

Surging Threats, Diminishing Protection

Situation Report on the Environmental Human Rights Defenders in Indonesia 2025



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Situation Report

on the Environmental Human Rights Defenders in Indonesia

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Foreword

Environmental Human Rights Defenders are key actors in the protection mechanism of human rights and environmental sustainability. Environment in this context is not limited to purely ecological aspects, but also includes water, air, soil, and biodiversity. The defenders' presence and role have been recognized in a variety of legal instruments, both at the national and international level.

However, starting 2025, the environmental human rights defenders in Indonesia still face serious challenges. The practice of criminalization, intimidation, violence, and civic space restriction shows the gap between the normative commitment of the state and the real-world implementation. The condition does not only conflict with constitutional obligations, but also with the principles of international human rights, including the state obligation to respect, protect, and fulfill human rights without discrimination.

Data collected by Satya Bumi and Protection International shows a significant increase in threats and attacks against environmental human rights defenders. In 2024, there were 33 cases with 219 victims (204 individuals and 15 communities/institutions) recorded. This number grew in 2025 with a total of 64 cases with 259 individuals and 13 communities being the victims.

This increase reflects the state of development and natural resource management policies still fixated on economic growth and investment, often by ignoring the principles of prudence, meaningful participation, and informed consent without coercion, especially for indigenous peoples and local communities. In such situations, environmental human rights defenders are in an increasingly vulnerable position, both legally, socially, and physically.

The document was compiled to monitor and analyze the situation of environmental human rights defenders in Indonesia throughout 2025, while providing a database and analyses that can support advocacy. The findings in this report are intended to serve as a reference for policymakers, law enforcement officials, academics, and civil society in strengthening protection mechanisms as well as encouraging policy reform of natural resource management.

In the end, protection of environmental human rights defenders is not just a sectoral issue, but a fundamental prerequisite for the establishment of a state with a rule of law, substantive democracy, and the realization of equitable sustainable development, as mandated in the 1945 Constitution and international human rights norms.

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List of Abbreviations and Terms

Environmental Human Rights Defenders: Any individual or group seeking to protect and promote human rights relating to the environment, including water, air, land, and flora and fauna through peaceful means.

Human Rights: A set of rights inherent in humans' nature and existence as God's

creatures, as well as a gift from Him that must be honored, upheld, and defended by the state, law, government, and each individual in order to honor and protect human dignity and worth. (Article 1 point 1 of Law No. 26 of 2000 on Human Rights Courts).

Human Rights Violations: Actions by an individual or group of individuals, including state apparatus, whether intentional or unintentional, or negligence that is against the law in reducing, obstructing, limiting, and/or revoking the human rights of an individual or a group of individuals guaranteed by law. (Article 1 point 6 of Law No. 26 of 2000 on Human Rights Courts).

Attack: An action that results in physical, psychological, sexual, death, or property damage/loss, including attacks with or without the use of electronic or non-electronic means. (Standards, Norms, and Regulations No. 6, National Commission on Human Rights).

Violence: Any act intentionally committed to harm the health of others or cause suffering to others (Article 351 of the Criminal Code).

Threat: Any unlawful act, whether by electronic or non-electronic means, which can limit people's fundamental liberties or induce fear in the general public. This includes speech, writing, images, symbols, and body gestures. (Standards, Norms, and Regulations No. 6, National Commission on Human Rights).

Criminalization: The making of a behavior that was previously not considered a crime into a criminal offense. (YLBHI Fact Sheet). In this report, "criminalization" cases are identified by the legal mobilization of statutes to prosecute a party.

Doxing: An internet-based act of exploiting and publishing private information of an individual or organization. (Standards, Norms, and Regulations No. 6, National Commission on Human Rights)

Impersonation: A deceptive act of using the victim's identity to gain access to personal information for the purpose of humiliating or harassing the victim. One of the methods used by perpetrators includes creating fake accounts or profiles that seemingly belong to the victim. These fake accounts or profiles are used to upload content that is offensive, inflammatory, misleading, or sexual in nature, with the aim of damaging the image of the victim.

Impunity: A legitimate fact that grants exemption or exclusion from prosecution or punishment or loss to a person who has committed a violation of human rights. (Standards, Norms, and Regulations No. 6, National Commission on Human Rights).

Arrest: A temporary restraint of a suspect or defendant by investigation body given sufficient evidence for the purpose of investigation, prosecution, or justice in the matters and manners set forth in the Indonesian Criminal Procedure Code (KUHAP). An arrest is said to be unlawful if it does not meet the conditions stipulated in the Criminal Procedure Code. One example is an arrest made without a warrant. (Indonesia's Code of Criminal Procedure).

Dissolution: An unlawful dissolution refers to an action by the state apparatus or the authorities to cease a peaceful protest or meeting without adequate legal grounds or is carried out in excessive and disproportionate ways. This often occurs in the context of rallies or protests that are organized legally but are forcibly dissolved by violence or intimidation. (Standards, Norms, and Regulations No. 5, National Commission on Human Rights).

Intimidation: An act of frightening or threatening someone particularly to force them to do something (the Official Indonesian Dictionary). In Standards, Norms, and Regulation No. 6 on Human Rights Defenders, intimidation is classified as a form of threat and/or psychological attack.

Silencing: A process or method shutting someone up or making them unable to speak or express themselves.

Terrorism: The use of violence to inspire fear in an attempt to achieve a goal, especially a political goal or an act of terror. Simply put, terrorism is an organized practice of terror to inflict fear and achieve certain goals.

Company: Activity (business and others) that is organized using instruments or regular procedures with the aim of seeking profit by producing something, processing or making goods, trading, providing services, and so on (the Indonesian Official Dictionary). According to the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Indonesia, a company is a business entity that conducts processing, assembly, and/or installation of raw materials that earning Exemption. (the Ministry of Finance).

Corporation Security Unit: A group of officers formed by agencies, business entities or projects to carry out private security in the work environment.

Environment: An integral space with all the things, resources, condition, and living creatures including humans and their behaviors that affect nature and the continuity of livelihood and the welfare of human beings and other living creatures.

Indigenous Community: A community group having a historical lineage and occupying a customary area for generations. Indigenous Communities have sovereignty over land and natural wealth, socio-cultural way of life governed by customary law, and institutions preserving the sustainability of the indigenous peoples' lives as indigenous communities.

Agrarian: Related to land governance, agriculture, as well as distribution, allocation, and ownership of land. Broadly speaking, agrarian affairs include earth, water, airspace, and natural wealth, while in strict terms, they focus on land. The term is derived from Latin term *ager* (land/region) and is very important in the Indonesian land governance system.

CHAPTER I. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The narrative of “foreign stooges” conveyed by President Prabowo Subianto on various occasions is often directed at those who criticize his policies. The label is directed not only to non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that are considered to receive foreign funding¹, but also to civil society groups that vocalize their concerns in environmental issues, the development of national strategic projects, and other public policies. In the narrative, criticism is positioned as an attempt to pit the people against the government.²

If placed in context throughout 2025, the emergence of this narrative cannot be separated from the increasing wave of civil society protests against a number of policies of the Prabowo-Gibran administration. Protests involving cross-sectoral elements show public discontent, particularly with policies that affect the environment, democracy, and civic space.

There are at least six major events that reflect this dynamic, including the protests on the revision of the Law on Mineral and Coal Mining (Minerba Law), the National Military Bill (TNI Bill) and the National Police Bill (Polri Bill), criticism of mining activities in Raja Ampat, the “Indonesia Gelap” (Dark Indonesia) protest, and the public response to flooding and landslide in Sumatra.

Protest/Rally (Policy)	Time	Note
Mass protest rejecting the revision (the 4th amendment) to Law No. 3/2020 on Mineral and Coal Mining	February 2025	The amendment is deemed as detrimental to the environment, benefiting corporations, having flawed procedures, and threatening the living space of the people
Mass action rejecting the enactment of TNI Bill into Law	March 2025	TNI Bill contained a number of articles that are considered to potentially expand the role of TNI in political and civic life
Mass protest rejecting the enactment of the Bill on the 3rd Amendment of Law No. 2 of 2002 on the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia	March 2025	Polri Bill contained articles that seek to make the police a “superbody”, while missing fundamental problems in police institutions such as the weakness of the supervision mechanism.

1 Prabowo: Di balik retorika ‘waspadai kekuatan asing’ ala Presiden Prabowo Subianto – ‘Prabowo adu domba warga dengan warga’ - BBC News Indonesia

2 <https://www.bbc.com/indonesia/articles/cn0exy2zyl7o>

Greenpeace protest criticizing mining in Raja Ampat	June 2025	Greenpeace reported mining activities on a number of islands in Raja Ampat that should not be permitted under Law No. 1 of 2014 on the Management of Coastal Zone and Small Islands.
Dark Indonesia	August 2025	The mass protest was considered as a symbol of public unrest against government policies that had been deemed not in favor of the people. This nationwide protest demanded the efficiency of the cabinet, rejected amendment to the Laws on the Military, Police, and Prosecution, as well as reevaluation of the Free Nutritious Meal program.
Landslide Disaster in Sumatra	December 2025	The public viewed the government as slow in responding to emergencies, lacking empathy, and performing poorly in ecological mitigation. The government was also deemed to have failed to prevent disasters due to their inaction toward environmental destruction.

In this context, the use of the term “foreign stooges” can be understood as part of political rhetoric that serves to name a common enemy while strengthening the consolidation of internal support.³ However, on the other hand, such labeling also has the potential to delegitimize criticism and limit the wiggle room of civil society⁴. When criticism of policies—especially those related to environmental protection—is positioned as a threat, meaningful participation of the public becomes increasingly limited.

This situation raises concerns about human rights and the quality of democracy in Indonesia. A number of indicators showed a trend of regression, both quantitatively and qualitatively. Amnesty International Indonesia, for example, noted that throughout 2025 there were 283 human rights activists who experienced various forms of attacks, ranging from criminalization, arrests, being reported to the police, and attempted murder. Most of the victims were journalists and members of indigenous communities, respectively 106 and 74 persons.⁵

In the first half of 2025, Satya Bumi and Protection International documented the threats and attacks against environmental human rights defenders and described the situation as “an explosion of threats and attacks.” Based on the data collected, there were at least 29 cases with a total of 91 individual victims (F:9, M:56, U:26) and 8 institutions or communities. In the period from July to December 2025, that number again increased to 35 cases with 168 individuals and 7 communities being the victims.

3 Op.cit

4 Negara tuduh pendemo “antek asing”: Retorika politik Prabowo untuk bungkam suara rakyat

5 2025, Tahun Malapetaka Nasional HAM • Amnesty International Indonesia

Overall, there were 64 cases of attacks on environmental human rights defenders between January and December 2025, with the victims totaling 259 individuals and 15 communities. This figure shows a significant increase compared to 2024 which recorded 33 cases with 219 victims (204 individuals [F:16, M:48, U:140] and 15 communities/institutions). While the number increased, the characteristics of the attacks also seemed to be escalating.

The 64 cases were classified into 3 categories, namely Environmental Issues (23 cases), Indigenous Peoples (24 cases), and Agrarian Conflicts (17 cases). The number of casualties showed a sharp increase of almost 100 percent compared to the preceding year.

Several events have become important markers of the increased risk, including the shooting of five farmers in Pino Raya, South Bengkulu⁶, in November 2025, as well as the death of Vian Ruma, an environmental activist in East Nusa Tenggara who opposed the geothermal project in the region⁷. These events not only reflect the high vulnerability of environmental human rights defenders but also suggest that the risks they face have become life-threatening.



Figure 1: Rudolfus Oktavianus Ruma, aka Vian Ruma (30), a Mathematics teacher at SMPN 1 Nangaroro and an environmental activist in Nagekeo Regency, East Nusa Tenggara was found dead tied up in a hut on Friday (5/9/2025). (Source: Instagram/@vian_ruma)

This is not merely a matter of vulnerability but also a warning that all environmental human rights defenders in Indonesia must be on high alert of their increasingly threatening security situation. Protection mechanisms must be improved and enhanced at various levels (early warning system), both at the organizational, individual, family, and network level.

The protection of environmental human rights defenders is a structural issue that is closely related to the politics of natural resource law, governance, and the state's commitment to

⁶ <https://www.kompas.id/artikel/petani-di-bengkulu-ditembak-pansus-penyelesaian-konflik-agraria-didesak-bergerak>

⁷ Vian ditemukan tewas terikat di gubuk. Tubuh Vian terikat dalam sebuah gubuk dekat pantai di Sikusama, Desa Tonggo, kabupaten Nagekeo Nusa Tenggara Timur. Perwakilan Koalisi Kelompok Muda untuk perubahan iklim (KOPI) membenarkan bahwa Vian merupakan pemuda aktif di wilayahnya terutama dalam menolak geotermal di wilayah Nusa Tenggara Timur. <https://www.tempo.co/hukum/aktivis-muda-penolak-geotermal-di-ntt-ditemukan-tewas-terikat-di-gubuk-2067235>

human rights and the environment. The state's failure in protecting environmental human rights defenders not only impacts certain individuals or groups but also carries broad implications for the quality of democracy, law enforcement, and the fulfillment of the right to a good and healthy environment for all citizens.

In this context, comprehensive, critical, and critical monitoring and analysis efforts are needed based on national and international legal frameworks to understand the situation of environmental human rights defenders in Indonesia. Monitoring is important not only to document patterns of violations, but also to identify gaps between norms and practices in the real world.

Ultimately, the report is expected to contribute to strengthening the protection of environmental human rights defenders through the provision of credible databases, and sharp analysis as well as policy recommendations that encourage state accountability. Furthermore, this effort is part of the reaffirmation of Indonesia's constitutional mandate to realize ecological justice and sustainable development based on respect for human rights.

1.2 Purpose of the Report

In general, this monitoring report aims to document, analyze, and evaluate the situation of environmental human rights defenders in Indonesia throughout 2025 by placing the protection of human rights defenders as an integral part of the fulfillment of the right to a good and healthy environment and the enforcement of the principles of state with the rule of law and democracy. In particular, this report has at least the following objectives:

- To identify and map the attacks and threats experienced by environmental human rights defenders, including criminalization, intimidation, physical and nonphysical violence, digital attacks, as well as restrictions on civic space both by state and non-state actors.
- To assess the effectiveness of policies and protection mechanisms available to environmental human rights defenders, including the implementation of anti-SLAPP, the role of law enforcement officials, as well as the response of state institutions in preventing and addressing violations.
- To provide a database and empirical evidence that can be used for advocacy, policymaking, strategic litigation, as well as strengthening environmental human rights defenders' protection mechanisms at the national and local levels.
- To strengthen public solidarity and recognition of the role of environmental human rights defenders as part of efforts to attain equitable and human rights-based sustainable development.

1.3 Scope

This monitoring report focuses on monitoring and analyzing the situation of environmental human rights defenders in Indonesia between January 1–December 31, 2025.

1.4 Methodology

This monitoring approach utilized the human rights framework by placing environmental human rights defenders as rights holders who must be protected, as well as the state as duty bearer who is responsible for respecting, protecting, and fulfilling human rights in accordance with national and international legal instruments. The analysis also refers to the principle of universality, non-discrimination, meaningful participation, accountability, and the rule of law in assessing the situation as well as the response of the state.

The data was collected through media observation and document study. The monitoring included print, online, and social media to identify cases, attack patterns, and public narrative developments. News archives were analyzed to understand the context, background, and series of events.

The findings were reinforced through interviews with relevant parties, both offline and online, to verify information and comprehend the cases in detail. The entire process was carried out taking into account the safety of the informant and the ethical principles of research.

Analysis was done by processing and interpreting data to provide a factual picture of the ongoing situation. However, this monitoring has limitations, including field access, safety of the informants, and affordability of information sources. Therefore, the findings in this report need to be understood as a representation of the situation based on ethically and responsibly collected data during the monitoring period.

CHAPTER II. ENVIRONMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS AND THE DYNAMICS OF ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCACY

Global Witness defines *Environmental Human Rights Defenders* (EHRD) as the defenders of land and environment, i.e., individuals or groups that peacefully—whether voluntarily or professionally—protect the environment or rights over land. They can be leaders of indigenous peoples or farmers in remote areas who defend ancestral lands and traditional livelihoods from encroachment of business projects such as mining, dams, or tourism. In addition, environmental defenders also include national park rangers, as well as other professionals such as lawyers, journalists, and NGO staff who seek to uncover environmental destruction and land grabbing.⁸

In line with this, the United Nations (UN) defines environmental human rights defenders as individuals or groups who, peacefully and in their personal and professional capacities, seek to protect and promote human rights related to the environment, including water, air, land, and biodiversity.⁹

In that context, environmental human rights defenders are key actors in protecting the right to a good and healthy environment, as well as in strengthening the principles of a state with the rule of law and democracy. Their roles include advocacy, mentoring, monitoring, and critique of state and corporate policies and practices impacting the environment and human rights.

However, around the globe, environmental advocacy movements are increasingly faced with various forms of threats and attacks. The Global Witness report *Roots of Resistance* noted that at least 146 land and environmental defenders were killed throughout 2024. In Indonesia, one of the prominent cases was the killing of Abah Nateh in South Kalimantan after questioning the license of PT Mantimin Coal Mining (MCM). Meanwhile, in Colombia, a Kogui indigenous leader was also killed for leading resistance to the grabbing of their indigenous territories.

In addition to physical violence, criminalization through legal mobilization is also on the rise. In the UK, *the Public Order Act 2023* has become the main legal instrument of criminalization against the wave of environmental protests. In substance, the law criminalizes protests against national infrastructure development or operations. Volker Turk of the UN Human Rights Council called the act as “deeply troubling” and incompatible with human rights values.

In Australia, anti-protest regulations were also put in place in 2021 to limit activism against

⁸ Ben Leather, Global Witness, Thursday 13 July 2017 12.00 BST, <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2017/jul/13/environmental-defenders-who-are-they-and-how-do-we-decide-if-they-have-died-in-defence-of-their-environment>

⁹ UN Environment. Who are environmental defenders?. UNEP. <https://www.unep.org/topics/environmental-law-and-governance/who-are-environmental-defenders#:~:text=The%20UN%20defines%20environmental%20human,land%2C%20flora%20and%20fauna>

logging and mining sites, which Human Rights Watch described as limiting community participation in environmental advocacy.

Indonesia has existing instruments that guarantee the presence of environmental human rights defenders.¹⁰ A landmark development materialized through the Constitutional Court Decision No. 119/PUU-XXIII/2025, which expanded the scope of protection in Article 66 of Law No. 32 of 2009 (*State Gazette of the Republic of Indonesia Year 2009 No. 140, Supplement to State Gazette of the Republic of Indonesia No. 5059*).¹¹ The ruling confirms that protection applies not only to victims or whistleblowers, but also witnesses, experts, and environmental activists involved in environmental protection efforts, and aims to prevent retaliation through legal means.

