

Project Update: April 2011

By February 2011, REPALA environment group membership increased to 63. Activities carried out include; (1) monitoring use of the forest, reef conditions, potential for local environmentally responsible tourism; (2) planting 2000 trees around community halls, mosques, in lowland forest and beach areas with community and other stakeholders; (3) putting up 30 public signboards, made posters on forest and coastal protection; and (4) joint beach clean ups and exhibitions to promote working together to look after the local environment.

Twenty REPALA worked with Yayasan Lamjabat as apprentices to build up capacity to engage with community on environment issues. Formal and informal discussions and interviews with hill farmers, fishermen, children, community elders, government and academics took place to hear views on environmental biodiversity changes in forest, wetlands and coastal areas and conflicts between villagers and local wildlife. REPALA have received training in short film-making and two short films will be launched shortly.



Left to right: REPALA and friends beach clean-up at 4 beaches in Aceh Oct 2010; Training in interview & filming to make short film on Ujung Pancu; Youth Group REPALA hold environment & biodiversity exhibition in Ujung Pancu & Youth Group REPALA Ujung Pancu putting up signs to promote awareness of taking care of forests.