

PRESS RELEASE

Indonesia using Sustainable Jurisdictions Indicators as tool for demonstrating commitment to sustainability



JAKARTA, 13 JUNE 2023 – The Ministry of National Development Planning/Bappenas has encouraged all national and district-level actors to play an active role in demonstrating Indonesia’s commitment to sustainable commodity production by supporting the Sustainable Jurisdictional Approach. This message was delivered during an outreach workshop held in Jakarta to increase awareness of the initiative, the Sustainable Jurisdictions Indicators, and how they can help position Indonesia on the global stage.

The workshop aimed to raise awareness among national-level actors of the Sustainable Jurisdictional Approach and how it complements other national initiatives to promote sustainable, legal and deforestation-free agricultural commodity production, with a focus on palm oil. It was supported by the [European Forest Institute](#), [Surveyor Indonesia](#), [Javlec](#), the [University of Indonesia](#) and [USAID SEGAR](#).

Around 100 participants from national ministries, district governments, the private sector and civil society attended the meeting, where they were informed on the Sustainable Jurisdictions Indicators and related data platform, benefits for different supply chain actors, support being provided to assist districts and smallholders to transition to sustainability, and proposals for increasing commodity traceability in line with global market requirements.

The meeting in Jakarta was the first in a series of outreach workshops which will take place in key palm oil-producing regions across Indonesia during the coming months, to increase understanding of how the initiative can benefit districts by assessing and showcasing their progress made towards sustainability.

“Indonesia has made great strides towards sustainability in its agricultural commodity production, particularly in the palm oil sector where the Indonesian Sustainable Palm Oil (ISPO) certification is mandatory. The Sustainable Jurisdictions Indicators are an important tool for Indonesia to demonstrate this progress to the world, and to help Indonesian districts realise the benefits which come with their increased commitment to sustainability. The Government of Indonesia is using this approach to support districts through targeted policies and financial assistance to raise our collective level of sustainability, and we will continue to develop the initiative to better support our districts

and industries,” said Anang Noegroho, Director of Food and Agriculture ad interim, Ministry of National Development Planning/Bappenas.

About the Sustainable Jurisdictional Approach

The Sustainable Jurisdictional Approach is a national initiative to track, demonstrate and encourage district progress towards sustainability in Indonesia. At its core is a set of Sustainable Jurisdictions Indicators, or SJI, which measure sustainable and inclusive commodity production at the district level. The 23 indicators were developed through a multistakeholder process supported by the European Union and the European Forest Institute through the [KAMI project](#), and are grouped under four pillars: environmental, social, economic and governance. For each indicator, data is collected from ministries and districts to provide a comprehensive picture of subnational progress towards sustainability.

An online data platform serves to disseminate the district-level data collected for each indicator, to inform planners, policy makers and businesses with information on the sustainability performance of districts, as well as trends and progress over time. The data platform, the ongoing development of which is supported by Surveyor Indonesia, will be made accessible to the public, equipping companies with valuable information to perform due diligence assessments and make sustainable sourcing and investment decisions.

Surveyor Indonesia CEO M. Haris Witjaksono said the SJI data platform will provide assurances that districts are meeting, or advancing towards, sustainability standards through the provision of concrete data. “Using a data-driven approach will benefit all actors along the palm oil supply chain, from helping farmers to demonstrate that their palm oil comes from a deforestation-free location, to helping importing companies access critical information for their due diligence checks. When clear, reliable data is available through platforms such as SJI, both domestic and international audiences can be assured that Indonesian districts' progress towards sustainability is backed up by evidence,” said Haris.

The Sustainable Jurisdictional Approach, SJI indicators and data platform were officially launched in November 2022 by the Ministry of National Development Planning/Bappenas, Ministry of Investment/BKPM and the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry/KADIN during the B20 Investment Forum in Bali, an annual gathering of global business leaders held in conjunction with the G20 summit.

During the launch, a “Multistakeholder declaration of support for implementing the Sustainable Jurisdictions Indicators” was signed by eight district governments (Aceh Tamiang, Kapuas Hulu, Kotawaringin Timur, Kutai Timur, Sanggau, Seruyan, Siak, Sigi), two companies (PISAgro, Surveyor Indonesia), two smallholder associations (FORTASBI, SPKS) and eight CSOs and development partners (LTKL; USAID SEGAR; EFI; Proforest; CDP; GIZ; Javlec; Institute for Economic and Social Research/LPEM, University of Indonesia).

Looking ahead

The indicators and data platform have been positioned by the Government of Indonesia to attract green investment, inform domestic policy processes and fiscal transfer mechanisms, and communicate sustainability progress towards global commodity markets. They also allow districts to demonstrate sustainable agricultural production, thereby reinforcing sustainable trade and investment and further incentivising sustainable, legal and deforestation-free production.

Under the Ministry of National Development Planning/Bappenas, the platform is being further developed to better support the transition to sustainability in districts and to demonstrate Indonesia's commitment to sustainability to a global audience. Planned developments include establishment of global markets indicators and the addition of a palm oil supply chain traceability module to help meet new due diligence requirements included in forthcoming international regulations.

Following the national SJI workshop in Jakarta, the first district-level workshop will take place in Palangkaraya, Central Kalimantan on 20 June 2023. It will be followed by additional workshops in West Kalimantan, East Kalimantan, Aceh, Riau, North Sumatra, Jambi, South Sumatra and Central Sulawesi.

SJI supporting districts:

