

# Beyond oil palm: Livelihood strategies of local communities in East Kalimantan

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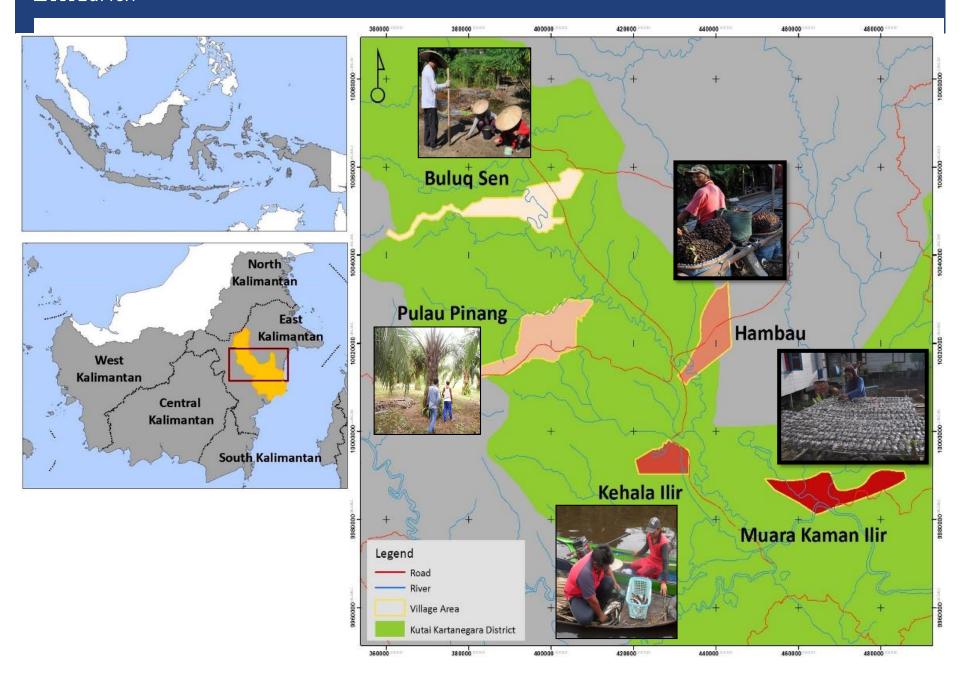
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### **Research Question**

What are the livelihood strategies used by the stakeholders in oil palm landscapes in Kalimantan?

