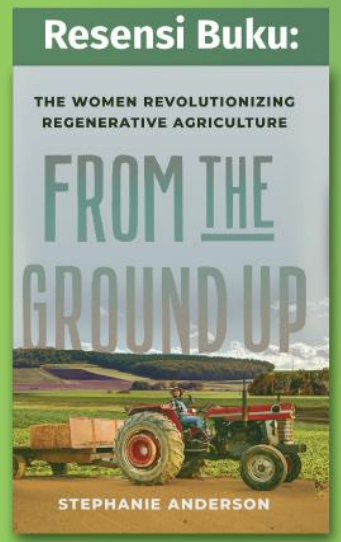
SIRD #77
SOCIAL INVESTMENT ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

Social Investment Indonesia

Mother Earth, Our Mother

Women's Role and Contribution to Sustainability

Resensi Buku:





Tria Mutiari Meilan
Vice President of Sustainability
PT Kereta Api Indonesia (Persero)



Prima Interpares
Global Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning
Rikolto



Lucia Karina
Vice President of Sustainability
Coca-Cola Europacific Partners



Eri Trinurini Adhi
Pengurus Yayasan Bina Trubus Swadaya
Ketua Asian Solidarity Economy Council

Host:



W. Aris Darmono
Senior Advisor
Social Investment Indonesia

socialinvestment.id

0812-3383-8463

Jumat, 25 April 2025

15.00-17.00 WIB

Via zoom @SocialInvestment_Id

s.id/daftarSIRD77



Grounded Growth: Practical Insights on Youth Inclusion in Agriculture

Where we work



Our mission: changing the recipe

A sustainable
income for farmers



&



Nutritious, affordable
food for all

We adopt a Food Systems approach

To tackle
the inter-related challenges of
food insecurity, climate change, biodiversity loss,
and economic inequality



We build bridges

between smallholder farmer organisations,
companies, authorities and other actors
across rural and urban areas.

In three global programmes



GOOD FOOD FOR CITIES

At the centre of food system change



SUSTAINABLE COCOA & COFFEE

Living income and resilience



SUSTAINABLE RICE

Better quality, increased incomes and reduced environmental impact

3 interlinked strategies for food system transformation

Sustainable production

Good Food for Cities

•Regenerative agriculture and sustainable landscapes to strengthen local communities' resilience to shocks

Cocoa-Coffee

•Regenerative agriculture and diversification to halt deforestation and move towards a living income

Rice

•Promoting sustainable practices to improve incomes, reduce environmental impact and adapt to climate change

Inclusive markets

Good Food for Cities

•Innovative and inclusive business models to strengthen access to local, safe, and healthy food in urban markets

Cocoa-Coffee

•Access to finance and markets for cocoa, coffee and side crops grown in these farming systems

Rice

•Inclusive business relations that benefit producers, millers, wholesalers and consumers

Enabling environment

Good Food for Cities

•Improving urban food governance & boosting investments in sustainable food innovation

Cocoa-Coffee

•Multi-stakeholder platforms and dialogues that mainstream sustainability and inclusion

Rice

•Advocating for policies that support contract farming and the scaling out of sustainability standards

A secret out loud about youth!



60

- Average age of a farmer

1.2 billion

- People globally are aged between 15 and 24

88%

- live in developing countries, mostly in rural areas

80%

- are engaged in informal employment

Agriculture, as a vital sector for human life, is less attractive to young people

Less prestigious profession

Young people perceive farming as less prestigious profession with high risk, less assurance, and intense dirty job.

Lack of capacities/skills

Young people do not have enough capacities/skills, either in cultivation or in agribusiness management



Young people's job preference

Young and educated labours opt to leave their village and migrate to find a better job in a city

An unprofitable job

As majority of farmers are poor, young people think farming is an unprofitable job compared to an industrial sector.

Small room for ideas and info exchange

There are very few organised groups of young farmers for solidarity and exchange information and ideas.

Limited access and control

Young people have a limited access and control over productive resources (land, capital) and markets.

Our work with young people can be intertwined in the three food system domains



Sustainable production

Looking beyond farms to whole food systems in the search for meaningful youth employment opportunities, especially in linking urban consumption and nearby rural production

Inclusive markets

Supporting young entrepreneurs through agri-food incubators and connecting them to markets

Enabling environment

Creating an enabling environment in agribusiness for young people means addressing the many challenges mentioned above and how they translate in different contexts.



Youth in coffee value chain

In 2022, Rikolto enabled Koerintji Barokah Bersama Cooperative to export more than 80 tonnes of its specialty coffee beans directly to Dubai, South Korea, London, California, and Belgium.

Innovation and sustainable practices for high-quality Kerinci Specialty Coffee

*"**Good coffee** is produced from **a good farm**. Even with excellent processing techniques, the coffee plantation must be in great condition for the coffee to be exceptional. Through Rikolto, we learn about **agroforestry** and receive training on pruning, farm maintenance, and **good agricultural practices**. Coffees harvested from these farms were chosen to participate in the Cup of Excellence."*

Triyono I Chairman of Koerintji Barokah Bersama Cooperative





Empowering young horticulture entrepreneurs in Tanzania

Rikolto's Generation Food team in the Southern Highlands of Tanzania engaged 400 entrepreneurs aged 18–35 by providing training on financial and networking skills, coaching/mentoring, and seed financing.

Building inclusive and competitive horticulture business with youth

*"The Generation Food Accelerator aims to support 400 young men and women by 2024 in setting up and developing successful businesses in the **horticulture value chain**. At Rikolto, we firmly believe that young people are the future of inclusive and sustainable food systems."*

Frank Kaminyoge I Rikolto Agribusiness Advisor





The straw mushroom model: a circular economy solution

Rikolto engaged the youth and female farmers of Tan Binh Cooperative in Dong Thap Province, Vietnam, to turn waste into an economic opportunity. Over a 45-day cycle, the model demonstrated its effectiveness by transforming 10 tons of rice straw into 700 kilograms of mushrooms, yielding a profit of 7.4 million VND (€284). Reprocessing the leftover straw into organic fertiliser generated an additional 4 million VND (€154), further enhancing the model's profitability.

Harvesting more than rice: unlocking value from every straw

*"Seeing the first successful harvests brought me great joy! Growing mushrooms not only helps my family earn **extra income** but also allows me to learn new techniques."*

Huynh Thi Ngoc Ngan I Member of Tan Binh Cooperative





Stronger together: transforming the cocoa sector through collaboration

Rikolto, La Campesina Cooperative, and the Colruyt Group have conducted four cocoa courses that have improved the productivity and livelihood capacities of more than 100 young cocoa farmers from farmer organisations in Nicaragua. The collaboration also enabled fair prices, good quality, the preservation of the natural landscape (through agroforestry), and training for young people.

From Cocoa Producer to Entrepreneur

"I have the responsibility to share my knowledge on cocoa management and organic agriculture, and my experience with implementing agroforestry cocoa systems, and bio-factories. I raise awareness about the benefits of biofertilisers to (transitioning) organic farmers. With all the knowledge I now have and what I am implementing, I know that I am going to be a good producer, helping my father and my community."

Freddy I Member of La Campesina Cooperative, Nicaragua



Key Learnings in Youth Engagement

- 🌱 Agriculture needs rebranding to attract youth
- 🧩 Youth inclusion must be systemic
- 💡 Entrepreneurship is a key vehicle for youth engagement
- 🔄 Circular economy adds value and appeal
- 🤝 Partnership strengthens impact
- 🌍 Localized and context-specific interventions work best

rikolto

What will we eat tomorrow?

Rikolto Global

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