

# PROGRESS REPORT

## *DECEMBER 2020*



Yayasan Pendidikan  
Budaya Mentawai



# FOREWORD

**YPBM Chairman:** "We're now into the final month of the year for the Mentawai Cultural Education Foundation (YPBM). Our annual general meeting was held in December and an Annual report is being prepared and will be published in the coming months. Again, we're extremely grateful for the support of our Australian partner, the Indigenous Education Foundation (IEF), and ongoing partnership. It has been a challenging year but yet we've continued to grow and achieve great things for our community. "

## I. Increase student participation in our Mentawai indigenous learning hubs

During December we continued to work closely with our learning hub students and teachers. There was an increased enthusiasm amongst the groups throughout December, and also an increase in participation with new students enrolling to learn. One of the biggest motivators we're seeing is when children or youth see the learning hub students performing or practicing Mentawai cultural skills and knowledge. During December, the number of students participating across the 4 learning hubs was 150, with a majority female



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

***Funds spent this month to further our target:***

***AUD \$ 0***



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

Learning hub students continue to strengthen their understanding of cultural knowledge and its value for the future. During December, the students across all hubs were taught about indigenous folklore, medicines, ceremony, ethnobotany, language and song and dance. In particular, the students were enthusiastic about the opportunity to perform their skills and talents as part of a big Christmas celebration event. We are seeing significant increase in the student's imaginative skills, confidence and mental capacity as a result of the learning hub program, which continues to instill these cultural values in our students from generation to generation.



***Funds spent this month to further our target:***

***AUD \$ 79***

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

Our primary focus for target 4 this month has been to ensure students are learning traditional handicraft skills, including carving and weaving. We consider these skills as a valuable lead into learning about Mentawai culture, whilst also building capacity for students to develop a viable income stream based around Ecotourism. It has been a challenging year for the YPBM's Mentawai Ecotourism initiative, primarily due to COVID and the lack of travellers, however we hold faith that this is only temporary, and that the situation will improve for all in years to come.



***Funds spent this month to further our target:***

***AUD \$ 279***



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

### Mentawai Dictionary

Our work on the language documentation dictionary project continued throughout December. A draft of the Mentawai Rereiket to Indonesian language version has now been completed and we are awaiting final copy edit before preparing for print. We are also getting very close to finalising the first English translation of the dictionary. We expect to finalise and publish these valuable learning materials in 2021

### Hub learning materials research

Improvements to the learning hub curriculum materials is now at a stage of review and further input from Mentawai elders and other informants and sources that will strengthen and compliment the project. We are currently focusing on six new topics of learning, with an additional six topics to be explored later in 2021.



**Funds spent this month to further our target:**  
**AUD \$ 0**

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

Our Mentawai Indigenous Learning Foundation (YPBM) team consists of 9 staff and 8 learning hub teachers. This month YPBM conducts an Annual general meeting with all senior directors and advisors, which gives us great opportunity to review our activities and progress throughout 2020, and to develop strategic plan for improvements in 2021. A detailed annual report is currently being prepared for publication.



***Funds spent this month to further our target:***

***AUD \$ 100***

## **VII. Conduct and strengthen strategic and monitoring and evaluation programs**

During this month's MONEV, we observed a trend in students focusing attention on becoming more confident, particularly those that are challenged mentally. We are constantly reminded and inspired by the progress of our hub students in knowing how important and valuable this program is for the future of our students. Analysing our MONEV program, we are seeking to improve our learning methods and provide greater variety in 2021, as we believe this will further strengthen the student's enthusiasm to learn and get the most out of our program. We are also planning to implement a student evaluation exam twice year to give students further recognition and accreditation for their efforts.

***Funds spent this month to further our target:***

***AUD \$ 60***

***Total Funds spent this month to further our target:***

***AUD \$ 1.351***



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