

# PROGRESS REPORT

## *NOVEMBER 2019*



Yayasan Pendidikan  
Budaya Mentawai



# PREFACE

With support of our partner, Indigenous Education Foundation (IEF), our Suku Mentawai team (YPBM) continue to grow our Indigenous learning hub program and further our 7 key targets. In the month of November, 2019 we achieved the following:

## I. Increase student participation in the Mentawai culture learning center

During November, the Suku Mentawai (YPBM) implemented strategy to integrate the hub students within our Mentawai dictionary launch and learning hub program celebration event. Through providing them an opportunity to showcase their cultural knowledge and skills, there was a positive increase in motivation and participation amongst the students. During November, all students were extremely enthusiastic in preparing and performing for the community. A total of 98 students participated weekly across 4 learning hubs.



**Monthly expenditure to further this target:**

**AUD \$ 0**

## II. Increase the number of Indigenous learning centers throughout the wider Siberut and Mentawai Islands

During November, the Suku Mentawai (YPBM) team conducted presentations to village and school heads in Buttui, Matotonan, and Madobak. Our aim is to collaborate with schools in these areas to open new hubs or utilise existing to implement our program. Our target is to commence program classes in these villages by mid 2020. The response from the communities was extremely positive and we are now working to develop contract agreements and proposals for additional funding support.



**Monthly expenditure to further this target:**

**AUD \$ 0**

### III. Mentawai students understand cultural knowledge and its values for the future

Our 4 indigenous learning hubs continue to teach in accordance with the program curriculum and schedules. Within this topic-based learning, students are encouraged to explore the value of this knowledge and how it benefits them in daily life and also for future generations. The topics studied this month included: folklore, dance creations, traditional songs, traditional musical instruments, traditional handicrafts and arts, and the introduction of the Mentawai traditional UMA.



**Monthly expenditure to further this target:**  
**AUD \$ 300**

#### IV. Increase economic capacity for students and the wider Mentawai community

In November, YPBM saw an increase in revenue from sales of handicrafts created by the community. We see a lot of potential in this strategy to increase economy for our community and the value of these particular skills amidst our program.

In addition to selling handicrafts, our Mentawai Ecotourism initiative continued to expand networks and relationships, accepting two guests from Australia. Ecotourism also paid initial deposit on a dugout canoe to ensure safe transportation for our guests and assist in generating additional profits for our program across the longer term.



*Monthly expenditure to further this target:*  
**AUD \$ 50**

#### V. Strengthening indigenous hub learning materials for present and future generations

During November, the Suku Mentawai team (YPBM) continued work on 3 existing projects:

**Mentawai Oral Literature:** For this November the team continued focusing work on cataloguing the transcripts of each literature selected for the book. Beyond this, we have begun preparing

**Mentawai Dictionary (Mentawai Rereiket to Indonesian language):** For this November, we launched the Mentawai Sarereiket dialect dictionary amongst the community and delivered copies to all the relevant offices and schools within the Rereiket district. We are now targeting government departments for support in printing further copies for distribution. This dictionary is also being sold to help fund our YPBM program.





**Mentawai ethnobotany research:** This November, we continue focusing our work on the accuracy and translation of the Siberut plant field guide and gathering final samples. In addition, we began distributing the ethnobotany educational posters to schools and offices within the Sabirut and Sarereiket districts. The purpose of this poster is to help students identify valuable medicinal plant resources that are available to us here in Mentawai.



**Monthly expenditure to further this target:**  
**AUD \$ 0**

**VI. Increase the organization's capacity to improve the administration, operations and financial security of our foundation**

Consisting of 11 foundation staff and 8 learning hub teachers, our activities this November included co-ordination meetings at the office, committee meetings to organise the launch of our dictionary and cultural celebration; inputting monitoring and evaluation survei data results; and various social activities.



**Monthly expenditure to further this target:**  
**AUD \$ 884,40**

## VII. Execute and strengthen monitoring and evaluation strategy

The Suku Mentawai Team (YPBM) continues to monitor and evaluate student learning each week. Our main concern is that students are lacking facilities to support the learning process. Because of this, students are learning more about theory than they are practical, which is contrary to the goals of our program. Nonetheless, the students are enthusiastic and eager to learn. We received assistance from an Australian volunteer, Nipuni, in strengthening our monitoring and evaluation program – including conducting student and teacher surveys, and better analysing data.

**Monthly expenditure to further this target:**

**AUD \$ 50**

Masura' bagata, thank you.

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our partner :



**IEF**  
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