In addition to the Constitutional Court ruling, there are precedents or jurisprudence for the protection of environmental human rights defenders, namely the decision between the Panel of Judges of Cibinong District Court on 8 October that ruled that the lawsuit No. 212/PDT.G/2025/PN CBI against Prof. Dr. Ir. Bambang Hero Saharjo, M.Agr. and Prof. Dr. Ir. Basuki Wasis, M.Si. as an act of *Strategic Lawsuit against Public Participation* (SLAPP) and ruled that such lawsuit may not proceed. This ruling made history as the first Anti-SLAPP ruling in Indonesia that was stipulated through an interlocutory decision based on the Supreme Court Regulation (Perma) No. 1 of 2023 on the Guidelines to Adjudicate Environmental Cases.¹²

Although the legal framework is relatively mature, its implementation still faces serious challenges. Throughout 2025, the situation of environmental human rights defenders in Indonesia demonstrated a significant gap between norms and practices. Patterns of

- 10 Seperti Undang-Undang Nomor 32 Tahun 2009 tentang Perlindungan dan Pengelolaan Lingkungan Hidup, Pedoman Jaksa Agung Nomor 8 Tahun 2022 tentang Penanganan Perkara Tindak Pidana di Bidang Perlindungan dan Pengelolaan Lingkungan Hidup, Peraturan Mahkamah Agung Nomor 1 Tahun 2023 tentang Pedoman Mengadili Perkara Lingkungan Hidup, Peraturan Menteri Lingkungan Hidup dan Kehutanan Nomor 10 Tahun 2024 tentang Pelindungan Hukum terhadap Orang yang Memperjuangkan Hak atas Lingkungan Hidup yang Baik dan Sehat
- 11 Bunyi Penjelasan Pasal 66: “Ketentuan ini dimaksudkan untuk melindungi korban dan/atau pelapor yang menempuh cara hukum akibat pencemaran dan/atau perusakan lingkungan hidup.”
- 12 Latar belakang gugatan ini diajukan oleh PT Kalimantan Lestari Mandiri (PT KLM) terhadap kedua akademisi Institut Pertanian Bogor (IPB) tersebut yang telah memberikan keterangan ahli dalam perkara kebakaran lahan gambut di areal perkebunan PT KLM di Kabupaten Kapuas, Kalimantan Tengah pada tahun 2018. Keterangan ahli tersebut digunakan sebagai dasar putusan yang telah berkekuatan hukum tetap (*inkracht van gewijsde*) yang menghukum PT KLM membayar ganti rugi materiil sebesar Rp89,3 miliar dan biaya pemulihan sebesar Rp210,5 miliar. Dalam pertimbangannya, Majelis Hakim menegaskan bahwa keterangan ahli yang disampaikan Prof. Bambang Hero Saharjo dan Prof. Basuki Wasis dalam persidangan merupakan bentuk perjuangan hak atas lingkungan hidup yang baik dan sehat sebagaimana dilindungi Pasal 66 UU No. 32 Tahun 2009 tentang Perlindungan dan Pengelolaan Lingkungan Hidup (UU PPLH). Majelis juga merujuk pada Putusan Mahkamah Konstitusi No. 119/PUU-XXIII/2025 yang memperluas perlindungan Pasal 66 UU PPLH untuk mencakup “setiap orang, termasuk korban, pelapor, saksi, ahli, dan aktivis lingkungan yang berpartisipasi dalam upaya perlindungan dan pengelolaan lingkungan hidup.” Berdasarkan Pasal 48 ayat (3) huruf c Perma No. 1 Tahun 2023, penyampaian pendapat, kesaksian, atau keterangan di persidangan termasuk dalam bentuk perjuangan hak atas lingkungan hidup yang dilindungi. Gugatan yang mengancam partisipasi tersebut merupakan pelanggaran terhadap Pasal 66 UU PPLH. <https://yldbhi.or.id/informasi/siaran-pers/preseden-baru-perindungan-pembela-lingkungan-pengadilan-terapkan-mekanisme-anti-slapp-melalui-putusan-sela/>

development oriented toward accelerating investment and exploitation of natural resources often trigger agrarian and ecological conflicts, especially in the territories of indigenous peoples and local communities. In such conflicts, environmental human rights defenders are often the most vulnerable because of their role in uncovering environmental impacts, questioning the legitimacy of licenses, and demanding state and corporate accountability.

This vulnerability is intensified by the lack of implementation of effective and coordinated protection mechanisms. While Anti-SLAPP provisions have been regulated, their application at the level of law enforcement and local governments is still constrained by lack of understanding, conflicts of interest, and hegemony of security and investment approaches over a human rights-based perspective. This trend is also reflected in the early policies of the Prabowo-Gibran administration, including the amendment to TNI Law and Polri Law, which have raised concerns among civil societies. On the field, the police and the military were deployed to print rice fields, cultivate rice or corn, as well as terrorize residents around the area of national strategic projects and vital national objects.¹³

13 Grahat negara, <https://www.tempo.co/lingkungan/program-ketahanan-pangan-ala-prabowo-2080989>

CHAPTER III. MONITORING FINDINGS

Environmental human rights defenders play a strategic role in protecting the right to a healthy environment and preserving natural resources including customary lands and indigenous territories, and advocating for public access to information related to development projects, particularly those linked to national strategic projects. The Prabowo-Gibran administration in 2025 demonstrated a growing trend of threats and attacks against environmental human rights defenders, including criminalization, intimidation, physical violence, and restrictions on advocacy space.

In terms of issues (object), the general trend indicates that the main issues are environmental destruction and pollution; indigenous community' right; and agrarian (land) conflict. This trend raises serious concerns regarding the protection of environmental human rights defenders and the implementation of regulations that guarantee their protection, as well as international standards ratified by Indonesia. In terms of the number of cases and the number of cases in each sector, the data certainly does not represent all cases occurring across Indonesia.

3.1 Number of Cases

Throughout 2025, 64 cases of threats and attacks against environmental human rights defenders were recorded, affecting a total of 259 individual victims (Male: 147, Female: 25, Unidentified/Undisclosed: 87) and 15 communities. In terms of the issues involved, the cases were mainly related to environmental issues (23 cases), indigenous communities (24 cases), and agrarian conflicts (17 cases).

The escalation peaked in December 2025 with 10 cases recorded across various regions, including Jakarta (3 cases), East Nusa Tenggara (2 cases), as well as one case each in Bandung (West Java), Riau, Aceh, South Sulawesi, and West Kalimantan.

The series of incidents included various forms of violence and intimidation, including:

1. The forced violent eviction of residents of Sukahaji, Bandung, West Java by hundreds of unidentified individuals carrying sharp weapons and excavators,
2. Intimidation of PT Krisrama to residents of Nangahale in NTT,
3. Physical attacks on the indigenous people of Sakai in Duri 13, Bathin Solapan District, Bengkalis, Riau by the employees of PT. Surya Inti Sawit (SIS),
4. Destruction and physical attacks on the indigenous people of Kawu-Kawu in Rampoang Village, North Luwu, South Sulawesi by the members of the military,
5. ZArrest of 5 indigenous people of Patiala Village, Bawa Lamboya District, West Sumba

Regency, East Nusa Tenggara by West Sumba Police,

6. Criminalization of the Customary Chief of Penjemputan Hamlet, Tarsisius Fendy Sesupi, Customary Chief of Lelayang Hamlet, Kualan Hilir Village, Ketapang Regency, West Kalimantan,
7. Terror against Iqbal Damanik, Greenpeace Campaign Manager, involving the throwing of a headless chicken carcass accompanied by a threatening letter targeting the safety of his family,
8. Terror against DJ Donny, a content creator, after criticizing the disaster mitigation in Sumatra. A headless chicken carcass accompanied by a threatening note was sent to his residence, and two unidentified individuals threw Molotov cocktails at his home,
9. Terror against Sherly Annavita, a content creator, in the form of rotten eggs being thrown and a threatening letter accompanied by a copy of her younger sibling's identity card (KTP), after she posted the condition of the Sumatra residents following the disaster.
10. Criminalization of Hendri Noveri, a laborer from the Suka Tani Village in Bireuen, Aceh, who vocalized the allegation of land grabbing and the violation of the terms of a mediation agreement regarding the dispute.

These patterns of attacks demonstrate that the threat against environmental human rights defenders are not only increasing quantitatively but are also becoming more diverse and severe in form.



Figure 2: Tarsisius Fendy Sesupi, Customary Chief of Lelayang Hamlet, West Kalimantan, was sued by PT Mayawana Persada with extortion charges after demanding customary sanctions previously agreed between both parties, which the company breached.

(Source: The Indigenous Peoples Advocacy Coalition)



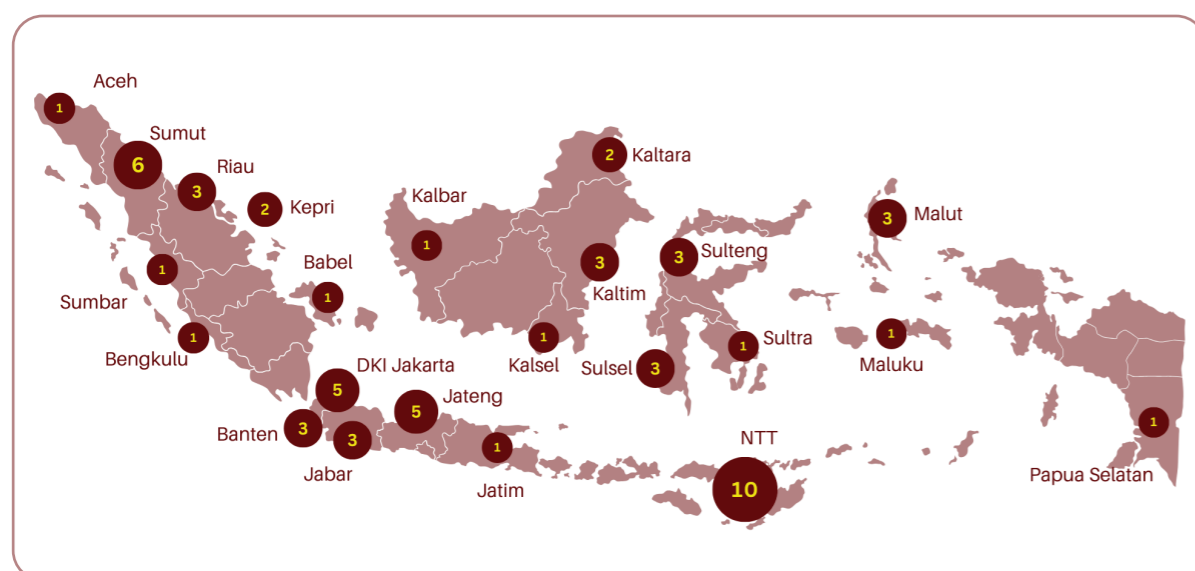
Table 1: Number of attacks and threats by month of occurrence

Semester 1		Semester 2	
Month	Total	Month	Total
January	6	July	5
February	5	August	5
March	4	September	3
April	3	October	6
May	5	November	6
June	6	December	10

3.2 Geographical Distribution

Cases of threats and attacks against environmental human rights Defenders throughout 2025 were recorded in nearly all regions of Indonesia. Of the 38 provinces, threats and attacks against the environmental human rights Defenders occurred in 23 provinces as shown in the figure below.

Figure 3: Geographical Distribution of Threat and Attack Cases



Kasus ancaman dan serangan terhadap Pembela HAM Lingkungan Hidup yang terjadi di 23 provinsi meliputi:

Table 2: Number of attacks and threats by month of occurrence

No	Province	Number of Cases
1	Aceh	1
2	North Sumatra	6
3	West Sumatra	1
4	Riau	3
5	Riau Islands	2
6	Bengkulu	1
7	Bangka Belitung	1
8	Banten	3
9	Jakarta	5
10	West Java	3
11	Central Java	5
12	East Java	1
13	West Kalimantan	1
14	East Kalimantan	3
15	North Kalimantan	2
16	Southern Kalimantan	1
17	Central Sulawesi	3
18	South Sulawesi	3
19	Southeast Sulawesi	1
20	East Nusa Tenggara	10
21	Maluku	1
22	North Maluku	3
23	South Papua	1

East Nusa Tenggara is the province with the highest number of cases due to several factors. First, the local mass media consistently reported cases of threats and attacks against the environmental human rights Defenders. Flores and the Portal NTT have been fairly consistent in covering and reporting the latest news on attacks on environmental human rights Defenders in East Nusa Tenggara. Second, it is relatively easy to find media coverage regarding attacks or threats against the environmental human rights Defenders of the province, particularly through local mass media such as Flores and Portal NTT. Flores and Portal NTT feature website layouts that enhance the user experience in finding closely related news, including reports on cases of attacks against environmental human rights Defenders. Third, the increasing number of attacks against environmental human rights defenders in NTT has been driven by the government's prioritization of investment that disregards environmental protection and

community rights.

According to Viktor Manbait, as reported by RRI.co.id¹⁴:

“We see that the government and major investors tend to receive preferential treatment when it comes to criminalization of ordinary people defending their living space. “Yet we all know that environmental problems in NTT are acute structural problems. This means that the government itself plays a dominant role in facilitating the destruction and devastation of the environment. Law enforcement authorities in NTT appear to neglect this issue. For example, they overlook the potential corruption of natural resources carried out by the government in NTT.”

3.3 Number and Profile of Victims

Indigenous peoples, both as individuals and as communities, recorded the highest number of threats and attacks as illustrated in the figure below. This indicates that the protection of human rights defenders in the indigenous community sector, particularly those living in remote rural areas, remains inadequate. The findings in this report indicate that the indigenous communities of Natinggir and Sihaporas are located in a relatively remote areas and are confronting a large corporation, namely PT. Toba Pulp Lestari.



Table 3: Individual victim identities

No	Individual Identity	Total
1	Farmers	40
2	Fisherman	4
3	Residents	52
4	Academics	4
5	Activists	13
6	Laborers	1
7	Indigenous communities	134
8	Students	1

14 <https://rri.co.id/ende/regional/1184198/ntt-darurat-penegakan-hukum-lingkungan-berbasis-ham>

9	Legal Counsel	4
10	Journalists	3
11	Religious Leaders	1
12	Celebrity	2
13	Unidentified	16

Table 4: Group/community-based victim identities

No	Group Identity	Total
1	Farmer groups	2
2	Civil Society Organizations	3
3	Community Resident Groups	3
4	Indigenous communities	7

3.4 Forms of Threats and Attacks against the Environmental Human Rights Defenders

Throughout 2025, out of the 64 recorded cases of threats and attacks against environmental human rights defenders, there were 16 forms of threats and attacks with a total of 90 acts. The findings indicate that, within a single incident, environmental human rights defenders frequently experience more than one form of threat or attack simultaneously.

In this report, the threats and/or attacks against environmental human rights defenders are classified using the framework established in the Standards, Norms, and Regulations (SNP) No. 6 on Human Rights Defenders issued by the National Commission on Human Rights (Komnas Ham) in 2021. Threats and/or attacks against Human Rights Defenders are classified into, but not limited to, the following forms:

- a. Threats and/or attacks resulting in physical, psychological, sexual, verbal harm and death;
- b. Threats and/or attacks against property, both personal and organizational, used in human rights defense activities;
- c. Digital threats and/or attacks against individuals or organizations engaged in human rights defense activities;
- d. Threats and/or attacks involving discrimination against human rights defenders;
- e. Threats and/or attacks involving the arbitrary use of the law;
- f. Threats and/or attacks involving the deprivation of economic, social, and cultural rights.

¹⁵

The following is a brief description of the 16 forms of threats and/or attacks against environmental human rights defenders from 64 cases.

15 Komisi Nasional Hak Asasi Manusia (Komnas HAM), Standar Norma dan Pengaturan (SNP) Nomor 6 tentang Pembela Hak Asasi Manusia, 2021, Paragraf 92, hal. 27

1) Criminalization

Under the SNP on Human Rights Defenders, form of attacks such as criminalization and civil lawsuits against environmental human rights Defenders may be classified as a form of threat and/or attack involving the arbitrary use of laws. *“The arbitrary use of law constitutes a retaliation against human rights defenders. Such action may be the use of criminal law instruments or civil lawsuits. The use of criminal law to target Human Rights Defenders is often carried out by applying vague provisions and seeking faults unrelated to the human rights defense being undertaken. Civil lawsuits are used to intimidate Human Rights Defenders.”*¹⁶

During the 2025 period, threats and attacks in the form of criminalization reached 35 cases involving a total of 191 victims (Female: 15, Male: 121, Unidentified: 42, Community: 13). There were at least 31 legal provisions charged to the environmental human rights Defenders. In some cases, environmental human rights defenders even charged under multiple legal provisions simultaneously. These legal provisions include:

Table 5: List of Legal Provisions Used to Criminalize environmental human rights Defenders throughout 2025

No	Legal Provisions	Cases
1	Article 160 of the Indonesian Criminal Code on Incitement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7 residents of Papanggo Village, Lebak, Banten; 6 residents of Wawonii Island, Southeast Sulawesi; Satria Ardy Tuahan, member of Negeri Haya indigenous community, North Maluku; 11 residents of Cibetus Village, Serang, Banten; Hartono and residents of Watutau Village, Poso, Central Sulawesi; 3 farmers from Ijen slope, Bondowoso Regency, East Java; 4 fishermen from the coastal area Muara Badak, Bontang, East Kalimantan; Christian Toibo and residents of Watutau Village, Poso, Central Sulawesi; Dera and Munif, activists from Walhi, Central Java;
2	Article 170 of the Indonesian Criminal Code on violence against persons and destruction of property	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7 residents of Papanggo Village, Lebak, Banten; 6 residents of Wawonii Island, Southeast Sulawesi; 4 indigenous residents of Lamtoras Simalungun, North Sumatra; 11 residents of Cibetus Village, Serang, Banten; 5 residents of Sumberejo Village, Jepara, Central Java; 2 (two) members of the Mentawai Indigenous Community in West Sumatra; 5/7 seven residents of Alar Jiban Village, Tangerang, Banten; 5 indigenous community members of Patiala Bawa Village, West Sumba, East Nusa Tenggara;

16 Komisi Nasional Hak Asasi Manusia (Komnas HAM), Standar Norma dan Pengaturan (SNP) Nomor 6 tentang Pembela Hak Asasi Manusia, 2021, Paragraf 129, hal. 35

3	Article 107(a) of Law No. 39/2014 on Plantations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Syachyunie at Pangkalan Bun, West Kalimantan; Mada Yunus in Maniala Village, Buol Regency, Central Sulawesi; 2 (two) indigenous community members of Dayak Agabag, in Nunukan, North Kalimantan; Peri Susanto and a number of residents of Seruyan, Central Kalimantan;
4	Article 162 of Law No. 2/2025 on Fourth Amendments to Law No. 4/2009 on Mineral and Coal Mining	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Afrida Erna Ngato, an indigenous woman in North Maluku; 11 indigenous community members of Maba Sangaji in North Maluku; 5 residents of Sumberejo Village, Jepara, Central Java;
5	Article 335 paragraph (1) of the Indonesian Criminal Code on coercion by force or threat	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Anastasya and 14 residents of Soge and Goban Tribes in NTT; 7 residents of Alar Jiban village, Tangerang, Banten; Tarsisius Fendy Sesupi, in Ketapang Regency, West Kalimantan;
6	Article 187 paragraph (1) of the Indonesian Criminal Code on Crimes Endangering Public Safety.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Husein Mahulau, an Indigenous resident of Haya Village in North Maluku; 11 residents of Cibetus village in Serang, Banten;
7	Article 55(a) of Law No. 39/2014 on Plantations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Mada Yunus in Maniala Village, Buol Regency, Central Sulawesi; Two (2) members of the Dayak Agabag Indigenous Community in Nunukan, North Kalimantan;
8	Article 362 of the Indonesian Criminal Code on ordinary theft.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Yola Nifta Rompas and 13 farmers in South Minahasa; 2 (two) farmers from Dayunan Hamlet, Kendal, Central Java;
9	Article 2 paragraph (1) of Law No. 12/1951 on Sharp Weapons	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11 indigenous community members of Maba Sangaji in North Maluku; 9 farmers from Parangluara Village, South Sulawesi;
10	Article 368 paragraph (1) of the Indonesian Criminal Code (extortion & threat)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11 indigenous community members of Maba Sangaji in North Maluku; Tarsisius Fendy Sesupi, in Ketapang, West Kalimantan;
11	Article 167(1) of the Indonesian Criminal Code (unlawful entry onto another person’s property without permission)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4 (four) coastal fishermen from Muara Badak, Bontang, East Kalimantan; 6 residents of Sukahaji Village in Bandung, West Java;
12	Article 310 of the Indonesian Criminal Code on defamation.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Anastasya and 14 residents of Soge and Goban Tribes in NTT; Pastor Steph Tupeng Witin, SVD, in Nagekeo, NTT;
13	Article 385 of the Indonesian Criminal Code on land grabbing.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6 residents of Sukahaji Village in Bandung, West Java; 2 (two) farmers from Dayunan Hamlet, Kendal, Central Java;
14	Article 28 (3) Law No. 1/2024 on the Second Amendment to Law No. 11/2008 on Electronic Information and Transactions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Erasmus Frans Mandato, resident of Bo’a Village, NTT; Hendra Noveri in Bireuen, Aceh
15	Article 242 (1) of the Indonesian Criminal Code (false testimony)	A legal warning letter against Bambang Hero by Andi Kusuma Law firm

16	Article 333 of the Indonesian Criminal Code (unlawful deprivation of a person's liberty)	3 residents of Rempang, Riau Islands;
17	Article 158 of Law No. 2/2025 on amendments IV to Law No. 4/2009 on Mineral and Coal Mining	Afrida Erna Ngato, an indigenous woman in North Maluku;
18	Article 27(a) Law No. 1/2024 on Second Amendment to Law No. 11/2008 (Electronic Information and Transactions)	Riski Jouronga together with residents of Kawasi Village, North Maluku;
19	Article 169 of the Indonesian Criminal Code (Association participation for crimes)	6 residents of Sukahaji Village in Bandung, West Java;
20	Chapter 351 of the Indonesian Criminal Code on assault.	6 residents of Sukahaji Village in Bandung, West Java;
21	Article 389 of the Indonesian Criminal Code (destruction/ removal of land boundary marks.	6 residents of Sukahaji Village in Bandung, West Java;
22	Chapter 88 of the Indonesian Criminal Code related to criminal conspiracy.	6 residents of Sukahaji Village in Bandung, West Java;
23	Article 192 of the Indonesian Criminal Code on building destruction.	6 residents of Sukahaji Village in Bandung, West Java;
24	Article 211 of the Indonesian Criminal Code (coercion against State officials by violence/threat of violence)	2 (two) people of the Mandawai Indigenous Community of West Sumatra;
25	Article 212 of the Indonesian Criminal Code (against the Office with violence/)	2 (two) people of the Mandawai Indigenous Community of West Sumatra;
26	Article 214 of the Indonesian Criminal Code (fighting officials together)	2 (two) people of the Mandawai Indigenous Community of West Sumatra;
27	Article 336 of the Indonesian Criminal Code (violent threat)	3 (three) residents of Nggoer Village, West Manggarai, NTT;
28	Article 340 of the Indonesian Criminal Code (premeditated murder)	Misran Toni in Musara Kate, Paser, East Kalimantan;
29	Article 45 a (2) Law No. 1/2024 on the Second Amendment to Law No. 11/2008 on Electronic Information and Transactions	Dera and Munif, activists from Walhi, Central Java
30	Article 28 (2) Law No. 1/2024 on the Second Amendment to Law No. 11/2008 on Electronic Information and Transactions	Dera and Munif, activists from Walhi, Central Java

31	Article 321 of the Indonesian Criminal Code (obstruction of public roads)	Hendra Noveri in Bireuen, Aceh
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Two cases remain without confirmed legal provisions: 1) The arrest of Pangihutan Sijabat, Chairperson of Pejuang Tani bersama Alam (Farmers for Nature) and 34 residents of Hite Hoting Hamlet, Parbuluan VI Village, Parbuluan District, Dairi Regency, North Sumatra, who opposed the activities of PT Gunung Raya Utama Timber Industries (GRUTI). In 2020, the company allegedly buried 10 small rivers, raising concerns among residents regarding a potential water crisis.¹⁷ However, the arrests were suspected to be related to allegations of destruction (Article 170 of the Indonesian Criminal Procedure Code) or incitement (Article 160 of the Indonesian Criminal Procedure Code). And 2) examination by the Meranti Islands resort police of three farmers on Rangsang Island, Meranti Islands, Riau who were accused of damaging crops and camps (infrastructure facilities) within the Annual Work Plan (RKT) area of Industrial Plantation Forest (*Hutan Tanaman Industri*, HTI). However, it was suspected to be linked to Law No. 18 of 2013 on the Prevention and Eradication of Forests (P3H Law) as amended by Law No. 6 of 2023 on the Enactment of Government Regulation in Lieu of Law No. 2 of 2022 on Job Creation into Law on the allegations of destruction of crops and camps (infrastructure facilities) within the Annual Work Plan (RKT) area of Industrial Forest (HTI) or Article 406 of Indonesian Criminal Code on destruction of property.

2) Lawsuit

In addition to the above criminalization, the arbitrary use of law through civil lawsuits also occurred against environmental human rights defenders. It was experienced by environmental experts, Bambang Hero Saharjo and Basuki Wasis. Both received a second summons from the Cibinong District Court for being sued to court by PT Kalimantan Lestari Mandiri (KLM).¹⁸ PT KLM alleged that the expert testimonies provided by Bambang Hero Saharjo and Basuki Wasis who were presented by KLHK contributed to PT KLM being found liable in court. The company is now seeking to hold both experts jointly and severally liable for damages amounting to Rp 273,984,257,122 and immaterial damages of Rp 90,683,577,431.¹⁹

3) Unlawful Arrest

Unlawful arrest refers to coercive measure taken by an investigator who violates the procedures of the Indonesian Criminal Procedure Code (KUHAP), such as arrests made without a warrant, a mistarget, or arrests without sufficient preliminary evidence. Such

17 <https://bakumsu.or.id/ketua-pejuang-tani-bersama-alam-dan-33-orang-pejuang-lingkungan-desa-parbuluan-vi-kabupaten-dairi-ditangkap/>

18 Berdasarkan putusan pengadilan, PT KLM harus membayar ganti rugi sebesar Rp 89 miliar dan melakukan pemulihan lingkungan sebesar Rp 210 miliar karena terbukti bersalah yang mengakibatkan terbakarnya 511 hektar lahan gambut areal perusahaan, sehingga menyebabkan kabut asap. <https://www.tempo.co/hukum/ahli-lingkungan-bambang-hero-dan-basuki-wasis-digugat-lagi-1870704>, <https://celcj.law.ui.ac.id/ Pernyataan-sikap-celcj-fh-ui-gugatan-prof-bambang-hero-dan-prof-basuki-wasis-adalah-slapp/>

19 <https://www.tempo.co/hukum/ahli-lingkungan-bambang-hero-dan-basuki-wasis-digugat-lagi-1870704>, <https://celcj.law.ui.ac.id/ Pernyataan-sikap-celcj-fh-ui-gugatan-prof-bambang-hero-dan-prof-basuki-wasis-adalah-slapp/>

actions may potentially violate human rights. It may also be classified as a form of threat and/or attack involving the arbitrary use of law. There were approximately 59 victims (Male: 3, Unidentified: 56) across 5 (five) suspected cases involving unlawful arrest, including:

1. Forced arrests and the designation of suspects of 11 residents of Maba Sansalah, East Halmahera. In a press release, Commissioner Bambang Suharyono, Head of Public Relations of the North Maluku Regional Police, stated that of the 27 arrested, 11 were suspects and 16 were released due to insufficient evidence;
2. Forced arrest and the designation of suspects against 11 residents of Cibetus Village, Curug Goong, Padarincang District, Serang Regency, Banten;
3. The arrest without warrant of Pangihutan Sijabat, Chairperson of Pejuang Tani Bersama Alam by the Dairi Police and the forced arrest of 34 residents of Hite Hoting hamlet, Parbuluan VI Village, Parbuluan District, Dairi Regency, North Sumatra, who were protesting the activities of PT Gunung Raya Utama Timber Industries (GRUTI).
4. The detention of Misran Toni, an environmental activist, by the East Kalimantan Regional Police. Based on the District Court Decision No. 91/Pen.PID/2025/PN.TGT issued by Tanah Grogot District Court, his detention period was extended until 12 November 2025. However, on October 22, 2025, Misran was temporarily released from detention and assigned 'non-custodial supervision' status. On November 18, 2025, Misran and his legal counsel, Fathur Rahman, were released from his detention. 30 minutes after his release, Misran was re-arrested by Paser District Police based on Arrest Warrant No. SP.Han/95/X/RES 1.6/2025/Reskrim. On April 16, 2026, the judge of Tanah Grogot District Court acquitted Misran of all charges;
5. The detention of Gunretno, an environmental activist in the Kendeng Mountains and Chairperson of Jaringan Masyarakat Peduli Pegunungan Kendeng (JMPPK).



Figure 4. Gunretno attending a police summons of the Central Java Regional Police. (Source: ANTARA FOTO)

4) Physical Attack

A physical attack is defined as an aggressive action that directly targets individuals or infrastructure, such as robbery, asset/hardware destruction, or direct violence. Under SNP No. 6 on Human Rights Defenders, an attack refers to actions that results in physical, psychological, sexual harm, death, or property damage, including attacks carried out with or without electronic or non-electronic means.²⁰ Such physical attacks can be classified as a form of threat and/or attack resulting in physical, psychological, sexual, verbal harm, and death.²¹ Threats and/or physical attacks against Human Rights Defenders include two acts, namely physical violence intended to cause death and physical violence intended to cause injury. Physical violence aimed at causing death includes circumstances beyond the control of the attacker/perpetrator that do not cause death.²² There have been 10 recorded cases of physical attacks against environmental human rights defenders involving a total of 23 victims (Female: 2, L:2, TT:16, Community:3), as follows:

1. Two indigenous people of Nagasaribu, Pohan Jae Siborongborong Village, North Tapanuli, North Sumatra suffered a physical attack in the form of beating with an iron rod punch carried out by the security officer of PT. TPL. One of the two victims was a woman;
2. Nur Simbolon, a resident of the Teluk Bakau area, Nongsa District, Batam City was nearly buried alive by employees of BP Batam while attempting to block a project truck that was about to evict her land;



Figure 5. Nur Simbolon went viral on social media for blocking a truck that was dumping soil for a land reclamation project, almost resulting in her being buried alive. (Source: detiknews)

- 20 Komisi Nasional Hak Asasi Manusia (Komnas HAM), Standar Norma dan Pengaturan (SNP) Nomor 6 tentang Pembela Hak Asasi Manusia, 2021, Paragraf 82, hal. 25
- 21 Komisi Nasional Hak Asasi Manusia (Komnas HAM), Standar Norma dan Pengaturan (SNP) Nomor 6 tentang Pembela Hak Asasi Manusia, 2021, hal. 28
- 22 Komisi Nasional Hak Asasi Manusia (Komnas HAM), Standar Norma dan Pengaturan (SNP) Nomor 6 tentang Pembela Hak Asasi Manusia, 2021, Paragraf 93, hal. 28

3. In addition to being criminalized, the indigenous people of Maba Sangaji experienced violence while resisting nickel mining activities by PT Position in their indigenous land;
4. A total of 33 indigenous people of Sihaporas or Lamtoras injured by physical attacks in the form of stone throwing and beating by unidentified individuals in black clothes who were allegedly affiliated to PT. TPL. Feny Siregar, a student and an agrarian conflict researcher, was also struck on the head with wooden object by security personnel of PT TPL, and her research evidence was removed by company workers;
5. The indigenous people of Natinggir in Simare Village suffered an attack by PT TPL and a group of freelance daily laborers (Buruh Harian Lepas/BHL). The attack resulted in three victims: One with a neck injury, one with a back injury, and one who fainted. Stones thrown at homes caused damage to six houses, two of which were severely damaged;
6. In addition to criminalization, residents of Parangluara Village, North Polongbangkeng District, Takalar Regency, South Sulawesi also experienced a physical violence in the form of being pulled, stepped on, and restrained by police officers;
7. The indigenous people of Rampi, South Sulawesi, were assaulted by 50 people organized by a village head involved in efforts to carry out illegal mining activities in the customary territory of Rampi people;
8. Five farmers of Pino Raya in Bengkulu who opposed the palm oil company, PT. Agro Bengkulu Selatan (ABS), due to their lack of legal permits, were shot by employees of the company.
9. A member of Sakai tribe in Duri 13, Bengkalis Riau suffered head injuries and bleeding after being attacked by employees of PT Sarana Inti Sawit (SIS). The attack allegedly occurred after the victim attempted to defend Fresh Fruit Bunches (FFBs) belonging to PT SIS that had been confiscated by the State;
10. Physical violence carried out by the TNI personnel against the indigenous people of Kawu-Kawu in Rampoang Village, North Luwu, South Sulawesi who were defending their customary land;

5) Unlawful Dispersal

Dispersal refers to actions of disbanding, scattering, stopping, or terminating a gathering.²³ Meanwhile, lawful means carried out in accordance with applicable laws, statutes, or regulations.²⁴ Thus, etymologically “unlawful dispersal of an activity” can be defined as the act of forcibly stopping or dispersing an activity (such as a demonstration, meeting, or event) that does not meet the requirements of applicable law or regulation. This unlawful dispersal may be classified as a threat and/or attack resulting in physical, psychological, sexual, verbal harm, and death;

Human rights defenders are vulnerable to threats and/or attacks in the form of violence and intimidation that have a psychological impact. They may be intimidated

23 Arti kata bubar - Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia (KBBI) Online

24 Arti kata sah - Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia (KBBI) Online

in the form of shouts, insults, yelling, slaps, even expulsion. They may also receive terror through text message, social media, and death threats. The implications of such intimidation are psychological trauma and the excessive feelings of anxiety experienced by Human Rights Defenders.²⁵

This unlawful dispersal occurred in one case involving two victims (two organizations), namely: dispersal of the peaceful protest action organized by TuK Indonesia and WALHI Central Kalimantan by the BNI, security guard, and police. .

6) Homicide

Homicide is the process, method, or act of killing. This term derives from “kill” which means to take, deprive, or end another person’s life. In general, it refers to an intentional act or negligence that results in the death of another person²⁶. Homicide may be classified as threats and/or attacks resulting in physical, psychological, sexual, verbal harm, and death; Threats and/or physical attacks against Human Rights Defenders include two acts, namely physical violence intended to cause death and physical violence intended to cause injury. Physical violence intended to cause death includes circumstances beyond the control of the attacker/perpetrator that do not cause death. The physical violence that led to the death of Human Rights Defenders constitutes murder. This type of violence is a material offense, meaning the crime is considered to occur if there has been a result. Human rights defenders often fall victim to murder as a consequence of their work. Physical violence intended to cause injury may affect Human Rights Defenders or their family members.²⁷

During this period, there was a murder case against environmental human rights defenders, namely Rudolfus Oktavianus Ruma, an environmental activist from East Nusa Tenggara. He was found dead in a bamboo hut with a rope tied around his neck.

7) Theft

Theft is the act of secretly or unlawfully taking another person’s property without permission.²⁸ Theft in the context of threats and/or attacks against environmental human rights defenders constitutes a threat and/or attack involving the deprivation of economic, social, and cultural rights.

Human rights defenders face vulnerabilities related to economic, social, and cultural rights. Threats and/or attacks against the enjoyment of economic, social, and cultural rights are often used to hinder human rights defense activities.²⁹

Theft occurred in one case involving a single victim, namely during an attack on the Natinggir indigenous community by the parties of a company (PT). TPL, identified as representatives of the company (PT). TPL also committed theft at a small shop (warung) owned by a member of the Natinggir Indigenous community.

25 Komisi Nasional Hak Asasi Manusia (Komnas HAM), Standar Norma dan Pengaturan (SNP) Nomor 6 tentang Pembela Hak Asasi Manusia, 2021, Paragraf 99, h. 29

26 <https://kbbi.web.id/bunuh>

27 Komisi Nasional Hak Asasi Manusia (Komnas HAM), Standar Norma dan Pengaturan (SNP) Nomor 6 tentang Pembela Hak Asasi Manusia, 2021, Paragraf 93, hal. 28

28 Arti kata curi - Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia (KBBI) Online

29 Komisi Nasional Hak Asasi Manusia (Komnas HAM), Standar Norma dan Pengaturan (SNP) Nomor 6 tentang Pembela Hak Asasi Manusia, 2021, Paragraf 133, hal. 36

8) Terrorism

Terrorism may be classified as a threat and/or attack resulting in physical, psychological, sexual, verbal harm, and death;

*Human rights defenders are vulnerable to threats and/or attacks in the form of violence and intimidation that have a psychological impact. They may be intimidated in the form of shouts, insults, yelling, slaps, even expulsion. They may also receive terror through text message, social media, and death threats. The implications of such intimidation are psychological trauma and the excessive feelings of anxiety experienced by Human Rights Defenders.*³⁰

There were 5 cases of threats and/or attacks against environmental human rights defenders in the form of terrorism, involving 5 individual victims (2 women and 3 men) and 1 community, namely:

1. The case of Riski Jouronga. In addition to being reported under Article 27(a) Law No. 1/2024 on the Second Amendment to Law No. 11/2008 on Electronic Information and Transactions (ITE) regarding defamation, Riski, together with the residents of Kawasi, also experienced intimidation and discrimination from the police, National Armed Forces (TNI) and local government officials;
2. Delima Silalahi, a female environmental activist who actively advocates for the rights of indigenous people and is also a member of the National Council of the Agrarian Reform Consortium (KPA), received a threatening package of bird carcass from an unknown sender. The terror occurred after Delima and hundreds of people held a demonstration demanding that the North Tapanuli Regency Government and the Regional House of Representatives (DPRD) take firm action and immediately close PT. TPL;
3. Ramond Dony Adam, also known as DJ Donny, was subjected to intimidation through the delivery of headless chicken carcass and threatening letter. The terror continued with Molotov cocktail attacks by unidentified perpetrators. The terror followed after his speaking up about the state of natural disasters in Sumatra.
4. Iqbal Damanik, Greenpeace Campaign Manager, was subjected to intimidation through the delivery of headless chicken carcass accompanied by a threatening letter directed at his family. The terror followed after his speaking up about the state of natural disasters in Sumatra.
5. Sherly Annavita, a content creator, received threatening messages and her car was vandalized with spray paint, pelted with rotten eggs, and a threatening letter attached with a photo of her younger sibling's ID card. This terror occurred after she actively spoke out about the conditions of natural disasters in Sumatra.³¹

30 Komisi Nasional Hak Asasi Manusia (Komnas HAM), Standar Norma dan Pengaturan (SNP) Nomor 6 tentang Pembela Hak Asasi Manusia, 2021, Paragraf 99, h. 29

31 <https://www.tempo.co/politik/sherly-annavita-masih-dapat-teror-berupa-pesan-ancaman-21038796>



Figure 6. A delivery of rotten eggs, a threatening letter, and vandalism on Sherly Annavita's car. (Source: Instagram/@sherlyannavita)

9) Intimidation

Intimidation is defined as an act frightening or threatening someone (particularly to force them to do something).³² Intimidation may be classified as a form of threat and/or attack resulting in physical, psychological, sexual, verbal harm, and death;

*Human rights defenders are vulnerable to threats and/or attacks in the form of violence and intimidation that have a psychological impact. They may be intimidated in the form of shouts, insults, yelling, slaps, even expulsion. They may also receive terror through text message, social media, and death threats. The implications of such intimidation are psychological trauma and the excessive feelings of anxiety experienced by Human Rights Defenders.*³³

Threats and/or attacks in this form of intimidation occur in 11 cases with a total of 12 victims (Female: 4, Male: 1, Unidentified: 3, Community: 4), as follows:

1. Afrida Erna Ngato, an indigenous woman from North Maluku. In addition to being criminalized, Afrida was also intimidated through a company-initiated police report.
2. A TV journalist in Bogor was intimidated by the Head of Wanaherang Village, Gunung Putri District, Bogor Regency.
3. Residents of Pundenrejo Tayu, Pati, Central Java were intimidated by PT Laju Perdana Indah through the deployment of masked and physically imposing individuals to pressure residents to vacate the area.

32 <https://kbbi.web.id/intimidasi>

33 Komisi Nasional Hak Asasi Manusia (Komnas HAM), Standar Norma dan Pengaturan (SNP) Nomor 6 tentang Pembela Hak Asasi Manusia, 2021, Paragraf 99, h. 29

4. Dayak Agabag Indigenous residents repeatedly received intimidation from PT. Karangjuang Hijau Lestari (KHL) in the form of threats that state apparatus would be mobilized and that residents would be arrested and imprisoned.
5. Siti Rabiah, a resident of Mangkupadi Village, admitted to receiving intimidation in the form of destruction of houses from PT Kalimantan Industrial Park Indonesia.
6. Journalists of Samarinda Pos and Kompas were restricted in their reporting by an official from the East Kalimantan Environmental Agency.
7. Hermina Mawa, also known as Mama Mince, a resident of Malapoma Hamlet, was surrounded by four intelligence officers who told her not to speak too much.
8. Narsinda Gatu, a student and activist who campaigned against the construction of Lambo reservoir in NTT. Narsinda was intimidated by Adjunct Police Commissioner (AKP) Serfolus Tegu Dua through a communication platform (WhatsApp).
9. Pastor Steph Tupeng, a writer, but was also intimidated by accusations of defamation against AKP Serfolus Tegu Dua. Subsequently, Pastor Steph was reported by AKP Sefolus to the Nagekeo Police, NTT.
10. The Rampi indigenous people in addition to being physically attacked, also experienced intimidation from people organized by an alleged village head official.
11. Since the beginning, the citizens of Nangahale felt intimidated by PT Krisrama's activities that carried out land clearing (evictions) that continuously trigger rising public anxiety.

10) Stigmatization

Stigma is defined as a negative attribute attached to a person due to their environmental influences. Stigmatization is the process of assigning negative labels or markings, which often leads to prejudice, discrimination, and a reduction in a person's self-esteem.³⁴ Stigmatization can be classified as a threat and/or an attack by discriminating against human rights defenders.

Human rights defenders who fight for the issue of religious freedom including in the construction of places of worship, the defense of certain beliefs or religions often experience intimidation, negative labeling, or stigma of "infidels", even the threat of murder or acts of violence.³⁵

The stigmatization in the context of environmental human rights defenders in the period 2025 was recorded in only one case involving one victim of an indigenous community, Maba Sangaji, who were stigmatized as "preman" (thugs) considered to disturbing by the

34 <https://kbbi.web.id/stigma>

35 Komisi Nasional Hak Asasi Manusia (Komnas HAM), Standar Norma dan Pengaturan (SNP) Nomor 6 tentang Pembela Hak Asasi Manusia, 2021, Paragraf 125, h. 35

police officers. The label of "thuggery" label against residents rejecting mining activities can legitimize violence against indigenous communities. The police equate the struggles for land rights and living space with thuggery.



Figure 7. The ruling hearing of 11 indigenous people of Maba Sangaji in Soasio District Court, Tidore Kepulauan City, 16 October 2025. (Source: Amnesty International Indonesia)

11) Discrimination

Discrimination is any direct or indirect restriction, harassment, or exclusion based on human differentiation on the basis of religion, tribe, race, ethnicity, group, class, social status, economic status, sex, language, political beliefs, resulting in the reduction, deviation or elimination of the recognition, enjoyment, or exercise of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the lives of both individuals and collectives in the fields of politics, economics, law, social, cultural, and other aspects of life.³⁶ Discrimination can be classified as a threat and/or attack by discriminating the Human Rights Defenders.

Human rights defenders may face threats and/or attacks from their own family environment. Human rights defenders who work on issues of people with different sexual orientations, environmental protection, land rights, and indigenous communities are vulnerable to exclusion or marginalization.³⁷

Discrimination that occurred in environmental human rights defenders in the period 2025 occurred in Riski Jourongan and residents of Kawasi Village, Obi Island, South Halmahera, North Maluku. Residents who support companies and government policies are prioritized in all public service affairs. Meanwhile those who choose to defend their village are always restricted, obstructed, made to face difficulties, and subjected to terror and intimidation.

36 Pasal 1 angka 3 Undang-Undang No. 39/1999 tentang HAM

37 Komisi Nasional Hak Asasi Manusia (Komnas HAM), Standar Norma dan Pengaturan (SNP) Nomor 6 tentang Pembela Hak Asasi Manusia, 2021, Paragraf 123, h. 34

12) Silencing

Etymologically, silencing comes from the root “silence” which means “suppressed” and “lack of sound”. Silence means the process or method of shutting someone up or making them unable to speak or express themselves.³⁸ Silence can be classified as a threat and/or attack by discriminating against the Human Rights Defenders.

*Human rights defenders may face threats and/or attacks from their own family environment. Human rights defenders who work on issues of people with different sexual orientations, environmental protection, land rights, and indigenous communities are vulnerable to exclusion or marginalization.*³⁹

There are 2 cases of threats and/or attacks in the form of silencing involving two victims (Female: 1, Male:1), namely:

1. Hermina Mawa (Mama Mince) from Malapoma Hamlet, Rendubutowe Village, South Aesesa District who frequently speaks out about the Lambo Reservoir Project. In addition to intimidation, Mama Mince also experienced silencing when trying to meet Gibran, as intelligence officers told her not to speak too much. While talking to Gibran, someone held and pulled her waist from behind and signaled her to stop talking;
2. Intimidation and criminalization of Pastor Steph Tupeng is considered by the concerned as a form of silencing against efforts to voice the rights of indigenous communities.

13) Destruction

Destruction refers to threat and/or attack on property, whether privately or organizationally owned, used in human rights defense activities as well as threats and/or attacks by deprivation of economic, social, and cultural rights. Several paragraphs in the Standards, Norms, and Regulations (SNP) No. 6 on Human Rights Defenders describe the following:

*Private ownership is the right over an object or the exclusive right of a person or company to control and enjoy economically valuable asset that is legally protected. Private ownership gives the owner the authority to prevent or prohibit others, without lawful right, from enjoying or using property without permission.*⁴⁰

*Human rights defenders face threats and/or violence against their property, in the form of destruction and confiscation.*⁴¹

Defenders of Indigenous community's rights face threats and/or attacks on collective or communal ownership of customary territories and natural resources.

38 <https://kbbi.web.id/bungkam>

39 Komisi Nasional Hak Asasi Manusia (Komnas HAM), Standar Norma dan Pengaturan (SNP) Nomor 6 tentang Pembela Hak Asasi Manusia, 2021, Paragraf 123, h. 34

40 Komisi Nasional Hak Asasi Manusia (Komnas HAM), Standar Norma dan Pengaturan (SNP) Nomor 6 tentang Pembela Hak Asasi Manusia, 2021, Paragraf 107, h. 30

41 Komisi Nasional Hak Asasi Manusia (Komnas HAM), Standar Norma dan Pengaturan (SNP) Nomor 6 tentang Pembela Hak Asasi Manusia, 2021, Paragraf 108, h. 31

*Threats and/or attacks are directed against areas and resources that indigenous communities have traditionally used. Threats and/or attacks on communal property occur by exploiting the vulnerability or weakness of the legal position of indigenous communities. Indigenous communities face divide-and-rule tactics, manipulation, and intimidation to undermine their struggle to defend their rights.*⁴²

*Human rights defenders face vulnerabilities related to economic, social, and cultural rights. Threats and/or attacks against the enjoyment of economic, social, and cultural rights are often used to hinder human rights defense activities.*⁴³

There were 4 cases of threats and/or attacks against environmental human rights defenders in the form of property destruction involving four victims (Male: 1, Community: 3), namely:

1. Heavy machines operated by PT. Kristus Raja Maumere (KRM) carried out eviction by demolishing hundreds of houses belonging to families of the Soge Natarmage and Goban Runut-Tana Ai tribes in Nangahale Village, Talibura District, Sikka Regency, East Nusa Tenggara (NTT). The TNI-Polri and Satpol PP apparatus were also on site to control the eviction process;
2. The attack against the Natinggir indigenous community members in Simare Village, Toba, North Sumatra was carried out by throwing stones at residents' houses, resulting in damage to six houses, two of which were severely damaged;
3. The house of Vincent Kwipalo, the indigenous community member of Yei Kampung Blandin Kayu, Jagebob District, Merauke who opposed PSN was attacked using arrows by 4 unidentified people (OTK);
4. The palm plantations belonging to the Kawu-Kawu Indigenous Community in Rampoang Village, North Luwu, South Sulawesi were destroyed and leveled using heavy equipment of the TNI personnel.

14) Digital Attacks: Hacking

Hacking is part of a digital attack that is classified as a threat and/or digital attack against a person or organization that carries out human rights defense activities.

Advances in information and communication technology while presenting many new opportunities and innovations, also creates a number of new challenges and threats for Human Rights Defenders. Threats and/or attacks faced by Human Rights Defenders have evolved, not only in the form of verbal, physical, or arbitrary use of the law, but also in the form of threats and/or attacks carried out through electronic means. Frank La Rue, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on freedom of expression and opinion, in 2011, stated that forms of threat to freedom of expression on the internet include arbitrary content blocking and filtering, arbitrary

42 Komisi Nasional Hak Asasi Manusia (Komnas HAM), Standar Norma dan Pengaturan (SNP) Nomor 6 tentang Pembela Hak Asasi Manusia, 2021, Paragraf 110, h. 31

43 Komisi Nasional Hak Asasi Manusia (Komnas HAM), Standar Norma dan Pengaturan (SNP) Nomor 6 tentang Pembela Hak Asasi Manusia, 2021, Paragraf 133, h. 36

*prosecution of internet users, cyberattacks, termination of access on grounds of intellectual property rights (IPR), the imposition of legal responsibility on internet service providers, privacy threats, and personal data.*⁴⁴

There were 2 cases of threats and/or hacking attacks against environmental human rights defenders with a total of 3 victims (Male:2, Community/Institution:1), namely:

1. The WhatsApp account of Iqbal Damanik, a Greenpeace activist, was hacked by an unidentified person (OTK) as Iqbal highlighted the mining case in Raja Ampat Papua.
2. The personal WhatsApp account of one of Satya Bumi’s staff members lost communication access for 3 hours.
3. Simultaneously, Instagram and TikTok account of Satya Bumi were targeted and subjected to a forced takeover attempt, the organization’s website suffered a DDoS (Distributed Denial of Service) attack causing a temporary loss of access. The attack was likely a retaliation for advocacy on nickel mines in Kabaena Island, Southeast Sulawesi.

15) Digital Attacks: Doxing

Doxing constitutes a form of a digital attack that is classified as a threat and/or digital attack against a person or organization engaged in human rights defense activities.

*Advances in information and communication technology while presenting many new opportunities and innovations, also creates a number of new challenges and threats for Human Rights Defenders. Threats and/or attacks faced by Human Rights Defenders have evolved, not only in the form of verbal, physical, or arbitrary use of the law, but also in the form of threats and/or attacks carried out through electronic means. Frank La Rue, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on freedom of expression and opinion, in 2011, stated that forms of threat to freedom of expression on the internet include arbitrary content blocking and filtering, arbitrary prosecution of internet users, cyberattacks, termination of access on grounds of intellectual property rights (IPR), the imposition of legal responsibility on internet service providers, privacy threats, and personal data.*⁴⁵

There was one case of doxing-related threats and/or attacks against environmental human rights defenders with a total of 2 victims (Male:1, Female:1), namely doxing attacks on 2 public lawyers of LBH Pekanbaru on Instagram and TikTok by unidentified persons (OTK) while both were advocating eviction cases in Rempang.

44 Komisi Nasional Hak Asasi Manusia (Komnas HAM), Standar Norma dan Pengaturan (SNP) Nomor 6 tentang Pembela Hak Asasi Manusia, 2021, Paragraf 111, h. 31

45 Komisi Nasional Hak Asasi Manusia (Komnas HAM), Standar Norma dan Pengaturan (SNP) Nomor 6 tentang Pembela Hak Asasi Manusia, 2021, Paragraf 108, h. 31

16) Digital Attacks: Impersonation

Impersonation constitutes a form of a digital attack classified as a threat and/or digital attack against individuals or organizations engaged in human rights defense activities.

*Advances in information and communication technology while presenting many new opportunities and innovations, also create a number of new challenges and threats for Human Rights Defenders. Threats and/or attacks faced by Human Rights Defenders have evolved, not only in the form of verbal, physical, or arbitrary use of the law, but also in the form of threats and/or attacks carried out through electronic means. Frank La Rue, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on freedom of expression and opinion, in 2011, stated that forms of threat to freedom of expression on the internet include arbitrary content blocking and filtering, arbitrary prosecution of internet users, cyberattacks, termination of access on grounds of intellectual property rights (IPR), the imposition of legal responsibility on internet service providers, privacy threats, and personal data.*⁴⁶

There was one case of doxing threats and/or attacks against environmental human rights defenders involving 2 victims (Male:1, Female: 1), namely impersonation attacks on 2 public lawyers LBH Pekanbaru by unidentified individuals (OTK) while they were advocating in an eviction case in Rempang.



Table 6: Types of attacks/threats against environmental human rights Defenders

NO	TYPE OF ATTACK/THREAT	TOTAL
1	DESTRUCTION	5
2	INTIMIDATION	15
3	PHYSICAL ATTACK	10
4	UNLAWFUL ARREST	8
5	UNLAWFUL DISPERSAL	1
6	CRIMINALIZATION (LEGAL MOBILIZATION)	35
7	HACKING	2
8	DOXING	1

46 Komisi Nasional Hak Asasi Manusia (Komnas HAM), Standar Norma dan Pengaturan (SNP) Nomor 6 tentang Pembela Hak Asasi Manusia, 2021, Paragraf 111, h. 31

9	IMPERSONATION	1
10	HOMICIDE	1
11	LAWSUIT	1
12	TERRORISM	5
13	STIGMATIZATION	1
14	DISCRIMINATION	1
15	SILENCING	2
16	THEFT	1
TOTAL OF ATTACKS AND THREATS		90

3.5 Patterns and Threats of Attack

a. Multiple victimization

An analysis of 64 cases of threats and attacks throughout 2025 showed that the impact on environmental human rights defenders could no longer be understood as a single accumulation of incidents. The pattern that emerges is a layered and repeated victimization. In the literature of environmental criminology, this is referred to as *layered victimization* or within Vickers' framework, *Hegemonic Environmental Lawfare* (HEL).

By definition, HEL refers to the use of legal instruments by those in power, in this context, the "state" to maintain hegemony related to the environment and resource extraction.⁴⁷

The repeated criminalization case of Bambang Hero Saharjo, a forestry professor at IPB University, illustrated how attacks and threats of environmental defenders are not limited to front-line defenders but also to experts who have been witnesses in criminal and civil corporate cases.

Throughout 2025, Bambang Hero faced two parallel attacks. First, on January 8, 2025, he was threatened with criminal prosecution by Andi Kusuma Law firm on allegations of providing false testimony under oath, after being deemed unqualified to calculate the environmental loss of Rp271 trillion in the corruption case involving PT Timah Tbk - which the Attorney General referred to as one of the largest components of state losses.

Second, on July 1, 2025, he was sued in civil court by PT Kalimantan Lestari Mandiri. The lawsuit is alleged to be a form of retaliation for his testimony in 2018 that became the basis for a court ruling ordering the corporation to pay Rp210.5 billion in restoration costs for fires affecting 511 hectares of peatland in Kapuas, Central Kalimantan.

On October 8, 2025, Cibinong District Court then issued an interlocutory decision declaring the lawsuit as *Strategic Lawsuit against Public Participation* (SLAPP), referring to Article 48 paragraph (3) letter c Supreme Court Regulation No. 1 of 2023 and Constitutional Court Decision No. 119/PUU-XXIII/2025.

⁴⁷ Wardana A. *Turning Defenders into Defendants: The Use of Lawfare against Environmental Activists in Southeast Asia*. Cambridge University Press; 2026.



Figure 8. Bambang Hero, Professor of Forestry at the Bogor Agricultural Institute, known as an environmental activist and forensic expert, faced two attacks in 2025, namely criminalization and civil lawsuits. (Source: betahita)

In the case of the 27 members of the Maba Sangaji indigenous Community, the practice of *Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation* (SLAPP) was framed by the officials as a form of "thuggery". The conflict began in 2024 when PT Position conducted nickel mining activities in indigenous territories without community consent. Rather than addressing land grabbing, the company instead conducted public outreach and recruitment in December 2024.

As a form of protest, on May 16, 2025, residents held customary rituals after the company's activities were considered to have damaged gardens, forests, and rivers. However, the action was subsequently criminalized. Residents were accused of obstructing the company operations, and 11 of 27 individuals were designated as suspects by police. They were also accused of carrying sharp weapons, although the tools were commonly used for forest-related activities. The police even labeled the action as "thuggery".

During the legal process, residents were reported to have experienced violence and assault. On October 16, 2025, the court found them guilty under Article 162 of the Mining Law (UU Minerba) and sentenced them to five months and eight days of imprisonment.

Meanwhile, throughout 2025, PT Toba Pulp Lestari (TPL) was recorded as having carried out at least five actions that resulted in threats and violence against residents. On January 16, 2025, four indigenous residents of Lamtoras, Simalungun, were convicted on charges of assault against company employees, despite the fact that they were defending disputed customary lands.

This series of incidents demonstrated a recurring pattern in which indigenous communities become the most affected parties in conflicts with corporations. The attacks not only threaten physical safety but also disrupt the continuity of their social and cultural lives. If left unchecked, this pattern has the potential to deepen legal protection inequality and increase the risk of future casualties.

b. Autocratic Legalism and the Effect of Silencing the Defenders

The repeated invocation of legal provisions has proven effective in silencing voices of dissent, while simultaneously exposing the utter ineffectiveness of the law in protecting the environment and defending environmental human rights activists. The 2025 monitoring findings identified repeated use of Article 162 of the Mining Law (UU Minerba) that reads,

“Any person who obstructs or interferes with the Mining Business activities of an IUP, IUPK, IPR, or SIPB holder that has met the requirements referred to in Article 136 paragraph (2) shall be subjected to imprisonment for a maximum of 1 (one) year or a fine of up to Rp100,000,000.00 (one hundred million rupiah)”.

Corporations have repeatedly used this provision to criminalize environmental human rights defenders. In 2025, this article was used in 3 cases involving Afrida Erna Ngato, an indigenous woman in North Maluku, 11 members of the Maba Sangaji Indigenous Community in East Halmahera, North Maluku, and 3 residents of Sumberejo Village, Jepara Regency, Central Java.

Residents who were never consulted or asked for consent regarding the company’s operations on their land have instead faced further repression through criminalization by the company. In many cases, residents’ struggles have even resulted in imprisonment. In fact, Article 66 of the Environmental Protection and Management Law (UU PPLH) should serve to protect the rights of environmental human rights defenders, yet the provision is frequently ignored.

“Any person who fights for the right to a good and healthy environment cannot be prosecuted criminally or sued civilly”.

As the number of attacks and threats exploded in 2025, the Ministry of Forestry (Kemenhut) and the Indonesian National Army (TNI) agreed on a Memorandum of understanding on the Sinergitas task and function of the Ministry of Forestry and Indonesian National Army No.PKS.4/MENHUT/SETJEN/3/2025/2025, No.NK/KUM.3/II/2/TNI.⁴⁸ Through this memorandum of understanding, TNI was granted an expanded role beyond its principal duties and functions.

The fundamental scope of this memorandum of understanding concerns the militarization of forests, including the use of forest areas for the benefit of state defense and national resilience. As a result, the TNI will extend its involvement into forest governance– which has been part of the civil society management area.

c. Terror as a Tool of Fear

Terrorism cases against environmental human defenders escalated in 2025, with 5 recorded incidents. These acts of terror targeted individuals who were vocal in raising environmental issues. The pattern of attacks sought to spread fear through the sending of

animal carcasses, vandalism, and threatening letters.

This escalation has affected everyone from activists to content creators who had reported about the flood disaster in Sumatra. These actions clearly indicate an attempt to silence environmental advocacy and ensure the sustainability of corporate activities.

This phenomenon also signals a serious threat to freedom of expression. It poses potential long-term impact on the decline of public participation in environmental human rights issues.

3.6 Perpetrators of Threats and Attacks

Perpetrators responsible for threats and attacks on environmental human rights defenders can be categorized into two groups: state and non-state actors. Data collected by Satya Bumi in 2024 showed that state actors were mostly comprised of police with 18 perpetrators, and the number increased to 25 perpetrators in 2025. This is contrary to the mandate of the police as an institution that should provide protection and a sense of security to the community.

