

and was not appreciated as a form of women's participation.

Diagram 3. and Diagram 4. also show that initiation of finding conflict resolution was still dominated by men. However, when men can not find resolution, women stepped forward doing their efforts to settle the problems. Unfortunately, the data documenting social conflicts and disputes were not yet completely

This research was a collaboration between Women Research Institute and World Resources Institute

gender segregated, where as gender segregated data of conflict is important in order that the stages of resolution that have been achieved can effectively target all parties involved in the conflicts.

End notes

¹ Findings of the World Resource Institute: <http://www.wri.org/blog/2014/03/fires-indonesia-spike-highest-levels-june-2013-haze-emergency>.

² Harvard Tools is a tool used for data collection, understanding roles of women and men in a society and calculating external pressure that develops planning. Harvard Tools is also a flexible tool that can be used at diverse levels of planning and analysis and its use can be extended to segregating data according to culture, ethnicity and economic factors, gender and age. (see: Williams, Suzanne; Janet Seed; and Adelina Mwau. (1994). *The Oxfam Gender Training Manual*. United Kingdom & Ireland: Oxfam. Pg: 267.)



Photo: Riau Women Working Group

Fact Sheet

January 2015



Women's Participation in Forest Concession Conflict Resolution

Women Research Institute conducted research on women's participation in forest concession which mapped the factors that triggered social conflict of natural resources management in forest concession area. Problems that became the focus of the research include chronology of conflict, women's participation and conflict resolution. This research was conducted due to limited gender segregated data on conflict resolution. It was conducted in Siak and Pelalawan District, Riau Province. Siak and Pelalawan were two of four district that contributed 52% of the total hotspots in Indonesia in 2014.¹ The hotspots in these two district were caused by forest burning done by several parties for land use with different reasons. Recriminations about who set the fire often happened between the companies and the community, which eventually ended up in conflicts.

There were at least eight conflicts that were identified in Siak and Pelalawan as showed in Diagram 1. The data of conflict was divided into groups based on issues, which include the issues of land, food security and the environmental health as showed in Diagram 2. From the eight conflicts identified, the conflicts triggered by land dispute more often happened. It happened due to the narrowing land, which people could use for their livelihood, and absence of community involvement in the process of forest management. In regards to land disputes, conflict resolution initiators were mostly men. They organized demonstrations or did a series of negotiation with the companies as well as with the government. It showed that land was under the control of men. From both diagrams resulted from identification of Access and Control of Community over Resources

Diagram 1.
Data of Conflict Based on Location

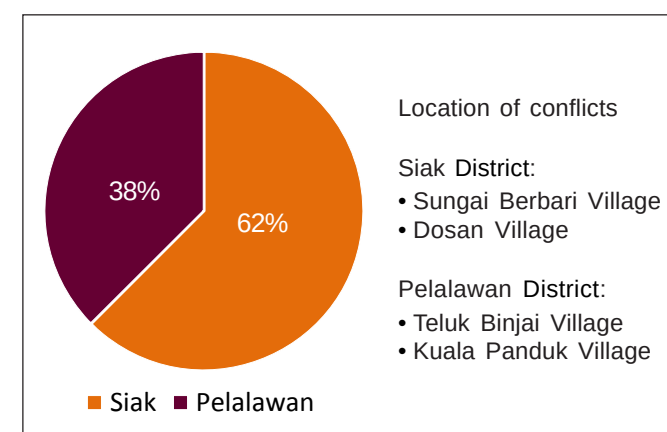
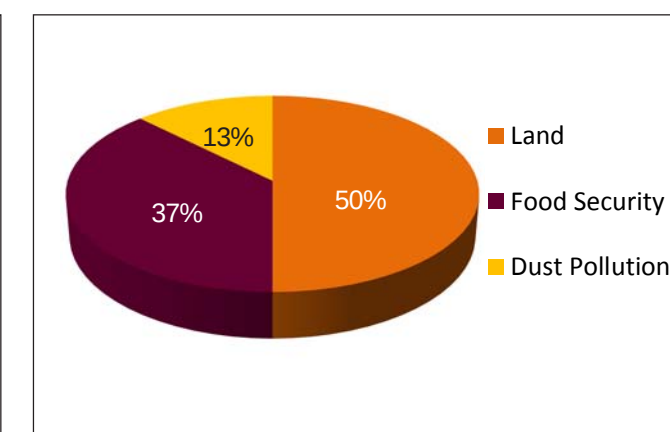


Diagram 2.
Data of Conflict Based on Problems



Although the role of women in conflict resolution are invisible, but the results of Women Research Institute shows that women position are at the forefront of conflict resolution.

and Benefit,² we can see that men has more access to participating in meetings, including meetings that discuss resolution of land dispute.