#### **Methods:**

- Observation
- Interview
- Forum Group Discussion
- Role Playing Game



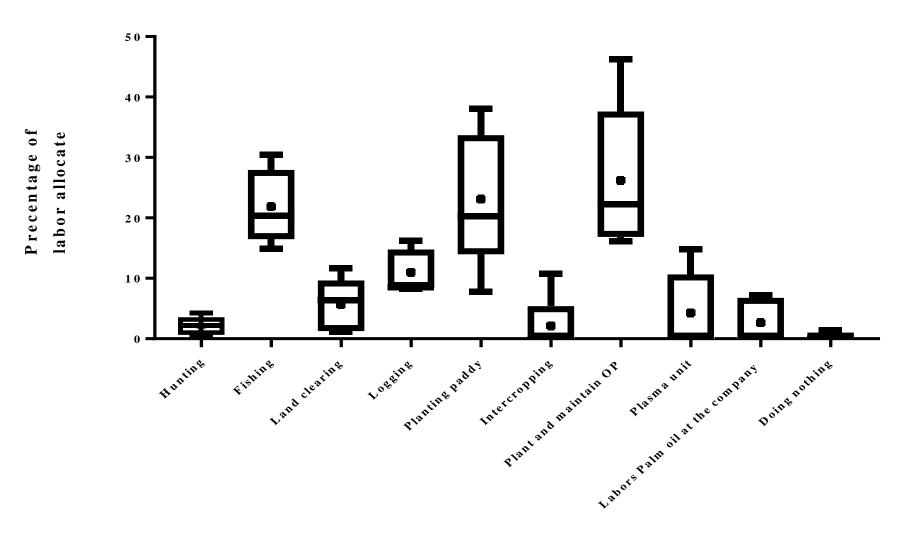




# The Game board



# (1) What are the strategies used by the stakeholders within the RPG sessions? High preference on oil palm

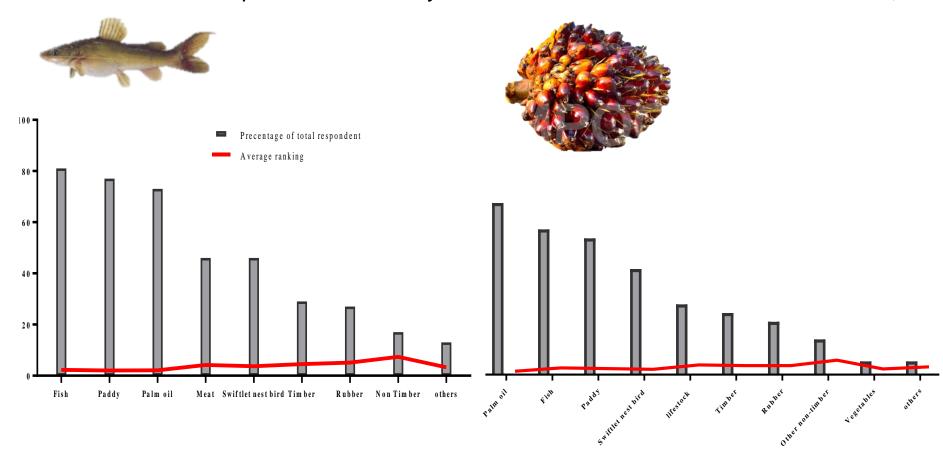




### Cont (1)- Perceptions of players (n: 48) on commodities

What is the most important commodity?

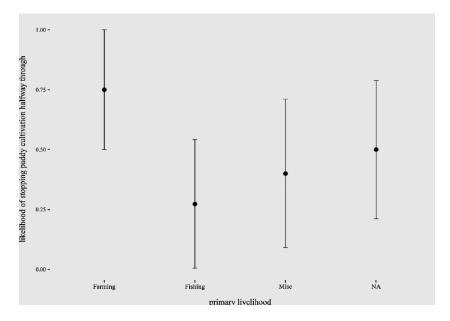
What is the most profitable commodity?

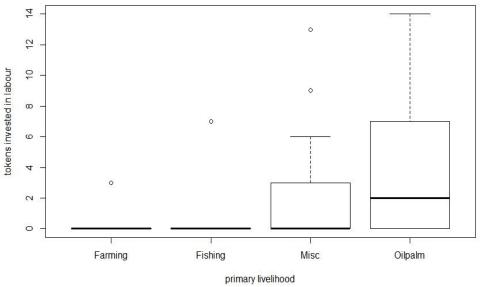




# (2) What attributes determining local communities to take certain strategies?

- Livelihood type
  - Paddy farmers [in real life] are more likely to stop growing paddy [in a game] than other livelihoods
  - Only the one who already cultivated oil palm [in a real life] are willing to engage with oil palm company (as labor or as plasma)



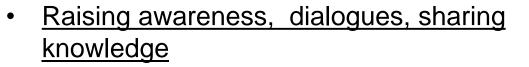


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## (3) Do the RPG model can serve as a tool to engage stakeholders

 Opportunity to negotiate and collaborate with oil palm company

"There is no risk working at the oil palm company to get more cash than timber" (oil palm smallholder).



" If we do not anticipate our future from now, we will become audiences only in our own land " (farmer)

"You planted palm oil at the upstream so that the fishes (the number of the fishes) decreased" (officer)







#### **Key messages from the RPG model:**

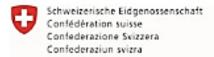
- 1. Model is useful:
  - Fosters stakeholder engagement
  - Allows us to observe strategies to resolve conflicts
- 2. High preference to oil palm (regardless the background)
- 3. Diversity of livelihood in the oil palm landscape, can be the best solution to maintain the land and food security
- 4. The livelihood type [in real life] determines players in making certain decisions [in the game]



# **Acknowledgments:**







Swiss Confederation

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Ecosystem

Management group,

ETH Zurich











Villagers in Kutai Kartanegara



Field assistants



Thank you

Question?