In practice, public reports submitted to the police are often not followed up. In the Rempang case, for example, a complaint related to the destruction of the Rempang Eco City PSN project rejection banner was dismissed on the grounds of insufficient evidence. A similar situation occurred in the case involving the Maba Sangaji Indigenous Community, where law enforcement officers not only designated residents as suspects, but also accused them of carrying sharp weapons and labeled the denial as “thuggery”, although the tools carried were equipment commonly used for forest-related activities.

This situation demonstrates that the environmental human rights movement is still often seen as a threat. Amid efforts by civil society to maintain living space and environmental sustainability, repressive measures have emerged from state actors, ranging from physical violence, arrests, to armed intimidation.

On the other hand, the perpetrators of non-state actors in 2024 were dominated by unidentified persons (OTK) with 10 perpetrators. However, in 2025 there was a pattern shift, in which citizens became the most perpetrators with 51 people, followed by companies with 26 perpetrators.

Several cases illustrate this complexity. In Rampi, the land grabbing of indigenous community involves dozens of village officials who also conduct illegal mining and violence. Horizontal conflicts among residents have also occurred, as in the case of Vincen Kwipalo of the Yei tribe who suffered destruction of houses and vehicles. In addition, the company’s security unit have frequently been used as pressure against indigenous community, as repeatedly occurred in conflicts involving PT Toba Pulp Lestari in Natinggir and Sihaporas forests area. In many cases, the status of the perpetrator remains unclear, making it difficult for accountability efforts.

48 <https://www.scribd.com/document/835081948/MoU-Kementerian-Kehutanan-Tentara-Nasional-Indonesia-TNI-2025>



Figure 9. PT TPL Security Unit attacked the Sihaporas indigenous community (Source: IDN Times)



Table 7: Actors who carried out the attacks and threats against the environmental human rights Defenders

STATE ACTORS	TOTAL	NON-STATE ACTORS	TOTAL
Military	3	Corporations	26
Police	25	Corporate Security Unit	2
Regional government	3	Thug	1
Ministry/Institution	2	Residents	51
District Court	1	Entrepreneur	5
State-owned Enterprises	4	Legal Counsel	2
Prosecutors	1	Religious Leaders	1
		Indigenous communities	4
		Unidentified Persons	9

CHAPTER IV. IMPACT ON ENVIRONMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS AND ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENTS

Some of the impacts of attacks and threats to environmental human rights defenders include:

1. Economic Impact

Almost all attacks on environmental human rights defenders inflict economic losses. North Luwu farmers have lost 60 hectares of living space in the form of housing and land to work as a source of livelihood due to a unilateral grant from South Sulawesi Provincial Government to Kodam XIV/Hasanuddin for the construction of the TNI Headquarters. The residents emphasized that they were not opposed to the construction of the headquarters but instead urged that its location be relocated to other vacant area so as not to dispossess their farms and settlements. Economic losses were also experienced by some communities including the Natinggir Indigenous Community in Samire Village, Toba Regency, residents of Pundenrejo, Pati, Central Java.

2. Social Impacts

In many cases of land grabbing, stakeholders, such as governments and corporations involved, often turn communities of human rights defenders against each other. This practice of divide-and-conquer inevitably results in horizontal conflicts. This is reflected in the number of non-state actors, totaling up to 51 persons, who performed attacks and threats. According to anthropologist and researcher of the Centre of Restoration and regeneration Studies, Laksmi Adriani Savitri, corporations often exploit such pattern to divide communities—even within one tribe—as a means of intimidations and to facilitate projects opposed by certain members of the community. Such a pattern, Laksmi explained, “even creatively” is used by corporations to build intimidation for those who oppose.

Several examples of cases that occurred in this period were cases of attacks on Vincent, an environment human rights defender opposing the sugar cane PSN in Merauke from the Yei tribe conducted by a group of people from the clan of Blojei who had previously relinquished their customary land to the PSN sugarcane company. In addition to Vincent’s case, there were also incidents of conflict among residents in Kawasi Village, Obi Halmahera Island South, North Maluku.

3. Physical and Psychological Impacts

Physical violence including assault, threats of violence, destruction of property, and direct intimidation has affected the safety of human rights defenders (both physically and psychologically). Environmental human rights defenders in areas affected by agrarian conflict, mining activities, and indigenous territories frequently face threats and attacks

while defending their rights. The impact include: Physical injuries requiring long-term medical treatment; fear of moving freely, particularly at conflict area; material loss resulting from destruction of work tools or community advocacy bases. These conditions weaken the individual's capacity for advocacy and create inadequate health and safety protection needs.

In the aftermath of violence, many environmental human rights defenders experience psychological trauma, such as chronic anxiety, sleep disorders, and emotional distress. In addition to psychological trauma, environmental human rights defenders are subjected to social stigma or labeled as “troublemakers” or “obstacles to development” in local media and certain pro-development narratives, as experienced by the Natinggir indigenous community in Toba North Sumatra Regency in their conflict with PT. Toba Pulp Lestari.

CHAPTER V. STATE AND NON-STATE RESPONSES

The 2025 period demonstrates that despite the existence of various legal instruments and protection policies, the implementation remains limited. This analysis evaluates the response of governments, law enforcement institutions, protection mechanisms, and non-state actors, as well as their effectiveness in addressing the situation of environmental human rights Defenders.

a. Government

Of the 64 cases of threats and attacks on environmental human rights defenders, the government has, in most cases, failed to provide adequate protection. Although some support has been provided, it has not resulted in legal certainty regarding objects defended by environmental human rights defenders. In the case of 7 residents of Papanggo Hamlet in Mekarsari Village, Rangkasbitung District, Lebak, Banten, despite having support from the environment Service, they were unable to prevent summons issued by the Banten Regional Police. In addition to the residents of Papanggo Village, there are indigenous residents of Negeri Haya, Tehoru District, Central Maluku Regency, who are struggling to stop red sand mining, although they have requested hearing with the Acting Regent through the Regional People's Representative Council, the issue remains unresolved.

b. Response of Law Enforcement Authorities

Law enforcement officials, such as police, prosecutors, and courts have a normative mandate in accordance with the Regulation of the Minister of Environment and Forestry on the legal protection of persons fighting for the environment to protect the environmental human rights defenders. However, in practice, an ambivalent pattern persists. Several cases of criminalization of environmental activists indicate the misuse of legal procedures to silence advocacy efforts. Violence against environmental human rights defenders are seldom followed through, creating a sense of impunity for perpetrators.

At the police level, responses continue to demonstrate a lack of integrity. This can be seen in the case of Tarmizi in Lebak, who experienced confusion after reporting the mining entrepreneur to the police, the Environmental Agency, and the Governor of Banten, it was actually he and the local community who were summoned to be examined by the police as a result of the mining company's report. In many cases of arrests, police officers have at times failed to carry arrest warrants when detaining environmental human rights defenders, as experienced by Syahyuni in Kotawaringin Barat, West Kalimantan. In addition

to Syahyuni, three residents of Rempang and six residents of Wawonii Island, Konawe Regency, Sulawesi Islands, experienced similar incidents.

At the judicial level, the Panel of Judges also convicted several environmental human rights defenders, including four members of the Sihaporas Indigenous Community on January 16, 2025. However, in several cases such as those involving Bambang Hero and Sorbatua Siallagan, the panel of judges deserve appreciation for issuing acquittals.

c. Response of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and Advocacy Organizations

National and international NGOs usually hold multiple roles, such as monitoring threats or attacks (violations of human rights) against Environmental Human Rights Defenders. They often provide legal assistance and international advocacy for Environmental Human Rights Defenders facing criminalization. Besides, NGOs also play an important role in raising public awareness through media campaigns and capacity-building training for local communities.

In responding to threats and attacks against environmental human rights defenders, such as in the case of Bambang Hero, NGOs immediately provide massive support and expand support networks to support Bambang Hero's case. Several indigenous communities facing criminalization including Syahyuni and members of the Sihaporas Indigenous Community, also received legal assistance from PPMAN, an advocacy organization providing legal aid to indigenous communities subjected to criminalization. This demonstrates that NGOs have become key actors in filling the gap in state protection, particularly in areas that are difficult for the government to reach.



CHAPTER VI. CONCLUSION

Throughout 2025, environmental human rights defenders faced a significant increase in threats and attacks compared to 2024. This situation indicates a higher level of vulnerability. While various protection regulations are in place, the real-world practices show that legal instruments are often used—or abused—to suppress and weaken environmental human rights defenders. This situation reinforces the alleged *Strategic Lawsuit against Public Participation* (SLAPP) and autocratic legalism utilized to subdue public participation and undermine environmental activism.

The report shows that threats to environmental human rights defenders cannot be separated from national development orientations that still prioritize investment and extraction of natural resources. In that context, the usage of political labels such as “foreign stooges” for civil society groups, NGOs, activists, academics, journalists, and indigenous communities criticizing government policies may potentially exacerbate the democratic and human rights situation in Indonesia. The narrative not only delegitimizes the civil society movement but also creates justification for the repressive measures and restrictions on freedom of expression.

As for the perpetrators, police officers were the most dominant state actors in various forms of threats and attacks, especially criminalization, arrest, intimidation, and dissolution of activities. On the other hand, non-state actors such as corporations, mobilized citizen groups, and unidentified individuals (OTKs) also play a big role in creating horizontal conflicts and inducing fear among environmental human rights defenders. This situation shows the severity of impunity, lack of accountability, and suboptimal state protection of the environmental human rights defenders.

Even though Indonesia already has various legal instruments and policies governing the protection of environmental human rights defenders, their implementation is still far from ideal. The state has not been able to present a responsive, rapid, and victim-oriented protection mechanism. In fact, in many cases law enforcement officials are even among the actors who carry out threats and attacks. This condition shows a wide gap between legal norms and the reality on the field.

CHAPTER VII. RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the situation of increasingly vulnerable environmental defenders, Satya Bumi and Protection International noted some important recommendations to be heeded by the state to guarantee the preservation of environment and safety of environmental human rights defenders as follows:

1. The Ministry of Environment and Forestry need to revise Article 14 of the Regulation of the Minister of Environment and Forestry No. 10 of 2024 on Legal Protection for Persons Fighting for the Right to a Good and Healthy Environment by including the provision of complaints in emergency situations;
2. The Ministry needs to cooperate with the Ministry of Human Rights, National Commission on Human Rights, and other relevant state agencies to make an MoU on a Rapid Response Mechanism for the Protection of Environmental Human Rights Defenders in Emergency Situations;
3. Judicial institutions at all levels need to establish Decision No. 212/PDT.G/2025/PN Cbi that declared a lawsuit against Prof. Dr. Ir. Bambang Hero Saharjo, M.Agr. and Prof. Dr. Ir. Basuki Wasis, M.Si. as a *Strategic Lawsuit against Public Participation* (SLAPP) and Decision No. 4398 K/PID.sus/LH/2025 (the case of Sorbatua Siallagan) as a precedent or jurisprudence of protection for the environmental human rights defenders. This is especially relevant for the interest of indigenous peoples who fight for their homeland and the right for good and healthy environment;
4. The National Police need to develop capacity and knowledge for all its members, especially investigators on regulations related to human rights and the environment.

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APPENDIX

List of Threats and Attacks against the Environmental Human Rights Defenders, January-December 2025

1. Criminalization of 7 Residents of Mekarsari, Rangkasbitung, Lebak, Banten

On 3 January 2025, 7 residents of Papanggo Hamlet, Mekarsari Village, Rangkasbitung District, Lebak, Banten named Tarmidi (Head of Neighborhood Association), Muntadir, Wati, Melawati, Erik, and Sutisna Suandi came after being summoned by the Banten Police to undergo examination. Starting around 16 December 2024, residents of Mekarsari Village held a rally related to roads being damaged by land mining projects. Tarmidi said the protest was justified by a statement from the Acting Head of the Banten Energy and Mineral Resources Department, Deri Dariawan, who said that the land excavation in the village was illegal. According to Deri, the proprietor of the excavation should be convicted for not having a permit.

On 30 December 2024, Tarmidi and several other residents made a complaint demanding the soil to be backfilled. The report was submitted to Lebak Environmental Department (DLH),

Lebak Police, and Acting Governor of Banten Ucok Abdulrauf. Surprisingly, the following day, on 31 December 2024, Tarmidi and 6 other residents received summons from the police on the suspicion of incitement and violence against persons or goods and was charged with Article 160 and/or Article 170 of the Criminal Code. According to Tarmidi, the police summons should be directed to the illegal land mining business since they had damaged access to public roads.⁴⁹

2. Criminalization of Bambang Hero

In January 8, 2025, an expert named Bambang Hero was served a warning letter accusing him of violating Article 242 paragraph 1 of the Criminal Code about giving false testimony under oath with the threat of imprisonment for at least 7 years. The warning and legal threat were carried out by Andi Kusuma Law Firm, which claimed to represent various elements of society in Bangka Belitung. Andi Kusuma Law Firm claimed that the calculation of environmental losses had been done inappropriately and beyond the expertise of Bambang Hero when he was brought as an expert in the corruption trial of PT Timah Tbk.

⁴⁹ <https://www.tribunnews.com/regional/2025/01/04/nasib-7-warga-desa-mekarsari-lebak-demo-jalan-rusak-imbas-galian-tanah-ilegal-berujung-dilaporkan?page=all>: <https://news.detik.com/berita/d-7715579/perusahaan-tambang-lapor-polisi-usai-warga-rangkasbitung-protas-jalan-rusak>.

According to the Head of the Information and Legal Center of the Attorney General Harli Siregar, the most significant loss inflicted by the corruption was environmental damage due to illegal mining activities. Environmental experts have calculated that the country's loss reached Rp 271 trillion consisting of ecology, environmental, and recovery costs.⁵⁰

3. Further Criminalization of Four Indigenous Members of Lamtoras Simalungun, North Sumatra

On 16 January 2025, Erika Sari Emsah Ginting, the Chief of the Panel of Judges stated that four indigenous people of Ompu Mamontang Laut Ambarita (Lamtoras), Sihaporas Village, Simalungun Regency proved beyond reasonable doubt to have committed persecution and discrimination against workers of PT. TPL in the production forest area in 2024. The four members were: Jonny Ambarita, sentenced to 1 (one) year in prison – in a separate case also sentenced to 1 (one) year and 2 (two) months; Giovanni Ambarita and Parando Tamba, sentenced to 8 (eight) months in prison; and Thomson Ambarita, with 1 (one) year of imprisonment sentence. They are accused of collective assault under Article 170 of the Criminal Code.⁵¹ The case began in 22 July 2024 when there was an “abduction” or forced or unlawful arrest of six people from the Sihaporas Indigenous Community by the joint apparatus for trying to defend their right over land. The abductees were Thomson Ambarita, Jonny Ambarita, Prado Tamba, Dosmar Ambarita, Gio Ambarita and Kwin Ambarita. Kwin was later released, while five others were still in custody as suspects for the allegation of abuse of an PT Toba Pulp Lestari (TPL) employee who was actually injured by falling on his own, but later reported to the police as being assaulted.⁵²

4. Physical Attacks on Nagasaribu Indigenous Community, North Tapanuli, North Sumatra

On Monday, 21 January 2025, another conflict emerged between PT Toba Pulp Lestari (TPL) and indigenous people of Nagasaribu in Pohan Jae Village, Siborongborong, North Tapanuli, North Sumatra. The conflict was triggered when the company ran activities in the community incense forest. PT. TPL installed signs and barriers blocking access to the forest. When mediation failed between the two parties, clash was inevitable. In the incident, two residents, one of them female, were injured by a stroke of iron baton swung by TPL security personnels.⁵³

5. Eviction of the Indigenous Peoples of Soge Natarmage and Goban Runut-Tana Ai in Nangahale Sikka Village, East Nusa Tenggara

On 22 January 2025, heavy machines operated by PT. Kristus Raja Maumere (KRM)

⁵⁰ <https://www.tempo.co/hukum/andi-kusuma-law-firm-somasi-guru-besar-ipb-soal-penghitungan-kerugian-negara-rp-271-t-di-kasus-timah-1191174>

⁵¹ <https://mongabay.co.id/2025/02/25/berkonflik-dengan-pt-tpl-masyarakat-lamtoras-terjerat-hukum/>

⁵² <https://www.mongabay.co.id/2024/07/23/konflik-berlarut-dengan-pt-tpl-berujung-penangkapan-masyarakat-adat-sihaporas/>, <https://www.bbc.com/indonesia/articles/c0jq9lqp0wvo> <https://aman.or.id/news/read/1997>

⁵³ <https://mongabay.co.id/2025/02/25/berkonflik-dengan-pt-tpl-masyarakat-lamtoras-terjerat-hukum/>

carried out eviction by demolishing hundreds of houses belonging to families of the Soge Natarmage and Goban Runut-Tana Al tribes in Nangahale Village, Talibura District, Sikka Regency, East Nusa Tenggara (NTT). Additionally, hundreds of people allegedly sent by PT Kristus Raja Maumere wearing headbands and carrying machetes, hammers and crowbars forced the residents out of the house and forcibly seized the farm produce. Apparatus from the military, police, and municipal police were also on site to monitor the eviction. According to Chief of Soge, Ignasius Nasi, hundreds of these families have lived in the former Cultivation Rights (HGU) site since 2014, when the license assigned to the Archdiocese of Ende expired. They believed that the land was a heritage of their ancestors.

In total, there were 150 heads of families, most of whom working as farmers. The conflict arose when PT Kristus Raja Maumere, a company owned by the Diocese of Maumere, was about to renew the HGU permit over the land. To Ignatius's recollection, there have been at least three eviction attempts since December 2023, all of which met with resistance. A member of the National Council of the Alliance of Indigenous Peoples of the Archipelago (AMAN) in Sikka, John Bala, commented that the eviction happening the previous week actually took place in several points: two houses in Utan Wair, over a hundred units in Pedan, Nangahale Village, and five units in Wair Hek, Likong Gete Village. There were 450 people affected in total.⁵⁴

6. Criminalization of Syachyunie, Head of Temparung Village, West Kotawaringin, Central Kalimantan

On 22 January 2025, Syachyunie went on trial at the Pangkalan Bun District Court accompanied by collective solidarity consisting of indigenous people of Tempayung, students, and civil societies under Tempayung Coalition for Justice.⁵⁵ The conflict began with the demands of the residents of Tempayung Village, Kotawaringin Lama, West Kotawaringin, Central Kalimantan which requested PT Sungai Rangit Sampoerna Agro to distribute the community's plasma portion of 20 percent. However, after three mediation sessions at the regency level, the company still ignored the claim. Finally, the community took action and Syachyunie as the Village Chief chaperoned his people.

On 27 September 2024, Syachyunie was arrested and charged of orchestrating land blockade, under Article 107 letter a of Law No 39, of 2014 on Plantations. At that time, Syachyunie had just returned home from a business trip from Jakarta. He was escorted by police from Iskandar Pangkalanbun Airport and immediately taken to the West Kotawaringin Police Station to be examined on the alleged charge of orchestrating the blockage of road access. Syachyunie was not detained because of a request from Chair of PD AMAN of West Kotawaringin as well as a guaranteed bond from District Head of Kotawaringin Lama. Syachyunie was placed under house arrest on 5 December 2024. A GPS tracking bracelet

was installed on one of his feet. Syachyunie protested, but to no avail. His family was also angry about the treatment.

7. Criminalization of 3 Residents of Rempang, Riau Islands

On 6 February 2025, three Rempang residents were named suspects by the Criminal Investigation Agency of Bareleng Police. One of the suspects was a 67-year-old woman named Siti Hawa. The other two suspects were Sani Rio (37) and Abu Bakr aka Pak Aceh (54). They were charged with Article 333 of the Criminal Code on deprivation of freedom for detaining employees of PT Makmur Elok Graha (MEG) who damaged a banner voicing protest over Rempang Eco City as a National Strategic Project (PSN).⁵⁶ The incident began on 17 December 2024. Employees of PT MEG damaged a banner opposing the construction of PSN Rempang Eco-City and was held captive by the opposing community.

