

UNDP/GEF Sumatran Rhino Conservation Project

**PATROL ACTIVATION THROUGH TRAINING PROGRAMME AND POSSIBILITIES FOR INVOLVING LOCAL COMMUNITIES AROUND UJUNG KULON NATIONAL PARK.**

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Ujung Kulon National Park (TNUK) is located on a peninsula on the Southwest tip of Java. This park lies in the district of Pandeglang of the province of West Java, about 153 Km west of Jakarta. The total area of the park is about 76.000 ha of land area and about 44.000 ha of sea. The terrestrial part consists of Ujung Kulon peninsula, Peucang island, Panaitan island, and North and South Gunung Honje.

Ujung Kulon National Park is considered to be the last shelter for the native fauna of Java's lowland rain forest which is characterized by the Javan (single-horned) Rhino (*Rhinoceros sondaicus*). Because of the uniqueness of the Javan Rhino and its habitat, and considering the present status of the Javan rhino, Ujung Kuon National Park was declared as a Indonesia's first World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1991, meanwhile the Javan Rhino has been declared as a World Heritage Mammal.

Although the Javan rhino population in the Ujung Kulon National Park in West Java seems to be holding at about 60 individuals, yet the threat of poaching still remains (Agoes Sriyanto, 1995). The loss of rhinos has become a matter of global concern.

Saving the remaining population needs further alternatives. There should be a series of efforts to protect the remaining population by re-activated rhino patrol and strengthening its anti-poaching activities, until poacher activity and habitat destruction is reduced to the point of elimination. Providing a good training programme for Jagawana (park rangers) and more involvement of local people to save the park, is one of the alternatives.