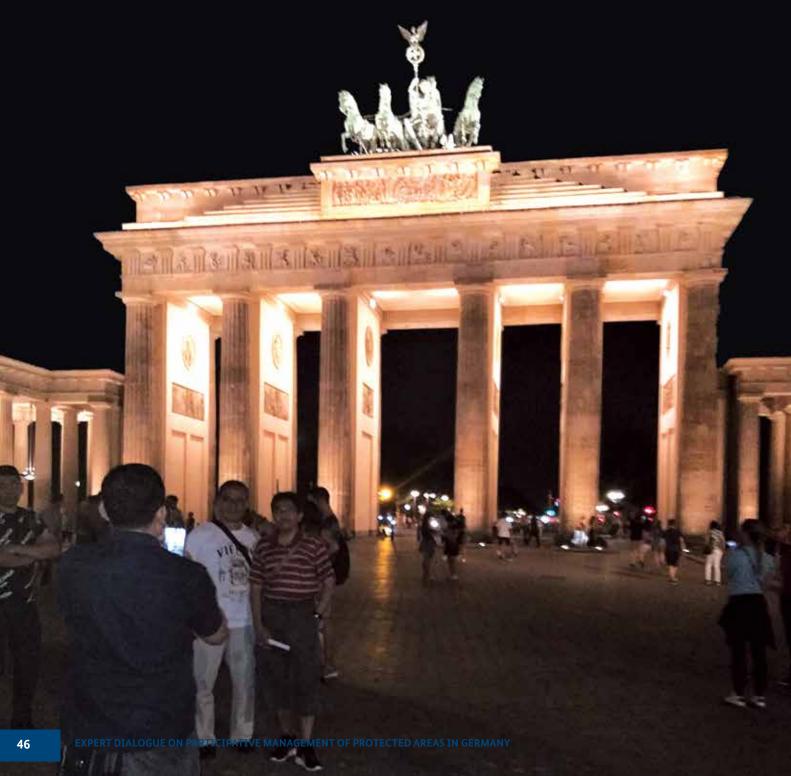
Ms Prima: As already mentioned by Pak Untat, public awareness should be raised but we should also decide who takes care of it. In my opinion, this task should be officially allocated to the FMUs. In order to qualify their employees accordingly, assess the need and adapt the necessary training measures.

Mr Untat: That, in turn, requires a good deal of motivation and leadership, which we must continue to develop. Something that I think is of great importance.

GIZ: So there are some starting points that arise from this year's expert exchange and that we should pursue together. Finally, I would like to thank all members of the delegation for their participation in the GIZ FORCLIME Study Tour 2019 and especially the participants of this talk for contributing to the conversation!

# Individual exploration of City of Berlin,

Final collection of insights in German culture





On the last day of the stay in Germany prior to the departure from Berlin airport Tegel still some hours remained to pursue some individual interests and preferences. Thus some participants of the study trip made use of the time to have a second view on attractions already seen, go on a tour to visit other famous sights or to stroll through the souvenir shops of the city. In the end, everyone agreed that it is not possible to see all the important places in Berlin in just a few hours and that it is necessary to revisit the German capital at a later date.

**Left:** Ibu Sarah looking for some typical German souvenirs. **Below:** Pak Ponti trying uniform caps of the former East German army.