The community contacted the police to take action on the perpetrators. In the presence of Galang Police officers, the people of Rempang expressed their concern over the recurring destruction of their banners, which had never been seriously acted upon on the grounds of insufficient evidence. For that reason, the community members tried to demonstrate the evidence and take the perpetrators to the police. They also urged the employees of PT MEG to no longer operate in Rempang so that their village is safe from the intimidation and threats of PT MEG. Instead of following up on the complaints, on 17 December 2024, Bareleng Police named three men as suspects for collective assault and alleged deprivation of freedom of others, penalized by Articles 170 and 33 of the Criminal Code, respectively.⁵⁷

8. Criminalization of 6 Farmers Opposing Illegal Mining in Wawonii, Southeast Sulawesi

On 9 February 2025, the Southeast Sulawesi Police again allegedly criminalized six residents of Wawonii Island, Konawe Islands (Konkep) Regency, who opposed the mining operations in their territory. The six residents were Nasrun, Yusman, Alimin, Aco, Datna, and La Boba. They were summoned by the General Criminal Investigation Department of Southeast Sulawesi Police on charges of destruction, although their resistance was rooted in desire to protect ancestral lands from mining expansion. The case was reported by La Tende on 1 February 2025 and was escalated to investigation merely within two days. The swiftness in responding to the case drew sharp criticism from various elements, especially since the law enforcement had done nothing about the illegal mining activities in Wawonii.⁵⁸

54 https://www.bbc.com/indonesia/articles/c77rd475d82o?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAR1ay6DmZtlvcvvo9n0Z--XYyvh8O83ev2kxqyhDJxaCYRKbbDs-LAAAzVM_aem_YhSkrouDHHVcbgdbNZH8Q

55 <https://www.aman.or.id/news/read/2003>, https://kalteng.tribunnews.com/2025/01/25/konflik-agraria-di-kalteng-masyarakat-masih-dihantui-kriminalisasi-dan-tuntutan-uang-miliaran?page=all#goog_re-warded

56 <https://www.tempo.co/hukum/alasan-polisi-tetapkan-3-warga-rempang-penolak-psn-jadi-tersangka--1204204>

57 <https://www.walhiriau.or.id/2025/02/10/publik-mendesak-pencabutan-penetapan-tersangka-tiga-masyarakat-rempang/>

58 <https://walhi-sultra.or.id/tolak-tambang-enam-warga-wawonii-dikriminalisasi-keadilan-untuk-siapa/>

9. Criminalization of Two Members of Negeri Haya Indigenous Community, Central Maluku.

On 15 February 2025, the indigenous people of Negeri Haya, Tehoru Subdistrict, Central Maluku Regency, Maluku put up ‘*sasi*’—a traditional seal of barrier—to oppose sand mining activities at the gate of PT Waragonda Minerals Pratama. Negeri Haya Youth Leader, Ardi Tuahan said the *sasi* was installed because there had been a large abrasion along the shore due to company activity. The people also believed that the company had damaged the order of the customary rights of the people of Negeri Haya. They had previously asked for an audience with the Acting Regent of Central Maluku, Rakib Sahubawa, after meeting the members of the Regional House of Representative, but the audience never materialized. On that day, the traditional seal was allegedly damaged by Tawakal Somalua, a resident working for PT Waragonda Minerals Pratama.⁵⁹ The residents also reported the destruction of the seal to the police but received no follow-up.⁶⁰

When the residents found Tawakal, there was a commotion that caused the residents to set the security posts, corporate offices, and equipment on fire.⁶¹ On 19 February 2025, Ardi Tuahaan and Husain Mahulauw were arrested by the police for allegedly setting the company’s facilities on fire.⁶² Ardi Tuahaan was charged with Article 160 paragraph 1 juncto Article 55 paragraph 1 point 1 of the Criminal Code related to the solicitation or incitement to commit crimes, with the maximum sentence of 6 years in prison. Meanwhile, Husain Mahulauw faced a more severe charge, which is Article 187 paragraph 1 juncto Article 55 paragraph point 1 of the Criminal Code.⁶³

10. Criminalization of Afrida, Indigenous Woman of North Halmahera, North Maluku

Afrida Erna Ngato, who is on the National Council of Indigenous Peoples Alliance of the Archipelago of Maluku Islands, North Maluku, is under threat of criminalization launched by the legal counsel Iksan Maujud who represents Romo Nitiyudo Wachjo (Haji Robert), according to a warning received on Friday, 21 February 2025. Afrida was charged with committing sedition, obstruction, or disruption of illegal mining business activities and running mining activities without permits within the site of PT Nusa Halmahera Minerals (NHM) in Donga, Busein Village, Malifut District.⁶⁴ The friction started on 24 June 2024, when security personnels guarding PT Nusa Halmahera Minerals (NHM) arrested around 14 indigenous members of Isam/Pagu Community. The arrests were made because the

59 <https://www.cnnindonesia.com/nasional/20250217130407-20-1199206/marah-segel-adat-dirusak-warga-bakar-perusahaan-tambang-di-maluku/amp>

60 https://ambonterkini.id/news_read/warga-haya-gelar-aksi-demo-desak-pt-wmp-angkat-kak-3869

61 <https://www.cnnindonesia.com/nasional/20250217130407-20-1199206/marah-segel-adat-dirusak-warga-bakar-perusahaan-tambang-di-maluku/amp>

62 <https://www.instagram.com/p/DGXdownR6wf/>

63 <https://targetberita.co.id/dua-warga-adat-pembakar-tambang-pasir-merah-di-maluku-tengah-segera-disidangkan/>

64 <https://zonamalut.id/polres-halut-diminta-segera-tetapkan-tersangka-kasus-afrida-yang-ganggu-aktivitas-nhm/>

community seized some chunks of material in the form of ores in the holes they dug independently.

The activity itself had been known by the elders of the community. Following the arrest, the residents were released but the materials they mined were confiscated. Afrida claimed to have no knowledge and was not involved in the incident. Later on, 3 February 2025, students affiliated with nineteen youth community organizations in North Halmahera Regency and the indigenous people held a protest against PT NHM, complaining the company’s failure to meet the workers’ rights. This peaceful action was apprehended by a group named Forum Masyarakat dan Karyawan Bersatu untuk Bangkit (FMKBB), likely affiliated with the Sultanate of Ternate and local communities who support PT NHM. The students were intimidated and received death threats while the truck transporting the students was forced to go back. As a result, the students were stranded in the forest. Having seen the events on TikTok, Afrida tried to help and shelter the students in her home.⁶⁵

11. Intimidation of TV Journalists in Bogor, West Java

On 12 March 2025, a TV journalist in Bogor was intimidated by the Head of Wanaherang Village, Gunung Putri District, Bogor Regency. The incident occurred when the journalist was about to report an illegal landfill at the border of Wanaherang Village and Cicadas Village.⁶⁶

12. Doxing and Impersonation of Two Public Lawyers of LBH Pekanbaru

On 15 March 2025, LBH Pekanbaru posted a statement on Instagram that two of their public lawyers received a digital attack. Two public lawyers of LBH Pekanbaru who advocated the case of National Strategic Project (PSN) in Rempang experienced cyber-attacks by unknown actors who fabricated social media presence on Instagram with the username @wiraa_mnl19 (Wira Manalu) and TikTok accounts with the usernames @wiraa_mnl19 and @ahmd.fauzi167. Additionally, they experienced doxing from a TikTok account named @deryputra99.⁶⁷

13. Criminalization of Mada Yunus in Buol, Central Sulawesi

On 19 March 2025, Mada Yunus, a palm oil farmer, was indicted by the Public Prosecutor (JPU) at Buol District Court on charges of illegally occupying plantation and soliciting fellow farmers to violate the law on the land managed by PT Hardaya Inti Plantations

65 Wawancara informal dengan Afrida pada 6 Juni 2025, <https://lacakpos.co.id/2025/02/07/dukung-aksi-demo-ke-pt-nhm-afrida-pertanyaan-kinerja-polisi-serta-sejumlah-orang-yang-menghalangi/>, <https://www.beritasatu.com/network/porostimur/579586/afrida-erna-ngato-suara-perempuan-dari-maluku-utara-yang-dikepung-tambang>

66 https://www.instagram.com/reel/DHGEx_dz9pZ/?hl=ar, <https://www.tiktok.com/@bogorplus/vid-eo/7480861456670444805>

67 https://web.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=1195918742541171&id=100063691684331&_rdc=1&_rdi, <https://www.tempo.co/cekfakta/keliru-akun-akun-medsos-yang-diklaim-milik-pengacara-publik-lbh-pekanbaru-1220827>

(HIP). In the indictment letter, Mada Yunus was alleged to have illegally occupied the land of Koperasi Tani Plasma Awal Baru in Balau Village and Maniala Village, Buol Regency, on 8 January 2024. He was charged with violation of Article 107 letter (a) juncto Article 55 letter (a) of Law No. 39 of 2014 on Plantations. Mada Yunus denied the indictment and claimed that the land supposedly managed by PT Hardaya Inti Plantations (HIP) for a palm partnership had been in fact a family land that he worked with. He claimed that the company appropriated the land as a partnership object without his consent. He and other farmers temporarily suspended the operations of oil palm plantations on their land in protest of the rights seized by the cooperative and the company.⁶⁸

14. Criminalization of Riski Jouronga (Ubu) and Intimidation of Residents of Kawasi Village, South Halmahera, North Maluku

On 17 March 2025, Riski Jouronga along with a number of residents of Kwasi Village, Obi Halmahera South Maluku North held a protest *'Harita Gemerlap Kawasi Gelap'* in front of the CSR office of Harita located in Ecovillage, Obi Island Subdistrict, South Halmahera, North Maluku. They demanded the responsibility of the company to repair the power grid system in Kawasi Village, Obi Island that had been down since the great fire that occurred on 1 March 2025. The residents believed there had been unfairness deliberately exhibited by the company, the government, and the security personnels. Residents who support companies and government policies were prioritized in all public service affairs. Meanwhile, those who choose to defend their village are always restricted, obstructed, made to face difficulties, and subjected to terror and intimidation. Receiving no response, Riski then uploaded a video on his social media account saying, *'[they] got blinded by even just a little money, [they] are selling their own home, their own village [for money]'*. Riski was a resident of Kawasi Village who was fighting for the environment, demanding corporate accountability, and defending the village from eviction attempts made by the company and the local government.

On 21 March 2025, Riski was criminalized with alleged defamation under the Law on Information and Electronic Transactions (ITE Law) by Abiater Dowet. Riski then received the first summons through a letter numbered B/40/III/2025/SKPT. On 14 April 2025, Riski Jouronga responded to the second summons from the South Halmahera Police through a letter numbered B/432/IV/Res.2.5/2025 dated 9 April 2025. South Halmahera Police mediated the meeting between Abiater and Riski, also known as Ubu. In the end, Riski (Ubu) was asked to immediately make an apology and pay compensation of one hundred million rupiah to the complainant. However, Riski could not pay and was forced to undergo the legal process. Residents of Kwasi Village also admitted to receiving intimidation, terror, and discrimination from several parties namely: The police, the military, and the local government.⁶⁹

68 <https://trimurti.id/kabar-perlawanan/petani-sawit-mada-yunus-didakwa-di-pengadilan-negeri-buol/>
69 <https://www.radarmalut.com/5609/regional/usai-demo-harita-group-di-pulau-obi-riski-jouronga-di-polisikan-dan-dimintai-uang-rp-100-juta/2>, <https://papua.betahita.id/news/detail/11035/demo-minta-listrik-24-jam-ke-harita-berbuah-kriminalisasi.html?v=1745175381>, <https://betahita.id/news/lipsus/11035/>

15. Criminalization of 11 Residents of Cibetus Village, Curug Goong, Padarincang, Serang Banten

On 7 February 2025, armed forces came to the homes of Cibetus villagers, Padarincang, Serang Regency, Banten. They knocked and even broke down the doors of the residents and arrested some people. On 13 February 2025, eleven people were arrested. The arrests happened after the residents staged a rally demanding the shutdown of PT Sinar Ternak Sejahtera (STS) farm, a subsidiary of Charoen Pokphand for causing environmental damage in the form of foul-smelling pollution in the neighboring area. During the protest, chicken coops owned by PT Sinar Sejahtera (STS) got burned.⁷⁰

According to the police, they were arrested and charged for allegedly committing acts of incitement, collective assault, and arson of chicken farms owned by PT Sinar Ternak Sejahtera. The police charged them with multiple counts, using Articles 160, 170, and 187 of the Criminal Code. Those arrested were Cecep Supriyadi, Oman, Rahmat, Samsul Ma'arif, Hj. Yayat, and children with initials DP, F, U, FR, and S. They were arrested on 7 and 8 February 2025.⁷¹ Initially, PT STS, a subsidiary of Charoen Pokphand Indonesia, bought a former farm from a resident named Djohar in 2019. Without consulting and informing the residents, the company built a chicken coop with a capacity of 270,000.

As a result, this farm inflicts pollution such as the stench from the excrement, polluted groundwater, spikes in cases of diseases such as cough, fever, shortness of breath, and skin irritation. The residents also reported PT STS to the subdistrict head and other related agencies at the regency level, but without success. Residents then reported PT STS to Ciomas Police, Serang Police, and even Banten Police. They still had no solution. Attempts to report had been going on since 2019, but without any satisfying results. In 2022, more than 90% of residents signed a petition to terminate the farm, but it was ignored by the government and the company, as well as the police. They also held protests on 6 August 2023, early 2024, and 24 October 2024.⁷²

16. Case of Nur Simbolon, A Female Buried Alive in Batam City, Riau Islands

A land conflict between the residents of the Teluk Bakau, Nongsa Subdistrict, Batam City and Batam Business Agency (BP Batam) as the owner of the land had been ongoing for a month. On 19 April 2025, Nur Simbolon blocked a truck that was dumping soil for a land reclamation project, almost resulting in her being buried alive. Nur's behavior was a form of resistance to the eviction carried out by BP Batam. While some residents were said to have received compensation, others chose to remain on the land they had occupied for years. Residents of Teluk Bakau believed that there had been no legal clarity and fair

70 [demo-minta-listrik-24-jam-ke-harita-berbuah-kriminalisasi.html?v=1745156883](https://www.walhi.or.id/teror-di-cibetus-perjuangan-panjang-melawan-charoen-pokphand)
71 <https://www.walhi.or.id/teror-di-cibetus-perjuangan-panjang-melawan-charoen-pokphand>
72 <https://www.tempo.co/hukum/protes-peternakan-ayam-11-warga-padarincang-dijerat-pasal-berlapis--1205513>
[s://www.walhi.or.id/teror-di-cibetus-perjuangan-panjang-melawan-charoen-pokphand](https://www.walhi.or.id/teror-di-cibetus-perjuangan-panjang-melawan-charoen-pokphand)

compensation prior to the eviction, hence their refusal.⁷³ The case may be categorized as a physical threat/attack that results in physical pain.

17. Intimidation and Threat of Criminalization against the People of Watutau, Central Sulawesi

On 24 April 2025, Hartono, one of the leaders of the Watutau community, was once again summoned to the Poso Police Station. He was examined as a witness on the suspicion that one of the residents of Watutau Village committed sedition, subject to persecution under Article 160 of the Criminal Code, so that the community members remove the stakes and signs belonging to the Land Bank Authority of the National Land Agency.

In fact, the residents pulled out the stakes installed unilaterally by BBT as a form of peaceful protest. They even collected the stakes in an orderly manner and returned them via subdistrict administration office. The summons for Hartono was a form of pressure on the community of Watutau Village, Lore Peore District, Poso Regency. In the recent months, at least 12 villagers have been repeatedly questioned by police following protests against the Land Bank Authority's unilateral claim on land that has been worked on and controlled by the people for generations.⁷⁴

18. Unlawful Dispersal of Peaceful Protests by TuK Indonesia and Walhi

On 25 April 2025, TuK INDONESIA and WALHI of Central Kalimantan held a peaceful rally in front of the branch office of BNI (Bank Negara Indonesia) Palangka Raya. At around 10:15 AM, a crowd of protesters held banners and posters protesting against bank funding for programs posing risk of deforestation in Central Kalimantan. One of the banks was Bank Negara Indonesia (BNI). In the period from 2016 to June 2024, the total credit disbursed to oil palm tycoons operating in Central Kalimantan amounted to USD 11.07 billion or around IDR 157.8 trillion. One of the alleged recipients was Winarno Tjajadi, the controller of PT HMBP/Best Agro Group, which also had a tie with BNI as an individual shareholder whose valuation continued to increase. At 10:36 AM, security guards and employees of BNI met with the protest participants. Four minutes later, the bank contacted the police. At 10:47 WIB, the participants of the rally were taken inside the BNI office by law enforcement officers and security personnels. This was clearly a form of intimidation against freedom of expression that is protected by law as well as an unlawful dispersal for an instance of expression of opinions.⁷⁵

19. Criminalization of 3 Farmers in Ijen, Bondowoso, East Java

Jumari, Fajriyanto, and Ahmad Yudi Purwanto were three farmers of Ijen Valley, Bondowoso Regency, East Java who had been behind bars since 25 January 2025 due to a conflict with

73 <https://www.batamnews.co.id/berita-119066-seorang-ibu-rumah-tangga-nekat-adang-truk-tanah-hingga-nyaris-terkubur-hidup-hidup.html>, <https://www.detik.com/sumut/berita/d-7879524/wanita-di-batam-nekat-hadang-truk-tanah-hingga-nyaris-terkubur?page=2>

74 <https://media.alkhairaat.id/warga-watutau-tertekan-korporasi-walhi-tantang-keberanian-gubernur/>

75 <https://www.tuk.or.id/2025/04/aksi-damai-dibubarkan-bni-bungkam-atas-pendanaan-perusak-hutan/>

PT Perkebunan Nusantara I Regional 5. They were accused of sedition and charged with Article 160 of the Criminal Code (KUHP). The three had been fighting for the land managed by their community for generations. The land in dispute was designated for Java Coffee Estate (JCE) program, a part of the greater Bondowoso Republik Kopi initiative. Jumari's story began with a protest on 20 October 2024. There, Jumari questioned for the legal status of the residents' land claimed by PTPN. In the Indictment Letter No. PDM-6/Eoh.2/BONDO/02/2025, Jumari was said to have provoked the community. Meanwhile, Ahmad's story began with a protest on 31 October 2023, during a hearing with JCE at Kali Gedang Village Hall. On the other hand, Fajariyanto placed a banner on Jalan Desa Kali Gedang with text 'Switching Land Designation to Partnership, Heri Suciyoko's Program is Killing the People of Ijen.' This action was considered as a form of incitement on the community that inflicted loss to PTPN I Regional 5.⁷⁶

20. Intimidation and Silencing of Mama Mince

Hermina Mawa, familiarly Mama Mince, is a citizen of Malapoma Hamlet, Rendubutowe Village, Aesesa Selatan Subdistrict. Mama Mince frequently spoke up against the Lambo Reservoir project that continues to erode the living space of the community. On 6 May 2025 in the morning, Mama Mince's house was surrounded by four intelligent personnels, likely to prevent her from meeting with Vice President Gibran Rakabuming Raka, who would visit the project site. One of the personnels questioned about Mama Mince's intent. She said he wanted to see Gibran and the personnel asked her not to talk much. When meeting the VP, as Mama Mince voiced her complaints, someone grabbed and pulled her waist from behind and signaled her to stop talking.⁷⁷

21. Intimidation, Physical Attacks, and Destruction of Community Post in Pundenrejo, Pati, Central Java

The residents of Pundenrejo Tayu, Pati District, Central Java who were members of the Pundenrejo Community Farmers Movement (*Gerakan Masyarakat Petani Pundenrejo*, GERMAPUN) were fighting for their ancestral land now controlled by PT Laju Perdana Indah. However, on 13 March 2025, hundreds of people in six trucks and several minibuses came and knocked down the community hall of GERMAPUN. They were allegedly sent by PT Laju Perdana Indah. Then on 23 April 2025, they again knocked down the farmers' houses. The residents reported it to the National Commission on Human Rights, after which on 26 April 2025, the commission published a Protection Letter No. 209/K./MD.00.00/IV/2025 concerning the Human Rights Protection of GERMAPUN. In the letter, the Commission urged law enforcement officials, the governor, and the regent to guarantee the safety and security of Pundenrejo farmers. However, on 7 May 2025, two resident houses were destroyed by people who were allegedly sent by PT Laju Perdana Indah. Even female farmers in those houses experienced verbal bullying by the mob. After the incident,

76 <https://mongabay.co.id/2025/03/17/pertahankan-tanah-dari-ptpn-3-petani-ijen-masuk-bui/>

77 <https://floresa.co/reportase/mendalam/77708/2025/08/12/kami-tidak-ingin-tanah-hilang-begitu-saja-ki-sah-mama-hermina-mawa-dari-nagekeo-yang-teguh-melawan-proyek-waduk-lambo>

dozens of Pundenrejo farmers visited Pati Regency Office to report the acts of thuggery to the regent.

