

Arcadia update ? Burung Indonesia

Title On 18th June 2010 the Indonesian Government approved a new license for forest restoration of an additional 50,000 hectares in the Harapan Rainforest in Sumatra, which has been granted to the BirdLife consortium comprising Burung Indonesia, RSPB (BirdLife in the UK) and the BirdLife International Secretariat. This means that the size of the forest restoration concession granted to the BirdLife consortium has been officially doubled by the Indonesian Government since the first license was issued in 2007. Burung Indonesia is the leading organisation in this complex initiative which comprises field forest management as well as high-level policy components. The 'localness' (and ability) of Burung Indonesia has played a key role in this ground breaking initiative. This is the world's first example of a large scale production forest being set aside for long-term restoration on the basis of a specific new forest restoration law. It represents further demonstration of commitment from the Indonesian Government to forest conservation and is also a great demonstration of trust in BirdLife. Beyond protecting 100,000 hectares of lowland rainforest in Sumatra, one of the world's richest ecosystems, the Harapan initiative has generated a deep evolution in the forestry sector legislation promoting a totally new and ground breaking regulation on forest restoration. It is a brand new concept and the first example of such legislation in the world. For more information, see <http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2010/06/second-licence-concession-for-harapan.html> and www.harapanrainforests.org.