

ABSTRACT

Mangrove ecosystems are one of the most vulnerable ecosystems in the world. Mangroves are essential for coastal protection, biodiversity, and carbon storage, but their exploitation and degradation threaten their viability. Numerous global initiatives are being implemented to conserve and restore mangroves, including undertaking replanting activities. The establishment of mangrove nurseries is an important component of mangrove restoration initiatives in Indonesia, which can also generate a business opportunity and be a vital aspect of mangrove restoration programmes in Indonesia. The purpose of this research is to examine the drivers and challenges faced by sustainable mangrove nurseries in Indonesia by analyzing factors such as regulatory barriers, financial challenges, and community dynamics. This research question uses stakeholder theory to understand stakeholders' perspectives on sustainable practices in mangrove nursery. The data was mainly collected using semi-structured interviews with stakeholders who were involved in the development of the mangrove business, such as the farmer group, government, and private companies. The interview results indicate that stakeholders' interest, power, legitimacy, and urgency affect their involvement and contribution to the success of the rehabilitation project, including the establishment of a mangrove nursery within it. The key strategies, mechanisms, and the impact on the sustainable business in Indonesia are discussed. The findings will benefit stakeholders, governmental bodies, and conservation efforts aimed at improving mangrove ecosystem and the communities depending on them in Indonesia, particularly in East Kalimantan Province, Indonesia.

Keywords: mangrove, mangrove ecosystem, restoration, mangrove nursery, government, partnership, participation, involvement