After waiting long until the afternoon, the regent still did not meet the Pundenrejo farmers. While the attempt of destruction trial was eventually stopped by the residents, one female farmer injured in the incident and had to be rushed to the local healthcare clinic. On 8 May 2025, a mob of large-bodied individuals deployed by PT Laju Perdana Indah tried again to displace and control the land of Pundenrejo residents. The people coming in the group wore masks, face masks, or black glasses. In total, PT Laju Perdana Indah had mobilized unidentified individuals to ruthlessly demolish the farmers' houses for five instances.⁷⁸

22. Criminalization against Agabag Indigenous People

During the demonstration and audience at the office of PT Karangjuang Hijau Lestari (KHL) in Sebuku District, Nunukan Regency, North Kalimantan on 19 May 2025, the customary head of Bebanas Village, Nick Berdy said for years the indigenous people in his village had been entangled in land disputes. To date, no solution has been offered. The overlapping claim between PT KHL and the customary territory of Bebanas Village never gets resolved. Throughout the settlement, the company always intimidated citizens through the state apparatus and did not hesitate to arrest and imprison the residents.

PT KHL often made reports to the police so that many residents experience intimidation through summonses from local to provincial police departments. This has inflicted great unease to the people of Bebanas. On May 16, 2025, the police signed Summons No. B/320 N/2025/Ditreskrimsus for Jamri, the Head of Bebanas Village and Summons No. B/ 327 N/2025/Ditreskrimsus for a Bebanas resident named David. The two were initially summoned as witnesses on the suspicion of illegally occupying plantation lands (Article 107 letter a juncto Article 55 of Law No. 39 of 2014 on Plantations).⁷⁹

23. Criminalization of Yola Nifta Rompas, Farmer of Pakuweru, South Minahasa

On 20 May 2025, Yola Nifta Rompas, a farmer from South Sulawesi's Minahasa Farmers Union (SPMS), was named as a suspect. He was accused of theft on land that has been worked on by the community for decades. Criminalization of farmers in Pakuweru Village, Central District, South Minahasa Regency, North Sulawesi had been ongoing since 23 June 2022. At that time, Yola Nifta Rompas and 13 other farmers were reported by PT Sidatek Murni. They were accused of stealing the produce from land that has been controlled and worked on by the community since 1970, albeit without proper documentation.⁸⁰

78 <https://www.tempo.co/hukum/konflik-agraria-pundenrejo-pati-dua-rumah-warga-dirobohkan-rombongan-orang-bertopeng-1364388>, <http://lbhsemarang.id/pemerintah-kab-pati-tidak-memberikan-tindakan-tegas-terhadap-pengrusakan-pengrusakan-rumah-petani-pundenrejo-pt-laju-perdana-indah-kembali-melakukan-aksi-arogan-dan-brutal-untuk-merusak-rumah-petani/>

79 <https://betahita.id/news/detail/11106/ritual-anyar-dayak-agabag-nunukan-kriminalisasi-oleh-konsesi.html?v=1754296420>

80 <https://betahita.id/news/detail/11157/kpa-stop-main-kriminalisasi-kepada-petani-pakuweru.htm?l?v=1750517897>, <https://www.ekuatorial.com/2025/06/kriminalisasi-petani-potret-suram-penyelesaian-konflik-agraria/>

24. Terror against Delima Silalahi Using Bird Carcass in North Tapanuli, North Sumatra

On 30 May 2025, Delima Silalahi, a female environmental activist who actively advocates for the rights of indigenous people and is also a member of the National Council of the Agrarian Reform Consortium (KPA), received a threatening package of bird carcass from an unknown sender at around 08:15 in the morning. The terror occurred after Delima and hundreds of people held a demonstration demanding that the North Tapanuli Regency Government and the Regional House of Representatives (DPRD) take firm action and immediately shut down PT Toba Pulp Lestari (TPL) for having caused environmental damages. PT TPL had planted forests in Tano Batak with eucalyptus, causing ecological damage as well as conflict with indigenous peoples.⁸¹

25. Lawsuit against Bambang Hero & Basuki Wasis

On 1 July 2025, environmental experts Bambang Hero Saharjo and Basuki Wasis received another summon from Cibinong District Court. Both were sued by PT Kalimantan Lestari Mandiri (KLM). The lawsuit was filed for the two experts' testimony at a trial that would later cause the company to lose against the Ministry of Environment and Forestry in a forest fire case in 2018. Based on the court ruling, PT KLM was ordered to pay Rp 89 billion in damages and carry out environmental restoration amounting to around Rp 210 billion for being found guilty of causing damage that resulted in the burning of 511 hectares of the company's peatland, causing haze pollution. PT KLM alleged that the expert testimonies provided by Bambang Hero Saharjo and Basuki Wasis who were presented by the Ministry of Environment and Forestry contributed to PT KLM being found liable in court. The company is now seeking to hold both experts jointly and severally liable for damages amounting to Rp 273,984,257,122 and immaterial damages of Rp 90,683,577,431.⁸²

26. Intimidation and Legal Warning against Siti Rabiah in Bulungan, North Kalimantan

On 13 June 2025, tension built up in Mangkupadi Village, Tanjung Palas District, Bulungan Regency between the residents and PT Kalimantan Industrial Park Indonesia (KIPI). This conflict was likely caused by the fact that the building of one of the residents named Siti Rabiah, would be demolished. According to Siti Rabiah, the demolition plan had no clear legal grounds. Siti Rabiah claimed that she possessed evidence of legal ownership in the form of a Tax Due Notice (SPPT) since 2012 and had been working on the land since 1997. Siti Rabiah also admitted to experiencing intimidation.

The forced demolition attempt failed after dozens of local residents showed solidarity by guarding Siti Rabiah's building. The rejection to PT KIPI's unilateral decision forced them to back down. Furthermore, the company even served a warning letter to Siti Rabiah to immediately demolish the building herself. However, after having discussions with residents and facing pressure from the community, representatives of PT KIPI finally promised not

81 <https://mongabay.co.id/2025/06/04/teror-bangkai-burung-sasar-pejuang-lingkungan-delima-silalahi/>

82 <https://www.tempo.co/hukum/ahli-lingkungan-bambang-hero-dan-basuki-wasis-digugat-lagi-1870704>, <https://celcj.law.ui.ac.id/pernyataan-sikap-celcj-fh-ui-gugatan-prof-bambang-hero-dan-prof-basuki-wasis-adalah-slapp/>

to demolish and to facilitate mediation in the near future.⁸³

27. Hacking of Iqbal Damanik's (Greenpeace Activist) WhatsApp Account

Iqbal Damanik is a Greenpeace activist who had been vocal in rejecting nickel mining causing environmental damages in Indonesia, especially in the Raja Ampat region. After a fierce debate on nickel mining in the area with Chairman of PBNU, Ulil Abshar Abdalla on Rosi talkshow aired by Kompas TV on 12 June 2025,⁸⁴ malicious actors hacked the WhatsApp account of Greenpeace Indonesia Forest Campaigner Iqbal Damanik. The attack was informed via the organization's X account @GreenpeaceaceID on Tuesday, 17 June 2025. Fortunately, despite almost being hacked, Iqbal Damanik's WhatsApp account has now been recovered.⁸⁵

28. Stigmatization and Criminalization of the People of Maba Sangaji, East Halmahera

On 16 May 2025, the police carried out forceful arrests and violence against indigenous people of Maba Sangaji in East Halmahera, North Maluku, for their objection to the mining activity. The police used the label "thuggery" when naming 11 community members of Maba Sangaji, East Halmahera as suspects for their rejection of PT Position nickel mine in their customary territories. To the police, the actions of the North Maluku people are "disturbing the public and investment." On the contrary, the people viewed their actions as efforts to protect indigenous territories, not thuggery. They were charged with Article 2 paragraph (1) of the Law No. 12 of 1951 (Emergency Law) on sharp weapons, Article 162 of Law No.3 of 2020 (Minerba Law) because they obstructed the activities of licensed mining activities. They were also subjected to Article 368 paragraph (1) *juncto* Article 55 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code on the suspicion of blackmail and threatening. In a press release, Commissioner Bambang Suharyono, Head of Public Relations of the North Maluku Regional Police, stated that of the 27 arrested, 11 were suspects and 16 were released due to insufficient evidence.⁸⁶

29. Coverage Restrictions for 2 Media Outlets by the Samarinda Environmental Department

In 24 June 2025, journalists from Samarinda Pos and Kompas experienced a ban of media reporting of the Samarinda Landfill Area (TPA), East Kalimantan from the employees of the Samarinda Environmental Department (DLH). Contrarily, the Mayor of Samarinda Andi Harun noted that coverage was allowed. In fact, he hoped that media work could help convey that the Samarinda City Government was making serious improvements in waste management that had drawn sharp criticism. This incident raised a big question about the commitment of the Samarinda City Government to the openness of public information, especially related to sensitive issues such as waste management. Moreover, in recent

83 <https://radarberau.com/ketegangan-antara-warga-dan-pt-kipi-bangunan-hendak-dibongkar-paksa/>

84 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mdnt29MOemc>

85 <https://www.suara.com/news/2025/06/18/134227/akun-aktivis-greenpeace-indonesia-diretas-usai-debat-tolak-aktivitas-tambang-dengan-ketua-pbnu>

86 <https://mongabay.co.id/2025/06/19/menyoal-jerat-hukum-dan-label-preman-pada-penolak-tambang-nikel-di-halmahera-timur/>

months, Samarinda has been listed as one of the five cities poorest in domestic waste management based on data from the Ministry of Environment and Forestry (KLHK).⁸⁷

30. Criminalization of 4 Fishermen in Muara Badak, Bontang, East Kalimantan

Since the end of 2024, blood clam farms in six coastal villages of Muara Badak had failed to harvest. The failure was largely suspected due to pollution caused by oil and gas drilling activities of PT Pertamina Hulu Sanga-Sanga (PHSS). Muhammad Yusuf, a representative of the fishermen, noted that about 299 heads of families were affected, with polluting spanning across 1,000 hectares of cultivation area. The potential loss was estimated to reach IDR 68.4 billion due to the failure of harvesting 3,800 tons of blood clams.⁸⁸ Koalisi Peduli Nelayan Kerang Darah Muara Badak, a collective of blood clams fishermen including Muhammad Yusuf, officially reported the alleged environmental pollution carried out by PT Pertamina Hulu Sanga Sanga (PHSS). The report was submitted to the Criminal Investigation Unit of the East Kalimantan Police on Thursday (5/6/2025).⁸⁹ Between June to July, four fishermen of Muara Badak namely: Muhammad Yusuf, Muhammad Yamin, Muhammad Said, and Haji Tarre were called by Bontang Police on the report filed by PT Pertamina Hulu Sanga-Sanga (PHSS). They were accused of inciting violence and trespassing during a protest at the drilling site of RIG Great Wall Drilling Company 16 from January to February 2025. In fact, the actions were part of the struggle of citizens who demand responsibility for pollution and followed by hundreds of residents concerned about continued pollution. Additionally, Muhammad Yusuf claimed he also received intimidation and violence during the protest.⁹⁰

31. Criminalization of Residents of Alar Village for Resisting Eviction

Warga Kampung Alar Jiban, Desa Kohod, Kecamatan Pakuhaji, Kabupaten Tangerang, Residents of Alar Jiban Hamlet, Kohod Village, Pakuhaji District, Tangerang Regency, Banten refused to be relocated for a drainage construction project in PIK 2. They had multiple reasons for such refusal: lack of compensation for land (only for the buildings) and disproportionate value compared to the amount needed to rebuild. The project had been in operation for a long time, but damage to the residents' homes due to excavation activities still was not fully repaid with compensation. On 1 July 2025, Wawan Wahyudi, an agent of the land broker, visited the village and caused concern for the residents. Provocation was spread that a land broker threatened a "home invasion" or an assault on the village, leaving the residents on alert. Physical friction occurred between the residents and Wawan, as documented in a video. The video recording then became evidence in

87 https://www.sapos.co.id/headline/2456183002/wartawan-samarinda-pos-dan-kompas-dilarang-liputan-di-areal-tpa-sambutan#google_vignette

88 <https://eksposkaltim.com/berita-14758-kapolres-bontang-yang-baru-atensi-kasus-nelayan-muara-badak.html>

89 <https://kaltim.idntimes.com/news/kalimantan-timur/empat-nelayan-kerang-darah-muara-badak-dipanggil-polisi-ada-apa-00-htmy4-gzwn7>

90 <https://eksposkaltim.com/berita-14697-kapolres-bontang-diganti-di-tengah-sorotan-pencemaran-pertaminakriminalisasi-nelayan.html>

reporting the residents with Article 170 of the Criminal Code on collective assault.⁹¹

32. Criminalization of a Diocese-owned Company in East Nusa Tenggara

Anastasya Dua and 14 other residents were disturbed by the logging of cashew plantation by PT Krisrama Korporasi, a company belonging to the Diocese of Maumere. On 21 March 2025, Ndate reported to the East Nusa Tenggara Police, stating that he was threatened by Anastasya and other residents using the word *helang* (devil) and threats to kill and expel him. On 10 July 2025, such report was followed up and named 7 of the 15 residents as suspects charged with Article 335 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code on threatening and Article 310 juncto Article 55 on defamation.⁹²

33. Criminalization of Residents of Poso Regency by Land Bank Authority (BBT)

The residents of Poso Regency go through various conflicts to defend land they have managed for decades. The government, through BBT, wanted to take over 6,000 hectares of community-run land to be transferred to investors for the development of cattle ranches. On 31 July 2024, peaceful protest was carried out to reject such claim. As a result, Christian Toibo, a resident and community leader of Watutau Village, was charged with Article 160 of the Criminal Code on the count of incitement to resist land takeover. Christian Toibo was named a suspect on 14 July 2025 and was arrested on 9 December 2025.⁹³

34. A Series of Hack Attempts on Satya Bumi's Communication Channel and Social Media

On 16 July 2025, the personal WhatsApp account of one of Satya Bumi's staff members lost communication access for 3 hours. Simultaneously, the organization's Instagram and TikTok accounts were targeted and subjected to a hostile takeover attempt. The organization's website also received a DDoS (*Distributed Denial of Service*) attack causing a temporary loss of access. The attack was likely motivated by the organization's ongoing advocacy, specifically the one related to nickel mines on Kabaena Island.

35. Criminalization of Environmental Activist Misran Toni

Misran Toni, an environmental activist, has denied illegal coal hauling conducted by PT Mantimin Coal Mining (MCM). On 16 July 2025, Misran was detained by the East Kalimantan Police and under the provisions of Court Ruling No: 91/Pen.PID/2025/PN.TGT issued by Tanah Grogot District Court, his detention period was extended until 12 November 2025. However, on 22 October 2025, Misran was temporarily released from detention and assigned 'non-custodial supervision' status. The police leveraged this status to separate victims from their families and extend the duration of detention. On November 18, 2025, Misran and his legal counsel, Fathur Rahman, were released from detention. 30 minutes after his release, Misran was re-arrested by Paser District Police based on an Arrest

91 <https://mongabay.co.id/2026/03/02/jerat-hukum-warga-pesisir-tangerang-penolak-relokasi/>

92 <https://floresa.co/reportase/mendalam/77891/2025/08/20/warga-sikka-tersangka-kasus-ancaman-terhadap-imam-katolik-dalam-konflik-lahan-dengan-gereja-jawaban-apapun-kami-tetap-salah>

93 <https://www.mosintuwu.com/2025/12/29/warga-desa-lembah-lore-lawan-klaim-badan-bank-tanah/>

Warrant No. SP.Han/95/X/RES 1.6/2025/Reskrim.⁹⁴ On April 16, 2026, the judge of Tanah Grogot District Court acquitted Misran of all charges.⁹⁵

36. Criminalization of Rangsang People by PT Sumatra Riang Lestari (SRL)

In 2022, PT SRL invaded the territory of the residents of Rangsang District and using heavy equipment, dredged the peatlands that were previously managed as community plantation. After mediation involving several parties, the company's activities ceased. However, on 9 January 2025, heavy equipment reappeared and disturbed the residents' land and access once again. The agreements of the mediation were not held up by the company and triggered a peaceful protest that day. Without initiating dialogue, PT SRL charged four farmers with destruction and three of them were called to be examined at the Meranti Islands Police Station on 22 July 2025.⁹⁶

37. Forced Eviction and Criminalization of 6 Residents of Sukahaji

On 30 July 2025, 6 Sukahaji residents were named as suspects in the investigation⁹⁷ by the Bandung Police Crime and Violence Unit.⁹⁸ Before the trial was completed, hundreds of unidentified people caused disturbance at the Sukahaji community residential area. Initially, on 28 November 2025, the residents received a letter threatening eviction of the land and evacuation mobilizing 1000 personnels and heavy equipments. On 3 December 2025, hundreds of unidentified individuals came carrying sharp weapons and excavators to execute the threat contained in the letter. The mob intensely intimidated the residents; later, shots were fired, injuring two residents in the legs and arms. Some people also suffered injuries from other physical attacks.⁹⁹

38. Criminalization of the Sumberejo Village Members

On 1-6 August 2025, the opening of a new plan by CV Senggol Mekar GSMD in Sumberejo Village, Central Java was met with rejections from the residents. In response, 5 residents were summoned to clarify at the Jepara Police Station. 3 of the 5 citizens summoned were charged with Article 170 of the Criminal Code on collective violence, Article 351 on persecution, Article 192 on building destruction, as well as Article 162 of Law 3 of 2022 on disrupting mining activities.¹⁰⁰

94 <https://kaltim.idntimes.com/news/kalimantan-timur/misran-toni-pejuang-lingkungan-yang-ditahan-karena-lawan-tambang-liar-00-jjm39-5q4r85>

95 <https://mongabay.co.id/2026/04/19/misran-toni-bebas-desak-aparat-buru-pembunuh-sesungguhnya/>

96 <https://mongabay.co.id/2025/08/13/konflik-warga-rangsang-dengan-perusahaan-kayu-berujung-laporan-ke-polisi/>

97 Keenam warga dijerat Pasal 167 KUHP tentang memasuki pekarangan orang lain secara melawan hukum, Pasal 169 tentang keikutsertaan dalam perkumpulan yang bertujuan melakukan kejahatan, dan Pasal 385 tentang penyerobotan tanah.