Women's participation in social conflict resolution has been, indeed, stated in Law No. 37/2012 on Social Conflict Handling. The law mandates that the Social Conflict Resolution Task Force involves women as much as 30% at the least of the total members of the task force. It could be viewed as an opportunity to increase women's participation in the process of

decision making for conflict resolution. Ironically, women's participation in conflict resolution tended to be invisible since they did their efforts of participation in informal ways. Women's efforts in conflict resolution in the two villages often pertained to environmental health issues (air pollution) and food security. It often happened that their informal efforts became a drive for conflict resolution.

One of informal efforts they did in conflict resolution for environmental health issue can be seen in Sungai Berbari Village. A group of women blocked the road that usually passed by companies' vehicles. With the help of the local people, they blocked the road with big logs. They reminded the companies on their promise to water the road to decrease the dust that caused them respiratory disorders such as Acute Respiratory Infection. Their informal ways have proved to successfully drive the companies to meet the demand of the community.

In contrast to their success in demanding the companies to keep their promise, their efforts to find

Diagram 3.
Profile of Access and Control of People in Dosan Village and Sungai Berbari Village over Resources

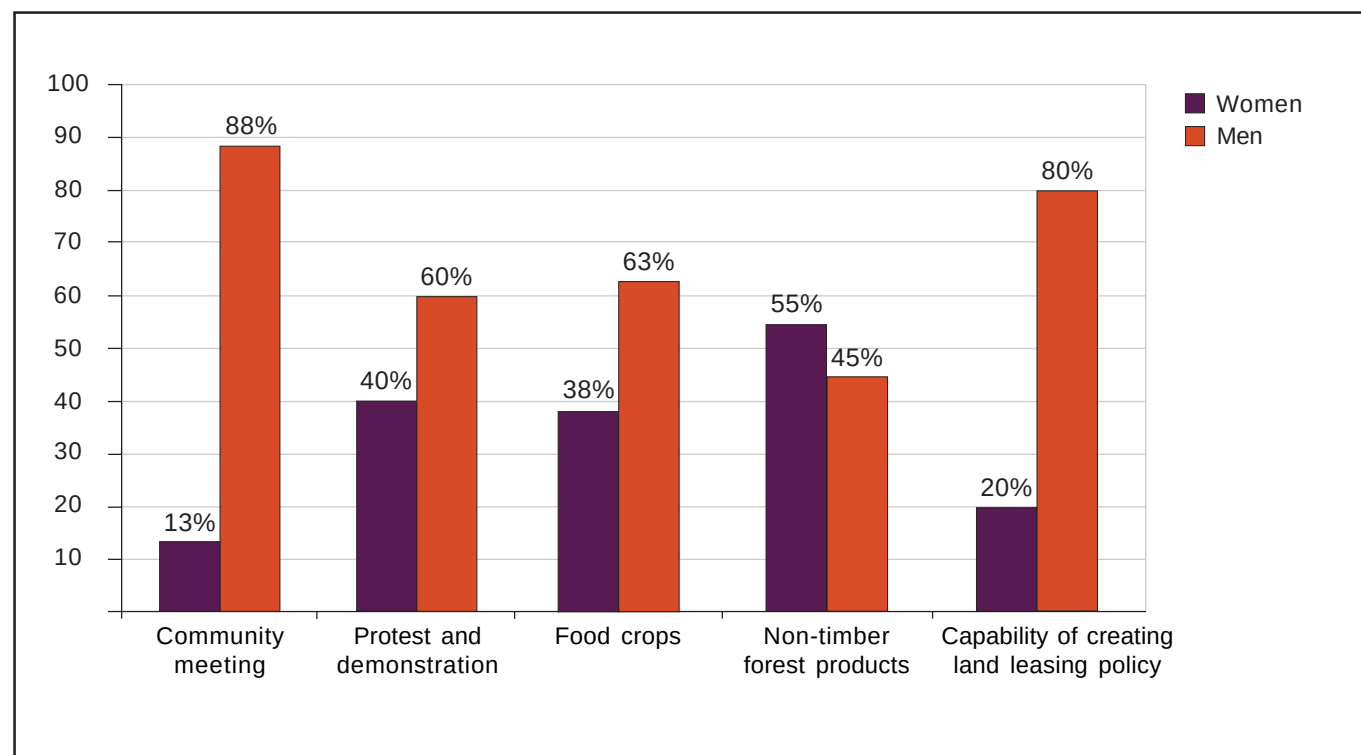
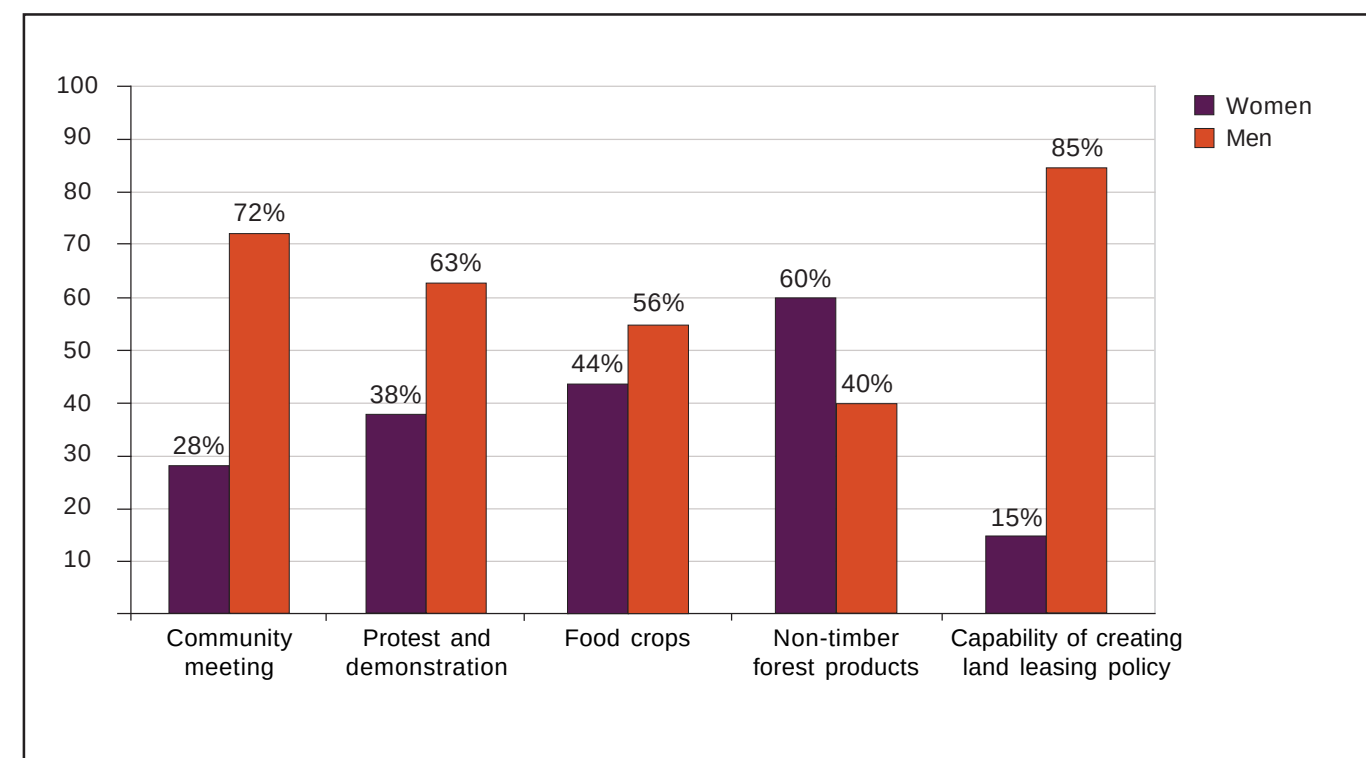


Diagram 4.
Profile of Access and Control of People in Teluk Binjai Village over Resources



resolution in food security issues often found a dead end. Due to no response from the relevant parties while their farming land were getting narrow. However, women clearly tried to find alternative solutions to meet the needs of food for their family. Diagram 3. and 4. show that women's role was bigger than

men's in access and control over non-timber forest products. It showed that women's participation in creating alternative sources of food to maintain food security was higher than men's. However, the view that positioned women in domestic sphere as the one who responsible to provide food for their families, believed as women's role in maintaining food security. This notion was seen as something ordinary



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