98 <https://bandungbergerak.id/article/detail/1546035691/eksepsi-ditolak-gugatan-perdata-warga-sukahaji-juga-kandas>

99 <https://www.lbhbandung.or.id/ Pernyataan-sikap-konflik-tanah-dan-penggusuran-paksa-di-sukahaji-melanggar-hukum-dan-ham/>

100 <https://gistara.com/2025/11/27/pejuang-lingkungan-hidup-sumberrejo-jepara-dan-petani-dayunan-kendal-mengadu-ke-komnas-ham-komnas-perempuan-dan-gakkum-kementerian-lingkungan-hidup/>

39. Physical Assault, Intimidation, Deprivation of Economic Rights, and Destruction by PT Toba Pulp Lestari (TPL)

On 7 August 2025, PT TPL attacked the indigenous community of Natinggir in Simare Village. A group of daily laborers (BHL) came to the Natinggir customary territory to plant eucalyptus, to which the community refused. As a result, the company foreman threatened Wanto Pasaribu, and the company allegedly threw him into the bush. Soon, the company came still attempting to resume planting. The heated tension had stopped, but PT TPL came back aggressively. The masses pushed each other, residents were hit until they fainted, and hundreds of TPL members tossed stones at residents and their houses.¹⁰¹ The attack resulted in three victims, one with a neck injury, one with a back injury, and one who fainted. Stones thrown at homes caused damage to six houses, two of which were severely damaged.¹⁰²

40. Land Conflicts and the Criminalization of Seruyan Residents

Peri Susanto and other local residents painstakingly defended their family's heritage land which was exploited by PT Sawitmas Nugraha Perdana (SNP). The Seruyan Regency Government and the Central Kalimantan Provincial Government handled the conflict. However, in August 2025, while the inspection was underway, the Seruyan Police arrested a number of residents. The ultimatum was issued by the families of the victims along with the Indonesian Muslim Student Union of Central Kalimantan, demanding the unconditional release of the residents within 1x24 hours, or a mass protest would be held to demand justice.¹⁰³

41. Criminalization of Erasmus Frans Mandato

The logging of mangroves and the closure of public access to Bo'a Beach by PT Bo'a Development drew criticism from a Rote Ndao environmental activist, Erasmus Frans Mandato. Erasmus posted his criticism on Facebook. In response, in January 2025, employees of PT Bo'a Development reported Erasmus to the Rote Police using Article 28 paragraph (3) of the Electronic Information and Transactions (ITE Law) on the dissemination of false information. Erasmus was detained by the Rote Ndao Police on 1 September 2025.¹⁰⁴

42. The Death of Environmental Activist Vian Ruma

On 5 September 2025, Rudolfus Octavian Ruma was found dead hanging with his neck wrapped by a rope inside a bamboo hut. Vian was a member of Koalisi Kelompok Muda untuk Perubahan Iklim (KOPI), which is vocally resisting the geothermal plant program in

101 <https://ksppm.org/2025/08/11/kronologis-peristiwa-kekerasan-yang-dilakukan-oleh-pt-toba-pulp-lestari-pt-tpl-terhadap-masyarakat-adat-natinggir/>

102 [ps://mediarjn.com/2025/08/08/penanaman-paksa-oleh-tpl-picu-bentrokan-di-natinggir-beberapa-warga-terluka/](https://mediarjn.com/2025/08/08/penanaman-paksa-oleh-tpl-picu-bentrokan-di-natinggir-beberapa-warga-terluka/)

103 https://www.seputarborneo.com/news/18173_Dugaan_Kriminalisasi_Warga_Konflik_Lahan_di_Seruyan_SEMML_Kalteng_Kecam_Penangkapan_oleh_Polres.html

104 <https://katongntt.com/erasmus-dijerat-uu-ite-lantaran-kritik-jalan-ke-pantai-boa-rote-ditutup/>

East Nusa Tenggara. His passing left unanswered questions, especially for the family. They demanded the police investigate and solve the case.¹⁰⁵

43. Physical Attacks and Intimidation on Lamtoras Farmers and Students

On 22 September 2025 morning, fifteen Lamtoras farmers were gathered in Buttut Pangaturan when they were approached by hundreds of TPL security personnels. They personnels asked for permission to pass without a clear purpose, then suddenly they were commanded to evict the farmers from the site. The clashes hurt one member of the indigenous community. Other residents from the village came to deescalate the situation, but hundreds of unidentified individuals joined forces with the personnels of PT TPL. The mob arrived in trucks and cars, dressed in black clothes, and carrying a variety of weapons. They then attacked even further by pushing down the indigenous people, causing 33 injured.¹⁰⁶ In addition to the indigenous communities, Feny Siregar, a student and an agrarian conflict researcher, was also labeled as an agitator; she was struck on the head with wooden object by security personnel of PT TPL, and her research evidence was removed by company workers.¹⁰⁷

44. Destruction of Residence of Vincen Kwipalo

Vincen Kwipalo, an indigenous member of the Yei Tribe, often voiced rejection of the sugar cane program in Merauke. On 6 October 2025, at 22:00 local time, 4 unidentified men attacked the residence of Vincen in Blandin Kayu Village, Jagebob District. His car was damaged with an axe, and multiple arrows were shot at his home. The perpetrator was suspected to be someone of Blojei family, who had previously relinquished the rights to his customary land to the company managing the sugar cane program.¹⁰⁸

45. Criminalization of Indigenous Mentawai Community

Several Mentawai indigenous people were detained by the Criminal Investigation Unit of Mentawai Islands Police. Initially, there was a conflict among tribes, concerning a fine for two people accused of witchcraft. The settlement of this conflict led to the loss of land for one of the Tatubeket indigenous groups. On 6 November 2024, the disappointed residents visited the office of the North Sipora Subdistrict. In a dialogue between the indigenous people (Nulker and Rusmin) and public officials, there was debate involving grabbing by collars and throwing away some stuffs on the table. The incident was reported to the police, and they were charged with multiple criminal counts. On 13 October 2025, the conflict had been resolved through restorative justice mechanisms, but Nulker and Rusmin remained in detention until 21 October 2025.¹⁰⁹

105 <https://www.bbc.com/indonesia/articles/c62q3256189o>

106 <https://mongabay.co.id/2025/09/24/tragedi-sihaporas-puluhan-warga-adat-alami-kekerasan-dari-pekerja-pt-tpl-saat-berladang/>

107 <https://www.cnnindonesia.com/nasional/20250923184754-12-1276924/mahasiswi-ipb-diduga-korban-pemukulan-saat-bentrok-pekerja-tpl-petani>

108 <https://www.bbc.com/indonesia/articles/c8d7z5e9qveo>

109 <https://www.tempo.co/hukum/lbh-padang-laporkan-penyidik-polres-mentawai-ke-propam-polda-sumbar-2082044>

46. Criminalization of Two Dayunan Farmers

On 13 October 2025, the company reported to the Central Java Police of an act of land encroachment and theft of clove crops by two farmers, Trisminah and Rosi'i. The two farmers were the leaders and figures in the Farmers' Collective of Kawulo Alit Mandiri Dayunan. On the contrary, PT Soekarli was the one who seized the land of Dayunan farmers.¹¹⁰

47. Criminalization of Pastor Steph for Publishing a Writing

On 20 October 2025, Pastor Steph authored an opinion piece entitled "When Justice is Seized by Powers of Nagekeo Mafia" in the local media. In this article, Yudha Pranata (former Nagekeo Police Chief) and Adjunct Police Commissioner (AKP) Serfolus Tegu were accused of being members of the "mafia network" in the Mbay/Lambo Dam project. On 21 October 2025, Serfolus reported the bishop to the Nagekeo Police. For naming a police officer in the article, Pastor Steph was reported with an allegation of defamation.¹¹¹

48. Police Intimidation of Kupang Students

In October 2025, Narsinda Gatu, a student and activist of the PMKRI Kupang, shared Father Steph's article criticizing the Lambo Reservoir project in a WhatsApp group. AKP Serfolus Tegu Dua, who was in the group, was asked by Narsinda about his response to the article. The next day, Serfolus threatened Narsinda using angry tones over the phone. Narsinda was asked to apologize, or else, meet him at the Police Station. On 24 October 2025, Narsinda and PMKRI Kupang reported Serfolus to the East Nusa Tenggara Police Disciplinary Department.¹¹²

49. Criminalization of 3 Residents of Nggoer Village

Since 28 July 2025, residents of Nggoer Village have reprimanded PT Nualale Tridaya Prima for their environmentally damaging operations. Three residents reprimanded and objected to the continuity of the company's mining activities. The citizens' critiques were then twisted, and they were accused of intimidating company employees. On 10 November 2025, three residents were summoned to be examined at the West Manggarai Police.¹¹³

50. Criminalization of the Chairperson of Ketua Pejuang Tani Bersama Alam

The community was enraged over the activities of PT Gunung Raya Utama Timber Industries (GRUTI). In 2020, the company allegedly overlaid 10 small rivers, raising concerns among residents regarding a potential water crisis. The citizen campaigns for their living space led to the arrest of Pangihutan Sijabat, the Chief of Pejuang Tani Bersama Alam, who was

110 <https://gistara.com/2025/11/27/pejuang-lingkungan-hidup-sumberrejo-jepara-dan-petani-dayunan-kendal-mengadu-ke-komnas-ham-komnas-perempuan-dan-gakkum-kementerian-lingkungan-hidup/>

111 <https://politisinusantara.com/nusa-tenggara-timur/steph-tupeng-witin-dipolisikan/>

112 <https://floresa.co/reportase/mendalam/83031/2026/01/08/polisi-di-nagekeo-yang-ancam-mahasiswa-garagara-komentar-di-grup-wa-bakal-jalani-sidang-etik>

113 <https://floresa.co/reportase/mendalam/81274/2025/11/13/dituding-intimidasi-karyawan-perusahaan-warga-manggarai-barat-yang-getol-tolak-tambang-bebatuan-ilegal-diperiksa-polisi>

arrested on 12 November 2025 by Dairi Police. The community came in solidarity at the Dairi Police Station, but police officers behaved repressively and arrested 34 more people.

¹¹⁴

51. Criminalization of Environmental Activist GunRetno

Gunretno was an environmental activist in the Kendeng Mountains and Chairperson of Jaringan Masyarakat Peduli Pegunungan Kendeng (JMPPK). Gunretno is currently going through a trial to fight for the rights of the landslide victims whose land lacks formal recognition. On 18 November 2025, Gunretno was reported to the Central Java Regional Police by Didik Setiyo Utomo, Director of PT Rahayu Utomo Jaya. According to the Letter of Complaint No. LI/152/XI/RES.5.5./2025/Ditreskrimsus, Gunretno was reported on the charges of obstruction of a licensed mining activity.¹¹⁵

52. Activities of PTPN and Physical Attacks by Police Officers

On the morning of 23 November 2025, the residents of Parangluara Village, North Polongbangkeng District blocked PT Perkebunan Nusantara (PTPN) from harvesting sugar cane. The community was triggered by the fact that the company continued to harvest sugar cane even though it had agreed in a previous agreement to stop the activity. In the heat of the situation, police officers carried out physical attacks by pulling, stomping, and grappling the residents. The conflict ended with 3 people being reported to police and 6 injured.¹¹⁶

53. Physical Attacks on Rampi Indigenous Community

PT Kalla Arebama held a mining license (IUP) with a concession area of 12,000 hectares that encroaches on the territory of the Rampi indigenous people. Since 2022, the Rampi indigenous people had refused the presence of the company. The Village Head in Bone-Bone Subdistrict was accused of orchestrating illegal mining in Rampi Subdistrict. On 24 November 2025, more than 50 individuals sent by the village head stepped into the Rampi community area to run illegal mining. This land appropriation results in clashes leading to persecution of local residents.¹¹⁷

54. Firearms Shooting toward Pino Raya Farmers

PT Agro Bengkulu Selatan (ABS) is a palm oil company that operates without legal permit. The company's bulldozers came flattened the local farmers' plantations. Residents protested over bulldozer activity in the farmers' area. On 24 November 2025, amid the

114 <https://bakumsu.or.id/ketua-pejuang-tani-bersama-alam-dan-33-orang-pejuang-lingkungan-desa-parbuluan-vi-kabupaten-dairi-ditangkap/>

115 <https://www.jpnn.com/news/aktivis-dipolisikan-gegara-tolak-tambang-puluhan-warga-langsung-geruduk-polda-jateng>

116 <https://makassar.tribunnews.com/2025/08/23/warga-polongbangkeng-kembali-bentrok-dengan-aparat-terkait-aktivitas-ptpn-i-regional-8.>, <https://www.kompas.id/artikel/pahit-hidup-warga-tak-lar-di-kebun-gula>

117 <https://www.beritabersatu.com/2025/11/24/oknum-kades-diduga-dalangi-tambang-ilegal-di-rampi-warga-dianiaya-dan-lahan-diserobot/>

heat of the situation, company employees fired gunshots at Buyung Sapriudin, one of Pino Raya farmers. There were four other victims of the gunfire named Edi, Linsurman, Santo, and Suhardin.¹¹⁸

55. Criminalization of Environmental Activists Dera and Munif

Dera and Munif were arrested by the Semarang Police on suspicion of violating Law on Electronic Information and Transactions (ITE Law) related to the protests in late August 2025. On 27 November 2025, early in the morning, dozens of armed police forcefully arrested Dera and Munif after they left the WALHI Central Java Office. The arrest was made without any prior summons. On that same day, they were named as suspects. Both were charged with Article 45A paragraph (2) juncto Article 28 paragraph (2) of the ITE Law on hate speech and Article 160 of the Criminal Code on incitement.¹¹⁹

56. Intimidation of PT Krisrama to Residents of Nangahale

Since the beginning, the people of Nangahale had rejected PT Krisrama's activities because there did not establish transparent communication with the residents. On 1 December 2025, PT Krisrama conducted land clearing and triggered unrest among the people. The citizens collectively protested the company. However, the company workers continued to cut down trees in the disputed area. Indigenous people responded to the company's arrogance using stone kites, bows, and arrows. This action still did not stop PT Krisrama from clearing the land.¹²⁰

57. Physical Attacks on Indigenous People of Sakai in Duri 13, Bathin Solapan Subdistrict, Bengkalis, Riau

The concession area of PT SIS had been seized by the state along with fresh fruit bunches (FFB) of palm oil crops. On 2 December 2025, residents of Sakai Tribe guarded the FFBs so they would not be handed over to PT Agrinas Palma Nusantara and instead distributed to PT SIS. PT SIS told their employees to do proclaim a violent struggle and slit the throats of the people of Duri 13. Amid the chaos, employees of the company injured residents, and the victims were injured on their heads and covered in blood.¹²¹

58. Construction of Military Headquarters Led to Destruction and Physical Attacks on Indigenous People of Kawu-Kawu

The customary land of the Kawu-Kawu people in Rampoang Village, North Luwu, South Sulawesi became a development object designated to be Territorial Development Battalion Headquarters (Yon TP) 872. The Government of South Sulawesi claimed ownership over

the land and granted it to the Military for the construction of headquarters. On 4 December 2025, a palm plantation owned by residents was flattened by heavy equipments. Residents tried to block the equipments, but their plantations remained flattened without their permission. Disputes between the residents and the military personnels ended in chaos, with the two groups pushing each other.¹²²

59. Criminalization of Five Indigenous Members of Patiala Bawa Village

On 7 November 2025, PT Sutera Marosi Kharisma, land conveyancer, and National Land Agency (BPN) visited Patiala Bawa Village, Lamboya Subdistrict, West Sumba Regency, East Nusa Tenggara to survey the land without prior notice to the residents. Land measurement were likely conducted to establish public road access to the beach and buy and to sell the land of the residents to investors. Their arrival sparked protests and riots. On 4 December 2025, West Sumba Police arrested five indigenous people of Patiala Bawa Village. On 11 December 2025, their legal counsels filed a suspension of the detention on the grounds of cooperative nature during the examination and their role as the breadwinner of the family. The five were charged with Article 170 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code on collective assault.¹²³

60. Criminalization of Tarsisius Fendy Sesupi, Chief of Indigenous Community of Penjemputan Village

Tarsisius Fendy Sesupi, Customary Head of Lelayang Village, Village Kulalan Hilir, Ketapang Regency was forcefully arrested. In December 2023, PT Mayawana Persada was sanctioned by the indigenous community of Dayak Kualan for the economic losses inflicted upon citizens due to corporate activities. Fendy went to collect the fine, but the company did not fulfill the mutually agreed amount and triggered another friction. In June 2025, Fendy was initially summoned to the Ketapang Police as a witness to the criminal acts of extortion and violent coercion (Article 368 paragraph (1) and Article 335 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code). On 9 December 2025, Fendy was arrested after attending an event at the office of Link-AR Borneo. Fendy was arrested by the members of the Ketapang Police and the West Kalimantan Police.¹²⁴

61. Criminalization of Youth Leader of Suka Tani Village, Bireuen

In December 2025, an agrarian conflict between villagers of Suka Tani, Juli Subdistrict, Bireuen District, Aceh, and the palm oil company PT Blang Keutumba heated up after residents blocked access to the company in protest of the alleged land grab and breach of agreement of a dispute settlement. This situation was followed by criminalization of environmental human rights defenders, including Youth Leader of Suka Tani Village, Hendra Noveri, who was summoned by Bireuen Police. Two criminal reports were also filed by the

118 <https://www.bbc.com/indonesia/articles/c2lvd0v2q0do>

119 <https://www.tempo.co/hukum/dua-aktivis-di-semarang-ditangkap-polisi-dua-pekan-sebelum-pernikahan-2095625>

120 <https://regional.inews.id/berita/menegangkan-warga-adat-dan-karyawan-pt-krisrama-bentrok-di-lahan-eks-hgu-nangahale/2>

121 <https://www.katakabar.com/berita/baca/peristiwa-berdarah-di-duri-13-warga-kerapatan-adat-sakai-terluka-diserang-karyawan-pt-sis>

122 [ps://makassar.tribunnews.com/lutra/1821565/warga-vs-aparat-bentrok-soal-markas-batalyon-teritorial-pembangunan-dandim-proyek-tetap-lanjut](https://makassar.tribunnews.com/lutra/1821565/warga-vs-aparat-bentrok-soal-markas-batalyon-teritorial-pembangunan-dandim-proyek-tetap-lanjut)

123 <https://floresa.co/reportase/mendalam/82160/2025/12/15/lima-masyarakat-adat-di-sumba-jadi-tersangka-dalam-konflik-lahan-di-pesisir-yang-pernah-mencatat-tragedi-berdarah>

124 <https://mongabay.co.id/2025/12/14/kala-sanksi-adat-dayak-kualan-berujung-jerat-hukum/>

company's legal counsel on the alleged violations of Article 321 of Law No. 1 of 2023 on the obstruction of the public roads and Article 28 paragraph (3) of Law No. 1 of 2024 on the Second Amendment to ITE Law. Residents saw the actions as a form of pressure on communities fighting for land and environmental rights.¹²⁵

62. Terror against Greenpeace Campaign Manager Iqbal Damanik

On 30 December 2025, Iqbal Damanik, Greenpeace Campaign Manager, was subjected to intimidation through the delivery of headless chicken carcass accompanied by a threatening letter directed at his family. The terror was likely done to silence criticism on issues campaigned by Greenpeace. On 14 January 2026, Iqbal reported the terror to the Criminal Research Unit of the National Police.¹²⁶

63. Terror against DJ Donny, Content Creator

Ramond Dony Adam, familiarly known as DJ Donny, a content creator, received terror after posting contents related to the disaster mitigation in Sumatra. On 29 December 2025, someone sent a headless chicken carcass to DJ Donny's residence along with a threat letter. What is more, on 31 December 2025, his residence was attacked with a Molotov cocktail by two unidentified individuals. The series of acts of terror was reported by DJ Donny to the Jakarta Police.¹²⁷

64. Terror against Content Creator Sherly Annavita

Sherly Annavita received threats after posting content about the condition of residents in the aftermath of the Sumatra disaster. On 30 December 2025, her car was vandalized with spray paint and pelted with rotten eggs. She also received a threatening letter containing a picture of her sibling's ID card.¹²⁸

125 <https://beritamerdeka.net/news/sengketa-pt-blang-keutumba-dan-warga-suka-tani-memanas-kelompok-haji-subar-langgar-kesepakatan-mediasi/index.html>

126 <https://www.greenpeace.org/indonesia/siaran-pers/65680/rumah-aktivis-greenpeace-mendapat-kiriman-bangkai-ayam-hentikan-teror-terhadap-masyarakat-sipil/>

127 <https://www.bbc.com/indonesia/articles/cz7y3ydppg7o>

128 <https://www.tempo.co/politik/sherly-annavita-masih-dapat-teror-berupa-pesan-ancaman-21038796>



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